



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

## **CANDIDATE BRIEF**

**Research Associate (The Political Works of Richard Brinsley Sheridan)  
and Teaching Fellow, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures**



**Salary: Grade 7 (£33,199 – £39,609 p.a.)**

**Reference: AHCEN1026**

**Closing date: 19 July 2019**

**Interview Date: 6 August 2019**

**Fixed-term from 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020**

**We will consider job share and flexible working arrangements**

## **Research Associate (The Political Works of Richard Brinsley Sheridan) and Teaching Fellow, School of English, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures**

**Do you have a research interest in the interconnection of eighteenth-century politics and culture? Would you like to join a team of researchers working to develop a scholarly edition of one of the most important parliamentarians of the Georgian era?**

Richard Brinsley Sheridan was a Member of Parliament for nearly thirty years. During that long career, he was regarded as one of the greatest orators the Commons had yet seen and a significant opposition voice. Sheridan's talents ensured that newspapers printed lengthy extracts from his speeches, clearly aware that his verbal skills and political acuity made for good copy. Sheridan was therefore prominent not only in the House of Commons, but on the pages of the morning and evening papers. One of the most demanding episodes of Sheridan's career was his prominent role in the impeachment of the former Governor of Bengal, Warren Hastings. Sheridan was an equally tenacious advocate of liberal causes, including parliamentary reform. Sheridan's speeches now survive in many competing forms. Our aim is to discover, edit and publish the entirety of Sheridan career, culminating in *The Political Works of Richard Brinsley Sheridan* to be published by Oxford University Press.

Your role will be to identify and collect speeches and other material; undertake textual collation of printed books, newspapers, and manuscripts; assist in the preparation of copy-text; compile contextual materials for the edition, and assist with the work of editorial checking and correction. In addition, the role will involve seminar teaching and lecturing on two undergraduate core modules, 'Eighteenth-Century Literature' and 'Literature of the Romantic Period'.

You will have a doctorate in eighteenth-century British Literature with experience of working with eighteenth-century books, newspapers, and manuscripts. Knowledge of British politics and political culture, including parliamentary debates, during the period 1780-1816 is essential.

In addition, this role will also provide you with the opportunity to participate in teaching, as a Teaching Fellow in the School.



## What does the role entail?

You will work on the Leverhulme Trust and MHRA-funded Project, 'The Political Work of Richard Brinsley Sheridan' under the direction of Professor Robert W Jones. As a Research Associate on the Sheridan Project in the School of English, your main duties will include:

- Examining MSS which the project has already gathered from the British Library, Yale and Princeton, establishing their relationship to speeches found in the printed archive;
- Comparing multiple print accounts of the impeachment of Warren Hastings (1787-95) with surviving manuscripts resources, including the Gurney diary at the British Library;
- Helping prepare final text for the OUP edition of the Political Works of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, including textual collation of variants, based on transcriptions of the Sheridan's printed texts, contemporary newspaper reports, and manuscripts; and assisting the project team with checks for accuracy and consistency;
- Helping to develop commentary materials (including glossaries) for use in the printed edition and establishing a consolidated bibliography;
- Giving technical support to other members of the research team, where appropriate, including the safe storage of project data on the project N: Drive
- Participating in project meetings with the project team.

The role also requires you to participate in teaching. As a Teaching Fellow in the School of English, your duties will include:

- Teaching: designing and delivering group teaching to provide a stimulating, supportive and relevant learning environment for students; preparing high quality learning resources including effective use of technology to enhance learning; writing and presenting academically rigorous and intellectually challenging lectures, which support the learning objectives of the module; taking personal responsibility for the design, delivery and style of teaching delivered and taking on board any feedback as well as being proactive in seeking it out;
- Assessment and Feedback: preparing students for assessment tasks by appropriate guidance; grading work once submitted and providing timely, constructive feedback in accordance with and with reference to published marking criteria;



- Evaluation: facilitating the process of gaining feedback from students and evaluating module teaching in the light of experience, students' achievement and feedback;
- Administration: maintaining an accurate record of student's attendance; ensuring accurate record-keeping in relation to assessments; completing any administrative tasks associated with module delivery by the required deadlines.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

## What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Associate and Teaching Fellow, you will have:

- A doctorate in Eighteenth-Century Studies;
- Knowledge of eighteenth-century political and parliamentary culture in Britain, especially during the period 1780-1816;
- Experience of working with eighteenth-century books, newspapers and manuscripts (including online);
- Ability to produce high-quality research materials independently, including an ability to manage scholarly data in a variety of digital formats, including audio files;
- Experience of teaching the literature of the long eighteenth-century in a University environment, and the ability to interact with students in ways that will enhance the student experience;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Proven ability to manage competing demands effectively, responsibly and without close support;
- Ability to work as part of a team, both as a researcher and a teaching fellow;
- Willingness to travel in the UK.

You may also have:

- Understanding of the principles of textual bibliography and textual collation;



- Some experience of organizing or participating in academic and public events;
- Some experience of maintaining web-based resources;
- Some experience in producing academic podcasts;
- Associate Fellowship of the HEA (see below).

## How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised [closing date](#).

## Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**Professor Robert W Jones**

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 4747

Email: [r.w.jones@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:r.w.jones@leeds.ac.uk)

## Additional information

This post is funded by the Research Associateship scheme of the MHRA, a charitable association that exists to promote high-quality research in the Modern Languages and English. The successful applicant will be entitled to call themselves 'MHRA Research Associate' and will be supported in their career development, including but not limited to an HEA associate application.



Find out more about our Faculty and School at: <https://ahc.leeds.ac.uk>.

## Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.



### **Candidates with disabilities**

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at [disclosure@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:disclosure@leeds.ac.uk).

### **Criminal record information**

#### **Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

