



## **MANCHESTER ACADEMY TRUST BURSARIES IN UNITARIAN AND DISSENTING STUDIES FOR HARRIS MANCHESTER'S SUMMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

Harris Manchester College, Oxford is offering two bursaries for Harris Manchester College's Summer Research Institute. This year the programme will run from Monday 29 June to Sunday 6 July 2026.

The bursaries encourage a broad range of interdisciplinary research, including creative research by writers and artists, into the study of Unitarian and Dissenting traditions. The bursaries are funded through the Manchester Academy Trust for participation in the Summer Research Institute, a programme that assembles scholars from around the world and from different disciplines to come together and engage in an intense and stimulating research week.

The bursaries are intended to foster innovative, cross-disciplinary engagement with Unitarian and Dissenting traditions within and beyond the history of Harris Manchester College and its unique archives and collections. They will be supported by the resources of the College through the library and its team, and, more widely, also offer access to Oxford's libraries and collections. They are open to early career and established scholars, as well as to artists, writers and independent researchers. We are especially interested in applications from those who have not yet had access to Oxford's libraries, its scholarly community or its research facilities

### **The Structure and Support of the Programme**

The Summer Research Institute is offered for a week to begin on Monday 29 June 2026 ( will be expected to arrive in Oxford on the evening of Sunday 28 June). Accommodation and meals will be provided for the period of the residency.

Participants in the Summer Research Institute will have University Visiting Researcher status (which provides access to College and University libraries). It will be activated for a three-month period around the residential period (1 June to 31 August) as well as support for library and archival research, including training in how to access and use college archives and other resources.

## Outputs, Reporting and Publicity

The Manchester Academy Trust bursaries are output focused and recipients are expected to contribute to the creative and intellectual life of the college and the growth of Unitarian and Dissenting Studies through creating new resources and projects. Recipients are expected to produce material evidence of their work in at least one of the following forms within the year following the residency:

- Academic paper, journal article, or book proposal
- Creative project (e.g., play, novel, radio programme)
- Public lecture or workshop
- Contribution to College publicity and community engagement
- Enhancement of College collections (e.g., cataloguing, digitisation, archival work)

Recipients will be required to provide evidence of outputs and will be invited to contribute to college publicity (e.g. blog posts or social media). They are especially encouraged to submit presentation proposals to the centre's Reimagining the Dissenting Traditions: Empire, Complicity, and Resistance to be held September 26 to 29, 2027.

## How to Apply

The deadline for applications is 30 March 2026. All applicants must submit a one-page project proposal, together with a CV and the names and contact details for two referees. For an informal conversation about this opportunity please contact Rev Dr Claire McDonald [claire.macdonald@hmc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:claire.macdonald@hmc.ox.ac.uk). Completed applications should be sent to the same email address. Completed applications should be sent to Rev Dr Claire McDonald, the Centre for Unitarian and Dissenting Studies [cuds@hmc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:cuds@hmc.ox.ac.uk).

## Terms and Conditions

Participants in the Summer Research Institute will be required to remain in residence for the duration of the programme.

Incomplete applications, or applications without references will not be considered.

It will not be possible to provide individual feedback on unsuccessful applications.

Candidates from outside the EU will need **to check the regulations** for acquiring a visa to visit the UK for the period of their fellowships

## Timeline

- Applications open: **30 January 2026**
- Applications close: **30 March 2026**
- Notification: **1 May 2026**
- Fellowships begin: **29 June 2026**
- Fellowships end: **11 July**

- Deadline for providing evidence of outputs: **31 December 2026**