St John's College
Oxford

St John's College, University of Oxford

SUPERNUMERARY TEACHING FELLOWSHIP IN MATHEMATICS

Further Particulars

St John's College invites applications for a five-year postdoctoral position which is a fixed-term career development post intended for candidates at an early stage of their academic career. This post, which combines research and teaching duties, is known in the College as a Supernumerary Teaching Fellowship. The successful candidate will combine an outstanding programme of research in mathematics, with small group teaching to students of the College. Total remuneration is in the range Grade 8 - £49,119-£58,265 per annum inclusive of Oxford University Weighting payment.

The appointment is available from 1st October 2027 or as soon as possible thereafter, and will end on 30th September 2032. Applications for this post are particularly welcome from women and Black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts in Oxford.

St John's College is a part of the University of Oxford, and students of the college are members of the University. The Fellow will be a member of the College and University, and will have access to the facilities of the University and Mathematical Institute.

The person appointed will teach undergraduates in small groups for up to a maximum of eight hours each week averaged over the three eight-week terms in the first 4 years of appointment. The teaching will be entirely small groups, most often groups of two students, and with very occasional classes of around 10 students. These `tutorials' involve discussion of the mathematical content of courses of lectures delivered by the University and taken by the college's students. In the first 4 years of the position, the person appointed will be expected to:

- teach a number of courses from the first- and second-year mathematics syllabus (these courses will very likely include Prelims Calculus, and Multivariable Calculus, but the exact courses to be taught will be discussed with the Mathematics Tutors after appointment);
- contribute to the preparation of students for University examinations; assist with informal tests and practise examinations set by the College;
- share administrative and pastoral duties; participate in the undergraduate admissions process;
- contribute as appropriate to open days, outreach and access initiatives.

The fifth and final year of the appointment is a sabbatical year to enable the fellow to focus 100% of their time to research.

This appointment does not include duties for the University (such as lecturing or formal University examining duties), and permission of the college must be sought before any University duties are undertaken

The Fellow will have rights to lunches and dinners without charge in the College Senior Common Room during those weeks of the year when the kitchen is open, the use of an office, and certain College

benefits and allowances including teaching and research expenses (currently up to a maximum of £3,000 per year).

The person appointed will have obtained by 1st October 2027 a doctoral degree in Mathematics and will be expected to have demonstrated the potential to deliver an outstanding programme of original research in mathematics (relative to the early career stage of the post). The College has no specific preference for the area of mathematical research expertise of the appointee. The person appointed must demonstrate an ability to teach effectively, to contribute to the organisation of the degree and some College administration, and that they have the interpersonal skills necessary for the pastoral care of students.

This is a fixed-term career development post intended for candidates who are at an early stage of their academic career. The Governing Body of St John's College has endorsed the principle of career development for all fixed-term teaching posts which extend for one year or more. The purpose of this is entirely constructive, and designed to ensure that postholders have access to appropriate support and advice during their period of employment by the College.

St John's College

Established in 1555 as a constituent college of the University of Oxford, St John's College fosters excellence in education and research. It is one of the largest among Oxford Colleges and nearly every subject studied at the University has its representation. Today, St John's is home to approximately 390 undergraduates, 250 graduate students, 100 fellows and 25 College lecturers. A vibrant international community, it fosters intellectual rigour, creativity, and independence in its students, teachers, and researchers. The College supports a range of research activities including discussions, seminars, workshops, public lectures and visiting scholar schemes, as well as the Research Centre, which particularly emphasizes interdisciplinary approaches. While scholarly publication is naturally at the heart of our research endeavours, the fellowship is also committed to informing policy and public debate, and to teaching that is informed by research findings.

Further information about the College is available at http://www.sjc.ox.ac.uk.

Mathematics in St John's

St John's admits around 6-7 undergraduates each year to study the four-year MMath Mathematics or Mathematics and Statistics course and usually 3-5 per year to study Mathematics and Computer Science. St John's is widely regarded as the leading Oxford college for mathematics at undergraduate level --- achieving the largest proportion of first class degrees of any Oxford College over the last 20 years --- and has attracted very strong fields of applicants for admission in recent years. For several years we have been able to offer some undergraduate scholarships first through the Rosemary and Ioan James fund for Mathematics, and more recently through the St John's BIG-scholarships. The newly appointed supernumerary teaching fellow will work with the College's Official Fellows and Tutors in Mathematics, Professor Christopher Beem, Professor Jan Obloj and Professor Stuart White, and with Professor Stefan Kiefer (Official Fellow in Computer Science), together with Career Development Research Fellows (currently Drs Noah Kravitz and Jakub Skrzeckiwski).

The successful candidate will join the vibrant mathematics community at St John's at all levels as well as the lively environment of the Mathematical Institute. Other Fellows currently include Professor

Maria Bruna, Heather Harrington, Professor Phillip Maini, and the College has a large body of graduate students. The St John's Mathematics community is brought together through our termly undergraduate mathematics seminar, and events such as our annual Mathematics and Computer Science Dinner, and annual Graduate dinner.

