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| **Job title** | Okinaga Junior Research Fellowship in Japanese Studies |
| **Location** | Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies & Wadham College, University of Oxford |
| **Grade and salary** | Grade 6, currently £30,502 to £36,386 (eligible for annual increments) |
| **Hours** | Full time (37.5 hours) |
| **Contract type** | 3 yrs, fixed-term (including 1 year probationary period) |

Applications are invited for a Junior Research Fellowship in Japanese Studies, to be held from 1 October 2023, or as soon as possible thereafter, for a fixed-term period of three years (including one probationary year). As an early career post, the Fellowship will not be renewed after the third year, but should the post-holder take family leave during the period of appointment their contract will be extended by an equivalent period of time. The successful candidate will be expected to undertake a programme of research at post-doctoral level, on which they will be required to make a short annual report.

There is no restriction as to the field of research within Japanese Studies, although preference will be given to applicants whose interests coincide with the teaching and related activities of the Nissan Institute. Candidates are expected to be proficient in using Japanese sources.

The holding of a doctorate is not a prerequisite, although applicants will have to have submitted their thesis by the time that the interviews are held. Preference will be given to those who have not already held a comparable career development appointment at Oxford or another university, and who are (excepting periods away from academia) within five years of having completed their doctorate.

**The post**

The Fellowship has been held at Wadham by seven post-holders since 1992. It has recently been revived thanks to a generous grant from Mr Yoshihito Okinaga, Chairman and President of Teikyo University in Japan, as well as a contribution from the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies.

The principal duty of the Fellow will be to undertake research.

The College would hope to appoint a post-holder who will engage with Fellows, lecturers, graduates and undergraduates across Asian and Middle Eastern Studiesat the College, supporting academic opportunities and enriching the learning environment. The Fellow might, for example, be able to support 3rd and 4th year students of Japanese in researching and reading texts for their dissertation, or with other undergraduate teaching. They may also be asked to act as adviser to students of Japanese in College, to participate in the College’s undergraduate admissions exercise in December and, where possible, to become involved in the College’s access and outreach activities. In addition, the post-holder will be expected to contribute to the administration of the College. They will be a member of the College’s Governing Body (subject to appointment as charity trustee) and will be expected to play an active part in the governance and administration of the College, including serving on College committees. Where the postholder provides teaching or participates in the undergraduate admissions exercise on the College’s behalf they will receive additional remuneration, at Senior Tutors’ Committee rates.

The post-holder would be expected to maintain a regular presence in the Nissan Institute, to participate in weekly Nissan Institute seminars, to be available to help graduate students working on relevant topics, to undertake a limited amount of teaching, within the limits normally required of JRFs, and to participate fully in the life of the Institute.

If invited, the Okinaga Fellow shall be expected to give an annual presentation on their research at Teikyo University Durham or, if available, at Teikyo University in Japan. (Travel and associated costs shall be reimbursed by Teikyo University.) Subject to availability, the Fellow may also be asked to speak on their research at the annual induction course held by Teikyo University at Wadham College, and/or at its annual meeting at Wadham.

**Responsibilities**

* To contribute (as lead- or co-author) to the writing up of research papers to be submitted to high-quality and high-impact peer-reviewed journals;
* To publish research of an internationally excellent standard;
* To participate in the intellectual and research life of the partners involved;
* To work independently and manage academic research and administrative activities, prioritising and coordinating aspects of research and administrative work to meet deadlines;
* To write a termly report to the Donor outlining research and activities engaged in in relation to the Fellowship;
* For both the College and the Nissan Institute, to enrich academic life and participate fully in the College’s and Institute’s activities, as detailed above.

**Selection criteria**

**Essential selection criteria**

* Holding a doctorate or having submitted a doctoral thesis in Japanese Studies or a related discipline;
* Strong grounding in a variety of research methods demonstrated by published (or accepted) research in academic journals and/or monographs, appropriate to career stage;
* Excellent writing skills;
* Expert knowledge of the broadly-defined subject area of Japanese Studies;
* Ability to work independently but also to collaborate with research colleagues;
* Ability to manage own academic research and associated activities;
* Excellent communication skills, including English language skills, and the ability to present research proposals;
* Willingness to participate in the educational activities of the College through paid tutorial teaching and involvement in admissions as appropriate; the post holder will also be asked to act as college advisor to a small number of graduate students;
* Ability to act as a member of Wadham College’s Governing Body, which entails acting as a charity trustee.
* Willingness to participate in the activities of the Nissan Institute, including weekly seminars, graduate dissertation guidance, and the giving of occasional lectures.
* Research interests which could contribute the teaching and related activities of the Nissan Institute;
* to be proficient in using Japanese sources.

**Desirable selection criteria**

* Preference will be given to those who have not previously held a JRF at an Oxford or Cambridge College, and to those who have not been appointed to a tenured post at a university.

**About Wadham College**

Wadham is one of the largest colleges of the University of Oxford, with approximately 450 undergraduates, 240 graduates, and over 70 Fellows. Founded in 1610 by Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham, Wadham College has a strong commitment to academic values, whilst preserving a liberal and progressive atmosphere. The College is academically strong, with representation amongst most of the subjects taught at undergraduate level at the University. Professors, Research and Tutorial Fellows, and Fellows by Special Election, are all members of its Governing Body, and all members of the College are encouraged to participate actively in College decision-making and in developing its policies and practices.

