

# Department of German University of Cambridge

## University Lectureship in German Studies since 1700

The Department of German intends to appoint a University Lecturer in German studies since 1700, with expertise in one or more of the following: intellectual history; cultural theory and analysis; visual culture. The successful candidate must be able to take up the appointment by 1 October 2007. The principal duties of the post involve the teaching of existing, and development of new courses in modern German studies at undergraduate and graduate level, and a contribution to departmental language teaching in German. The successful candidate will be expected to have a PhD, to show outstanding achievement and potential in research and publication in the field, and to have a native or excellent non-native command of German and English.

Appointments made at University Lecturer level will be for a probationary period of five years, with appointment to the retiring age thereafter. The pensionable scale of stipends for a University Lecturer is currently £32,471 to £41,133 a year.

Further particulars may be viewed at <http://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/german/news/>, [and below] or obtained from the Secretary of the Appointments Committee, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA (e-mail: [amjm2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:amjm2@cam.ac.uk)). Applications (twelve copies), including a detailed *curriculum vitae*, a list of publications, a one-page statement of research interests and future plans, and a completed PD18 form giving the names and email addresses of three referees, should be sent so as to reach the Secretary of the Appointments Committee, at the address given above, by the closing date of **7 February 2007**. Candidates are requested to ask their referees to write directly to the Secretary by the same date.

Candidates may also be invited to submit recent examples of their work for consideration by the Committee or, in the case of work which has been published, to draw the Committee's attention to items of special relevance to their application. They will also be asked to give a short presentation prior to interview. Presentations and interviews will take place on **2 March 2007**. Informal enquiries may be addressed to Dr Chris Young, Head of Department (e-mail: [cjy1000@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cjy1000@cam.ac.uk)).

---

## Further Particulars

### German Studies since 1700 in the Department of German at Cambridge

The Department of German at Cambridge has a well-established tradition in research and teaching in German Studies since 1700, with a thriving community of post-graduate

students. Literary studies, which lie at the core of the Cambridge German tradition, have always been embedded in relevant intellectual and cultural contexts, and the Department is seeking to make an appointment that will enhance its teaching and research in one or more of the following areas: intellectual history, cultural theory and analysis, and visual culture.

It has for many years been part of the distinctive profile of the Department that it has actively promoted study of German thought and history from the eighteenth century to the present alongside study of German language and literature. Increasingly too, German visual and performance culture, and cultural theory and analysis in general are becoming areas of keen and growing interest amongst our staff and students. Traditional and new options within our course structure reflect our existing strengths, and it is upon these that we wish to capitalize to keep Cambridge German at the forefront of the subject nationally and internationally. Within Cambridge, the new appointment would galvanize German's central contribution to MPhil courses in European Literature and Culture and in Screen Media and Cultures.

Whilst the ability to teach at undergraduate level in the core domains of these subfields will be of advantage, the Department wishes to appoint a candidate of exceptional ability whose research interests are characterized by an openness to and eagerness for disciplinary innovation. We are seeking a colleague who will keep Cambridge at the forefront of modern German Studies as the discipline continues to develop over the coming years. To this end, we have advertised in several distinct areas within a broad field. The ability to cover more than one of them might be an advantage.

## **The Faculty**

The Department of German at Cambridge forms part of the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, along with the Departments of French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese, Slavonic Studies, Linguistics and 'Other Languages' (currently Dutch, Modern Greek, and Neo-Latin). All undergraduates study for a degree in Modern and Medieval Languages, spanning at least two language areas; there are no single or joint honours degrees in individual languages. All languages taught in the Faculty, with the exception of French, may be studied *ab initio*. The average annual intake of the Faculty is around 185 students.

The Faculty is located on the main Humanities teaching site on Sidgwick Avenue in a newly refurbished building. It has good facilities, including a well-stocked Faculty Library and a Computer-Assisted Language Learning Facility. Undergraduates are also able to take advantage of the extensive language learning facilities offered by the University's Language Centre.

At postgraduate level, the Faculty currently offers four taught one-year MPhil courses: in Linguistics, European Literature and Culture, Screen Media and Cultures and Russian Studies (with the latter two new in 2006-7). The highly successful MPhil in European Literature and Culture currently attracts around 30 students per year; it comprises a core course in modern critical theory and a series of optional modules, including three in

German studies. The new MPhil in Screen and Media Cultures, launched in 2006-7 on the basis of wide interfaculty collaboration, promises to become one of Cambridge's most exciting research courses. In addition, there are around 120 PhD students currently engaged in doctoral research in Cambridge in the areas of modern languages and linguistics. Research seminars are organised by the various language departments, including German.

Beyond the Faculty structure, Cambridge offers an extremely vital and productive environment for research and a strong tradition of interdisciplinary exchange at postgraduate and postdoctoral level. Library facilities in Cambridge are excellent, with a network of Faculty and College libraries supplementing the University Library, which is one of the major research libraries in Britain and has exceptional historical depth in its holdings in German history, literature, and thought.

