A black and white logo

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships 2025-26**

**Deadline Mon 3 November 2025 at 5pm**

The John Rylands Research Institute welcomes applications to The Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship scheme for research projects from any discipline that are linked to the world-class Special Collections of the University of Manchester Library. Early Career Fellowships are tenable on a full-time basis for a period of three years, and offer exceptional career development opportunities for those who are at a relatively early stage of their academic careers, but who have a proven track record of research.

Fellows will undertake a significant piece of publishable work, which must be distinguishable from their PhD project, during the period of their award. They will have access to our unique collections and be able to draw on the expertise of our curators. Fellows will also become part of a network of outstanding Special Collections scholars who are currently based at the Institute.

**For more information about the scheme, including eligibility criteria, please visit**[**https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/early-career-fellowships**](https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/early-career-fellowships)

All candidates who plan to apply to this scheme should contact the John Rylands Research Institute to let us know of their intention to apply and for an initial discussion. We are happy to provide advice and to talk about ways that the application might draw on the rich Special Collections of the University of Manchester Library. Any queries should be directed to the Director, Professor Guyda Armstrong, in the first instance ([guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk)), ideally before 1 October 2025.

We advise all applicants to consult the [Special Collections](https://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/rylands/special-collections/subject-areas/) on the University of Manchester Library website for more information on our significant and extensive holdings. We also strongly recommend that applicants get in touch with relevant curators early on in the application planning process. Information about curators and their subject specialisms can be found on the [JRRIL website](https://www.jrri.manchester.ac.uk/about/people/curators/). Those interested in applying will also need to contact a University of Manchester academic who can act as a sponsor for their application, and we will be able to advise on this if candidates do not already have someone in mind.

If you would like to apply for the scheme, **please contact the Director (**[**guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk**](mailto:guyda.armstrong@manchester.ac.uk)**).**

**You should then submit a full draft of your application using the template provided to research.**[**jrril@manchester.ac.uk**](mailto:jrril@manchester.ac.uk) **by the deadline Monday 3rd November 2025 5pm.**

Applications will then be assessed by an internal review panel, and successful applicants to this first stage will be offered tailored support from our Grant Writing team for the final application.

**[](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/)**

**School of Arts, Languages and Cultures**

**Expression of Interest for the Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship Scheme, 2025-6**

In completing this template, please complete the Leverhulme Trust’s [Application Help Notes 2026](https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2026_ECF_help.pdf) and its [Guidance for Applicants 2026](https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2026_ECF_guidance.pdf)

**Applicant Details**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** |  | **Address** |  |
| **Forename** |  |
| **Surname** |  |
| **Honours** |  |
| **Institution** |  |
| **Department** |  |
| **Telephone number** |  | **Email address** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Host institution** |  |

**Career Details**

**Employment**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **To** | **Position** | **Employer** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Education Details**

**Degrees**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **To** | **Degree** | **Subject** | **Class** | **Institution** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Doctoral Degrees**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **To** | **Degree** | **Title of thesis** | **Supervisors** | **Institution** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Further Applicant Details**

**Has your doctoral thesis been submitted?**

**Submission date of doctoral thesis:**

**Have you been or are you currently a Principal Investigator on a 3-year post-doctoral research project, or have you held or do you currently hold a comparable 3-year post-doctoral position to pursue your own research?**

**Date current position/funding ends:**

**Proposed start date for Fellowship:**

**Any other matters you wish to bring to the attention of the Committee**

**Research and Publications**

**Title of research proposal:**

**Fields of study:**

**Abstract**:

**Details of current and past research:**

**Detailed statement of proposed research:**

**Major publications:**

**Duration, timing and host institution**

**Duration of Fellowship:**

**Percentage of time to be spent on Fellowship:**

**Research relevant to your proposal being carried out in host department:**

**Additional reasons for selecting your chosen host department and institution:**

**If you have not moved institutions in the course of your academic career (i.e. between your undergraduate university and proposed host institution), please give reasons as to why you wish to remain at the same institution**

**Referees**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Referee 1** |  |
| **Department: Institution** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Email** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Referee 2** |  |
| **Department: Institution** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Email** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Referee 3** |  |
| **Department: Institution** |  |
| **Position** |  |
| **Email** |  |

**Previous and Current Applications**

**Previous Leverhulme applications and awards or pending applications to the Trust:**

**Other awards received in the last 12 months related to this project:**

**Applications you have made or intend to make to other bodies related to this research proposal:**

**Budget**

**Research Budget**

**Give an indication of how you would propose to use the annual research allocation of £6000 for each year of the Fellowship. If the application is successful you will have the opportunity to revise these details**

**Host Department Details**

**At the Expression of Interest stage, this section should be completed by the academic sponsor (proposed mentor) on behalf of the host department. If the applicant is selected to go forward, this will be used as the basis for the Head of Department’s statement.**

**Academic Sponsor**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Department** |  |
| **Full Name** |  |
| **Email Address** |  |

**Indicate, in 3-5 key bullet points, why your department (and the University of Manchester more broadly) is the best place to host the research project, and how the department and the University will benefit.**