Wadham College is committed to maintaining a vibrant and internationally excellent teaching and research environment. It accordingly expects its Fellows to be active in research and to contribute to a high-quality teaching and learning experience for its student body. All Fellows should find in the College a convivial and lively atmosphere conducive to interdisciplinary exchange and support. The contribution of JRFs to many aspects of College life, including contact with graduates and undergraduates, is much welcome. Potential applicants can find out more about the College from the College website: [www.wadham.ox.ac.uk](http://www.wadham.ox.ac.uk/).

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Wadham College has long had Asian and Middle Eastern Studies as one of its strengths, notably in Japanese, Chinese, Arabic and Persian. Besides the Okinaga Fellow, the College has three Fellows in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and every year accepts a number of undergraduate students to read Chinese, Japanese and other Asian and Middle Eastern languages (about 8 in total), as well as a number of graduate students onto the taught masters and DPhil courses in Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

Wadham has a proud tradition of being at the forefront of advancing equality of opportunity, and celebrates vigorous debate, independent thought, and academic excellence. We seek to create a welcoming, accessible, and secure environment in which to work, study, live, and visit. Our community embraces people of all ages, backgrounds, races/ethnicities, nationalities, beliefs (including religious beliefs), genders, sexualities, dis/abilities, and appearances. This diversity, underpinned by mutual respect and consideration, enriches us all.

**The Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies**

The Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies is an Institute of the University of Oxford, and part of the Oxford School for Global and Area Studies. Set up with the help of a generous endowment from the Nissan Motor Co. Ltd, the Institute has, since 1981, established itself as a leading centre of modern Japanese Studies in the UK, and internationally. In 2017 the Institute’s social science-oriented Masters programmes and the Oriental Institute’s humanities-oriented Masters programme were brought together as a unified MSc and MPhil programme in Japanese Studies, administered by the Nissan Institute. Library resources, and faculty members are also being concentrated in the Nissan Institute, combining both modern and premodern Japanese Studies strengths.

The Institute is situated in its own building, which also contains the Bodleian Japanese Library, a branch of the University’s central Bodleian Library. A hub for Japanese Studies, it hosts a well-established seminar series, and is responsible for the Nissan Institute/Routledge Japanese Studies Series, which celebrated its 100th volume in 2017. In addition to the academic staff and administrator, the Institute has a number of Visiting Researchers and Post-doctoral Researchers. Further information is available at [www.nissan.ox.ac.uk](http://www.nissan.ox.ac.uk).

**Teikyo University**

Teikyo University, founded in 1966, is one of the largest Universities in Japan. Since its foundation, it has grown into a university group, which has 33 Schools across Japan, including three Universities, three Junior Colleges and Schools from nursery level to high school level and several overseas campuses, including one in Durham.

Teikyo University, as an educational institute, has done jointresearch with prestigious Universities worldwide and has a very good and longstanding relationship with Wadham College, Oxford University, St Edmund’s College, Cambridge University and Durham University. The University has three educational policies: Practical Learning, Developing International Perspectives and Nurturing Open-Mindedness. To embody these policies, the University decided to establish a scholarship fund to give prospective young scholars worldwide the opportunity to do Japan-related studies in greater depth. To find out more, visit: https://www.teikyo-u.ac.jp/en/university.

**Terms and conditions**

The appointment will be made on the University’s Grade 6 pay scale, currently £30,502 to £36,386. The stipend is subject to an annual cost of living review and will be taxable. The position is pensionable under the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS).

The postholder will be entitled to the following in addition to their stipend on the above salary scale (in all cases, currents levels of remuneration are quoted):

* Full USS (pension) benefits.
* An office in the Nissan Institute.
* Free lunches and dinners with the Senior Common Room throughout the year except during brief periods when the kitchens are closed.
* Provision of a (college-owned) computer and printer suitable for performance of college duties
* An allowance to cover research expenditure (currently up to £1,100 p.a.)
* Single living accommodation in college *may* be available, at a reduction of stipend. (No separate housing allowance is offered.)

The Fellow will be a member of the Governing Body and charity trustee of the College and will hold the Fellowship under the terms of the Statutes and By-Laws in force for the time being. The post holder will also be a member of the College’s Senior Common Room.

**How to apply**

Applications, in the form of a covering letter and a *curriculum vitae*, and including a summary of research history and future plans, and list of publications, should be sent by email to the Warden’s Executive Assistant (academic.appointments@wadham.ox.ac.uk) by **noon on** ***16 March 2023.*** Applicants should ask two referees to write directly to the Warden’s Executive Assistant by the same date. **It is the candidate’s responsibility to ensure that letters from referees are received by this date.** The College wishes to take this opportunity of thanking those referees who write on behalf of applicants. Interviews are likely to be held in **Trinity Term.**

The College is an equal opportunities employer and applications are particularly welcome from women and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford. Candidates are asked to complete an equal opportunities form (<https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/academic-equality-diversity-monitoring-form-22-23-copy>) for return to the Head of HR, Wadham College. These forms are used for monitoring purposes and will not be seen by any members of the selection committee.

**Pre-employment screening**

Please note that the appointment of the successful candidate will be subject to standard pre-employment screening, as applicable to the post. This will include proof of identity and references.