### **The Department of German**

The Department of German at Cambridge is exceptionally strong among British departments of German, having achieved the top rating in each of the RAE exercises to date. It currently has an establishment of 13 posts, including two Senior Language Teaching Officers, and is able to offer teaching to the highest standard in medieval and early modern literature and culture, as well as the history of the Germanic languages and the literature, thought, history and culture of the German-speaking world from 1750 to the present day. The Department has also established expertise in the teaching of film. The undergraduate intake in the Department is around 65-80 students a year, including several who study German *ab initio*. Graduate numbers have averaged around 25 in recent years: currently, there are 20 PhD students attached to the Department and a further fifteen taking German options in the MPhil in European Literature and Culture (see above). Details of the courses currently offered by the Department are available on the Faculty website ([www.mml.cam.ac.uk/german](http://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/german)). It is expected that the Faculty's University Lecturer in Dutch will shortly join the Department so that it can also offer a full range of options in Dutch and Flemish.

Teaching provision at undergraduate level in Cambridge consists of a combination of Faculty-based teaching (lectures, seminars and language classes), and small-group teaching ('supervisions') which is funded by the Colleges. Staff of the Department are committed to the teaching of the German language at a very high standard of written and oral competence, and to the promotion of the study of all aspects of the literature, history, culture and philology of German. In addition to the official establishment of the Department, four College Lecturers, four College Lectors, and several non-established, hourly-paid instructors contribute substantially to the teaching of the subject. The programmes of study are organized in such a way that students, whether coming to the Department as beginners or post-A Level, are able to progress smoothly in their first two years (Part IA and Part IB) from introductory courses to a more substantial grounding in aspects of German culture or linguistics. Following their year abroad, which is an integral part of their Part II programme, they are able to choose with confidence among a wide variety of examination options.

## **Research**

The primary duty of a University Officer, as laid down by statute, is ‘to devote himself or herself to the advancement of knowledge’, and the Department of German supports all its members in their research and fosters a close relation between teaching and research. Officers are entitled to apply for sabbatical leave of one term in seven and encouraged to apply for externally funded leave schemes. In addition to funds made available by the University (and some Colleges), the research activities of the Department are supported by the Tiarks Fund, which draws its resources from a special endowment for German studies at Cambridge.

The research strategy of the Department is not to form groups specialising in particular themes or periods, but to encourage the cross-fertilisation of ideas across the whole spectrum of German literature, thought, history, philology, and culture. The Departmental Research Colloquium and Senior Research Seminars provide forums where staff, graduate students and visiting scholars meet on an almost weekly basis, but these are only one of several ways in which research interests are fostered and developed. The University abounds in research seminars. Invitations to Cambridge University Officers to speak world-wide, and visits to Cambridge by scholars from all over the world, make this a centre of intellectual exchange and a stimulating research environment.

## **The structure of posts at Cambridge**

All appointments made at University Lecturer level are for a probationary period of five years in the first instance, with the possibility of re-appointment to the retiring age thereafter. The pensionable scale of stipends for a University Lecturer is currently £32,471 to £41,133 a year. University Lecturers may apply for promotion to the grade of Senior Lecturer, and both University and Senior Lecturers may also apply for Readerships and personal Professorships. University posts at Cambridge are not formally tied to Fellowships at Colleges but all current members of the Department hold Fellowships which are separately remunerated. College affiliations are a matter for negotiation between Colleges and the individual concerned.

The Department provides mentors to young appointees to assist them in adapting to the requirements of their post. The University of Cambridge is committed to a policy and practice which require that entry into employment with the University and progression within employment be determined only by professional merit and by the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each particular applicant and the relevant stipend or salary structure. No applicant for an appointment in the University, or member of staff once appointed, will be treated less favourably than another on the grounds of sex, marital status, race, ethnic or national origin, colour, or disability. If any employee considers that he or she is suffering from unequal treatment on grounds of sex, marital status, race, ethnic or national origin, colour, or disability, he or she may make a complaint which will be dealt with through the agreed procedures for dealing with grievances.

## **Application process**

Applications (twelve copies), including a detailed *curriculum vitae*, a list of publications, a one-page statement of research interests and future plans, and a completed PD18 form giving the names and email addresses of three referees, should be sent so as to reach the Secretary of the Appointments Committee, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA by the closing date of **7 February 2007**. Candidates are requested to ask their referees to write directly to the Secretary by the same date.

Candidates may also be invited to submit recent examples of their work for consideration by the Committee or, in the case of work which has been published, to draw the Committee's attention to items of special relevance to their application. They will also be asked to give a short presentation prior to interview. Presentations and interviews will take place on **2 March 2007**. Informal enquiries may be addressed to Dr Chris Young, Head of Department (e-mail: [cjy1000@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cjy1000@cam.ac.uk)).