

**Institute of Historical Research
School of Advanced Study, University of London**

**ALAN PEARSALL POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP IN NAVAL AND MARITIME HISTORY, 2020–21
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS**

The Alan Pearsall Bequest and the Institute of Historical Research will offer a one-year postdoctoral Fellowship in Naval and Maritime History for 2020–21 tenable at the Institute. Applications are encouraged for work on any aspect of Naval and Maritime History, in the broadest sense, anywhere in the world, from the fall of the Roman Empire in the West up to the present day.

ELIGIBILITY

The Fellowships will be awarded to postdoctoral applicants who have recently completed a doctoral degree in history, or who will have submitted their thesis for examination by 1 October in the academic year in which the Fellowship is to be held. It is a strict condition of the Fellowship that the thesis should have been submitted by that date. Applicants may be of any nationality, and their PhD (or equivalent) may have been awarded in any country. Those who have previously held another postdoctoral research fellowship of 12 months or more will not be eligible. The Fellowship cannot be held in conjunction with any other substantial maintenance grant.

A condition of the award is that Fellows should undertake further historical research and writing. The fellowship is intended for research on a new project rather than for the development of an existing thesis. Fellows will not be required to be resident in London, but should participate in the activities of the Institute, by regular attendance at and presentation of papers to appropriate seminars and by giving information and help to fellow scholars working in the same field.

At the discretion of the Director of the Institute, Fellows may engage in teaching or other paid work for up to six hours a week (note however that some categories of non-national may need to obtain a work permit in order to undertake this).

STIPENDS

The Fellowship stipend will be £23,500 for the full academic year, and will be payable in four instalments through the Institute. No additional research funding is attached to this Fellowship.

VISAS

Fellows, if they do not have the right to reside and study in the UK, will require a visa, and must ascertain what category of visa is most suitable for them.

The University of London is licensed to issue sponsorship certificates for Tier 5 visas. If Fellows need to enter the UK under a Tier 5 visa, they should apply for a sponsorship certificate through the IHR Fellowship Office, which they can then use in their visa

application to the Home Office. Further details of visa categories can be found at <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visitingtheuk/>

DEADLINES

- Complete applications must be received at the Institute of Historical Research no later than **27 March 2020**. Incomplete applications or applications arriving after this date will not be considered.
- Two supporting letters of reference must be received by no later than **10 April 2020**.
- Interviews will be held in **May/June 2020**.

APPLICATION FORMAT

- Hard copy applications will be deemed ineligible. Only applications made using the IHR's online application system will be considered.
- Applications for which the requested supporting documents (one-page CV, thesis summary, written work, and research proposal) are not uploaded will be deemed ineligible.
- Applications which do not receive their full complement of two supporting letters of reference will not be considered. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that his/her referees supply letters in support of the application.

REFERENCES

Once an application has been submitted, a standard email will be sent automatically to the addresses supplied by the applicant in the 'Referees' section of the online application form. This will provide the referees with a link to the online system, where they can upload their reference letter. These letters must be uploaded to the online application system directly by the referee, not by the applicant. Applicants may arrange instead for a portfolio of generic references to be sent by their university, where such a service is offered. In that case the box in the 'Referees' section marked 'Portfolio to follow' should be ticked, and the referee details left blank.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that his/her referees supply letters in support of the application, and it is strongly advised that referees are contacted well before the application is submitted. Applications which do not receive their full complement of two supporting letters of recommendation by **10 April 2020** will not be considered.

THE SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDY

Applicants are strongly advised to investigate the resources that are available to them within the University of London, and particularly at the School of Advanced Study, to which the IHR belongs. Details can be found at www.lon.ac.uk and www.sas.ac.uk

REPORTING

Fellows will be expected to submit an annual report on their activities to the Institute. Within three months of the end of the Fellowship period (i.e. before 1 January 2023), each Fellow will send to the Institute of Historical Research (by email) a written report on the Fellowship experience, detailing the activities undertaken during the period of his/her Fellowship and an outline of future career plans.

SELECTION POLICIES

A committee of senior historians will draw up a short list of interview candidates from eligible applicants. The committee will assess the quality of applications with reference to the following criteria:

- The significance and originality of the research project.
- The quality of the research accomplished and the way it is presented in the application.
- The standard of the applicant's academic qualifications.
- Likelihood of thesis completion prior to taking up the award.
- The quality of the references.
- All other considerations being equal, the likelihood of active participation in the academic life of the IHR, as indicated by a history of involvement in conferences, workshops and seminars.

APPLICATION CONTENTS

As well as completing the 'Personal Details', 'Education' and 'Referees' sections, applicants should also upload the following four documents:

- A one-page CV, listing any educational details, publications, research papers and other relevant academic information not submitted elsewhere in the application. ***Your name must be included on all pages.***
- A summary of the doctoral thesis (no more than 750 words). ***Your name and page numbers must be included on all pages.***
- A postdoctoral research proposal with timetable for completion (no more than 1,000 words). ***Your name and page numbers must be included on all pages.***
- A sample of the applicant's written work, in English (8,000 to 10,000 words). This is often a thesis chapter or journal article. ***Your name and page numbers must be included on all pages.***

THE DEADLINE DATE FOR THE RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS WILL BE 27 MARCH 2020. ALL LETTERS OF REFERENCE MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE IHR BY 10 APRIL 2020.