



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures



Salary: Grade 7 (£32,004 – £38,183 p.a.)

Reference: AHCLC1033

Closing date: 17 August 2017

Fixed-term from October 2017 to 31 December 2019

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

School of Languages, Cultures and Societies

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you possess a PhD with specialisation in an aspect of Italian Studies, or field relevant to the project? Do you have advanced linguistic skills in Latin and in Renaissance Italian, with significant experience of working with manuscripts and early printed books? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK's leading research intensive Universities?

Project Title: Petrarch Commentary and Exegesis in Renaissance Italy (c. 1350-c. 1650)

This Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funded project, led by Prof. Simon Gilson (PI, Warwick), Dr Federica Pich (Co-I, Leeds) and Dr Guyda Armstrong (Co-I, Manchester), focuses on Petrarch Commentary and Exegesis in Renaissance Italy (c. 1350-c. 1650). The project aims to explore the production and dissemination of commentaries and other exegetical writings upon Petrarch's vernacular verse (that is, his *Rerum Vulgarium Fragmenta* and his *Triumphs*) in early modern Italy. The project started in January 2017 and is a collaboration between academic and library staff at Warwick, Leeds, Manchester and the John Rylands Research Institute.

With a PhD (or a PhD to be obtained before the start date of the post) with specialisation in an aspect of Italian Studies or field relevant to the project, you will have advanced linguistic skills in Latin and in Renaissance Italian, with significant, first-hand experience of working with manuscripts and early printed books. You will be expected to pursue independent work related to the themes and objectives of the project, and to provide research assistance to the PI and Co-Is.

The post will be based at the University of Leeds and you will be expected to take an active role in the overall research life and culture of the department.

What does the role entail?

As a Postdoctoral Research Fellow, your main duties will include:



- Conducting research via databases, bibliographies, inventories, library research trips, and other materials (along lines previously agreed with Dr Federica Pich and other members of the research team), to study the diffusion of exegesis on Petrarch in the Italian Renaissance, assisting in the conceptualisation of ideas and applications of the research;
- Producing, in collaboration with the research team, an electronic census of manuscript and printed works relative to Italian exegetical activity related to Petrarch c.1350-c.1650;
- Writing two substantial articles analysing relevant works and topics;
- Contributing to the editing of conference proceedings and/or journal special issue, website and database, and knowledge transfer activities;
- Providing frequent reports on the research conducted, assisting in conference preparations and management of public events, including exhibitions, and a website, and assisting in preparing conference papers for publication;
- Presenting your findings to international conferences and promoting this area of research, as appropriate, within local secondary schools;
- Keeping in regular contact with Dr Federica Pich, Prof. Simon Gilson and Dr Guyda Armstrong on the progress of the research, attending regular project meetings and alerting the project leader to any problems that may arise in the conduct of the research;
- Assisting in establishing and developing contacts with individuals and institutions with an interest in the diffusion of exegesis on Petrarch in the Italian Renaissance, proactively setting up networks with others to share information and make contacts for future collaborations.

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 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, you will have:

- A PhD (already obtained, otherwise to be obtained before the start of the post) in a relevant field;



- A first degree or equivalent in Italian, either literary and/or intellectual history, or a related field;
- The ability to carry out research independently and to contribute to the research culture of the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies and the Italian unit;
- Advanced linguistic skills in Latin;
- Advanced linguistic skills in Renaissance Italian;
- Significant first-hand experience of working with manuscripts and early printed books;
- A general understanding of Renaissance literary and intellectual culture;
- A specific understanding of Renaissance Petrarchism;
- Excellent communication and presentation skills, including a high standard of written and spoken English and of written and spoken Italian;
- An ability to work with a range of texts, genres and cultural contexts;
- Strong interpersonal and team-working skills, with the ability to collaborate as part of a research team;
- Excellent planning and reporting skills, with a high level of attention to detail;
- Strong IT Skills, with the ability to use Microsoft Office (Word, Outlook, Excel).

You may also have:

- Competency in the construction and use of databases;
- Peer-reviewed research publications, or evidence of forthcoming publications, on a relevant topic.

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:

Dr Federica Pich, Co-Investigator

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 3589.

Email: f.pich@leeds.ac.uk



Additional information

Find out more about [Italian](#) in the [School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures](#)

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.

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.