Details of the undergraduate syllabus in Mathematics can be found at:
https://courses.maths.ox.ac.uk/
Second year courses are called `Part A' and first year courses are called 'Prelims'. On the website above, courses are listed by the 8 week Oxford term they take place in: Michaelmas (Oct-early Dec), Hilary (Jan – Mar), and Trinity (late April – June). The site normally contains full materials (lecture notes, and problem sheets) for each course, and is open for public access.

Duties

The successful candidate will be required:

(i) to undertake a high quality programme of research in Mathematics;
(ii) to provide eight hours of teaching in Mathematics during each week of full term, as directed by the organising tutors for Mathematics, and under the general supervision of the Senior Tutor;
(iii) to share pastoral duties and participate in the organisation of teaching in Mathematics in College;
(iv) to undertake a reasonable share of College administrative duties;
(v) to participate in the undergraduate admissions process in College;
(vi) to contribute as appropriate to the College's access and outreach initiatives.

Selection Criteria

The appointee will be able to demonstrate:

1. an excellent research record appropriate to the stage of the candidate's career and clear potential for outstanding future research in Mathematics;
2. an ability to give tutorials on a wide range of mathematics courses from the first and second year (Prelims and Part A).
3. an ability to provide a high standard of teaching to very able and challenging undergraduates;
4. good communication skills and evidence of the sensitivity required to deal effectively with pastoral duties;
5. willingness to participate in, and to encourage, the academic life of the College;
6. willingness to participate in College administration;
7. willingness to take part in Open Days, schools visits and other outreach, and widening participation-related activities;

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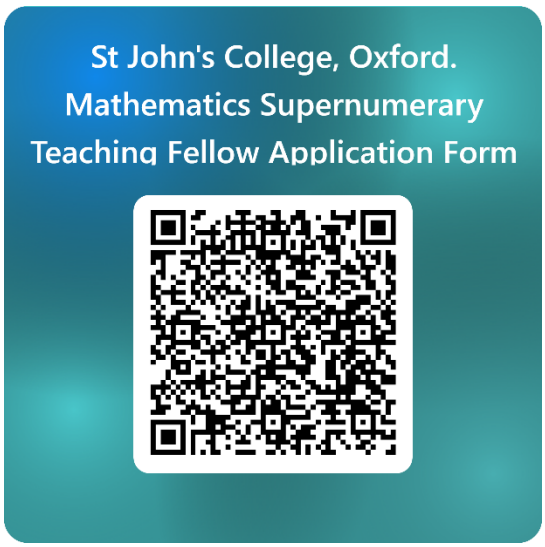
Application procedure

Candidates should complete an application form available at –

St John's College, Oxford. Mathematics Supernumerary Teaching Fellow Application Form 2026 – Fill in form

Or Scan the QR code below –



Further details can be found - Vacancies | St John's College, Oxford

Candidates should also assemble a single pdf file containing the following information to academic.vacancies@sjc.ox.ac.uk

- a **covering letter** which details how they meet the selection criteria.
- a **curriculum vitae** with details of qualifications and experience, and a list of publications
- a **statement** of which courses from the first (Prelims) and second years (Part A) they are willing to teach in tutorials
- a **statement** at most 3 pages of current research interests, and research plan for the 5 years of the fellowship.

Candidates must also provide the names of **two academic referees who should be asked to email their references to the same address** academic.vacancies@sjc.ox.ac.uk

In order to guarantee consideration, both applications and references should reach the College no later than noon (UK time) on **5th November 2026.**

Candidates are encouraged to include a completed equal opportunity monitoring form with their application. Your information will not form part of the selection process and will not be disclosed to the selection panel. Please send this electronically as a separate pdf document to academic.vacancies@sjc.ox.ac.uk.

Informal queries can be sent to Professor Philip Maini (Philip.Maini@maths.ox.ac.uk).

Selection Process

Interviewing and appointing procedures will be conducted in January 2027. Interviews will be conducted via Teams.

Equal Opportunities

St John's College is committed to equality of opportunity. It is the policy and practice of St John's that entry into employment and progression within employment will be determined only by criteria which are related to the duties of a particular post and the relevant salary scale. No applicant or member of staff will be treated less favorably than another because of their age, disability, ethnicity, marital or civil partnership status, parental status, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. St John's College is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Further information can be obtained on the College website at: https://www.sjc.ox.ac.uk/discover/about-college/legal/college-policies/

Right to Work in the UK

The appointment will be subject to the provision of proof of the right to work in the UK.

If you require a visa, we have a dedicated Staff Immigration Team to support successful applicants through the immigration process (for Skilled Worker or Global Talent) from job offer through to arrival in the UK. This is subject to the eligibility criteria being met for the required visa route. Please note that the visa application process will require you to submit no later than three months prior to the start date of this post, either a copy of their doctoral award certificate, or an academic reference confirming that their doctorate has been awarded, or an academic reference confirming that they have submitted their thesis, if they have not yet completed.