

## The Faculty of History at Cambridge

A selection of funding opportunities



*"History is the version of past events that people have decided to agree upon."*  
**Napoleon Bonaparte**

*"History is the sum total of things that could have been avoided."*  
**Konrad Adenauer**, First Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

*"There is a history in all men's lives."*  
**William Shakespeare**

The Faculty of History at Cambridge, the largest amongst the humanities and social sciences in the University, provides outstanding research and teaching that spans three millennia, straddles the globe and exemplifies the rich variety of sub-disciplines that constitutes history today. Throughout the years, the Faculty has built a burgeoning community of world-class scholars and students to investigate the depth and breadth of human history, from the classical world to the present day, with a global focus. Partnerships between visionary benefactors and scholars have helped to drive Cambridge's exceptional academic progress for centuries. Today, philanthropic support is essential for the Faculty to maintain its outstanding teaching and research by attracting leading historians and the brightest students to Cambridge.



## The brightest and best students

Students from across the world are drawn to the academic excellence and remarkable resources of this renowned Faculty.

- Each year, about 600 undergraduates study History at Cambridge, alongside an additional 450 graduate students reading for Master's and doctoral degrees from over 40 countries – the largest concentration of History graduate students in the world.
- This brilliant and vibrant student community is taught how to mine the rich seams of global historical knowledge and understanding, appreciate the culture and attitudes of societies other than one's own, and evaluate critically the claims of evidence from past and contemporary sources.
- Undergraduate analytical skills are honed, enabling students to engage directly with key historical issues and present independent opinions and arguments coherently and cogently, supported by relevant evidence.
- The thriving graduate community is taught by over 100 historians, many of international distinction, drawing upon both Cambridge's long-established expertise in British, European and American history, as well as African and South Asian history.

### Ambition

The pioneering Faculty of History at Cambridge relies on the quality of its students – on keen, brilliant young minds – to pursue ground-breaking research and build on the Faculty's success. Cambridge undergraduates and graduate students specialise across a wide spectrum of historical scholarship, which takes them to all parts of the UK and Europe as well as every corner of the globe – Australia, America, Asia and Africa. The Faculty aims to underpin this broad-ranging research by securing financial support.

### Student support

It is a remarkable fact that, of the 83 Nobel Prize-winners that Cambridge has produced since 1908, at least a third received a scholarship or a discretionary grant. For more than eight centuries, brilliant students have been able to come to Cambridge because visionary benefactors have supported them. Philanthropic support continues to be vital today to ensure that tomorrow's achievers and leaders can transcend financial disadvantage and maximise their talent.

**Gifts from £xxxxx upwards would support vital student research in archives across the world, as well as dissemination of their findings at conferences, by contributing towards travel and accommodation costs. Such gifts would also provide bursaries for students facing financial hardship.**

**A gift of £xxxxx per year will support an outstanding History graduate student at Cambridge, regardless of age, gender, nationality or race.**

- **A one-year MPhil starting in 2011/12 requires a total of £xxxxx per student.**
- **A three-year PhD starting in 2011/12 requires a total of £xxxxx per student.**



## World-leading academics

Ever since King George I established the Regius Professorship of Modern History at the University in 1724, Cambridge historians have been prolific in their output and far-reaching in their intellectual inquiry.

- From 2004 until the present day, Cambridge historians have authored or edited more than 120 books as well as publishing several hundred articles and essays. 40% of such publications have been nominated as “world-leading” by the 2009 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) – a higher percentage than in almost any other History department in the UK.
- Scholars travel to all parts of the world for their research and to participate in collaborative ventures – from Berlin to Boston, from Calcutta to Cape Town – while lectures and seminars at Cambridge host an array of distinguished speakers from equally diverse places.
- History Faculty members have played a central role in the development of the history of political thought, and in the flourishing fields of economic, social and cultural history, with world experts at Cambridge in business and religious history, and the history of population, the family and gender.
- Much of the work in all these fields engages in collaborative, cross-disciplinary research with other subject areas both within Cambridge and beyond, such as classics, philosophy, English, theology, medieval and modern languages, Middle Eastern and South Asian studies, archaeology, economics, and history and philosophy of science.

### Ambition

The Faculty of History is keen to build on its traditional strengths in Britain, Western Europe and other industrialised countries, along with South and South-East Asia, and English-speaking Africa. Its ambition is to expand the geographical and cultural scope of historical studies at Cambridge further, thereby maximising its potential as a faculty of truly global reach and significance.

### Academic support

Support for a range of lectureships in rapidly developing fields of historical importance would provide vital intellectual impetus and leadership, creating an environment for enduring scholarly inquiry. These lectureships, in fields such as the history of the Atlantic world, the economic history of Africa, modern Chinese and French history, Middle Eastern studies, and the history of the British diaspora, will

- attract scholars and students from within and outside the UK, and open up important new avenues for historical investigation;
- ensure that students of History at Cambridge receive world-class teaching on topics as varied and challenging as the experience and identities of diasporic communities, the debate on human rights and its “universality”, the development of international economic and social policy alongside the history of emigration and capital flows, the nature of the exchange between Britain and the rest of the world, and the analysis of past political thought to understand present political problems.

### Assuming a start date of 2011/12 for all posts, a gift of

- **£xxxxx would support a lectureship for five years;**
- **£xxxxx for 10 years;**
- **£xxxxx for 15 years;**
- **£xxxxx for 20 years;**
- **£xxxxx would provide a permanent endowment for a lectureship;**
- **£xxxxx would provide a permanent endowment for a professorship.**

The synergy between students and scholars has underpinned the History Faculty’s remarkable intellectual evolution over the years. Securing philanthropic support for this would enable the Faculty to build on its successful past, and ensure that Cambridge historians and students form part of a global community, channelling their extraordinary scholarly energies towards understanding and addressing future global challenges.