International Visiting Scholars in the Department of Language & Linguistic Science, University of York

The Department welcomes applications from scholars who wish to spend up to one year here as International Visiting Scholars, in order to pursue independent research and scholarship.

In the most recent (2022) assessment of research in all UK universities (the Research Excellence Framework) we were rated the top Linguistics department for research in the UK. As a result, we receive an increasing number of applications from those who wish to come here as international visiting scholars. We do not have the resources to accept all applications – we have therefore generally to select only those that connect most closely with areas of research and scholarship within the Department.

We expect that visitors will become a part of our academic community and will therefore be informed by and also contribute to our research activities here in York. Part of the application process includes a short research proposal which will be evaluated by our visiting scholars' committee. When applying to us, ensure that you do so for a clear and strong academic reason for visiting York, and that your research will connect directly with ongoing research of our faculty and research groups.

If you would like to apply to be an International Visiting Scholar at the University of York, please follow the guidelines below, outlining the procedure for making an application.

How to apply to become an International Visiting Scholar in Language & Linguistic Science

Whilst the Department warmly welcomes applications to come to York for up to one year (12 months) and for shorter periods, we are unable to accept all such applications. Please therefore bear in mind that we select applicants whose research and scholarly interests connect closely with those of members of our faculty. So if you’re considering coming to York as a visiting scholar, begin by looking at the Department’s web site and the profiles of members of the Department, to see whether your own research and scholarly interests are represented in the work we do here. You will want to come to a department where you can discuss your interests, your work and perhaps even get feedback on the direction of your research. Whilst we cannot provide supervision for visiting scholars, you will want to feel that you can discuss your work with those who have an expert understanding of your research field. Only apply to us, therefore, if you are sure that there is someone or a group that shares your research interests. If, having looked through the profiles of faculty members you’re in any doubt about that, you might like to email the Department’s Visiting Scholar Co-ordinator, Professor Paul Drew (paul.drew@york.ac.uk), for advice.

The Department’s research interests and faculty profiles can be found on our website.

What we offer
Academic Visitors to the Department have access to the following facilities:

- Access to University and Department computing facilities, wi-fi internet access, and a University of York email address
- Use of the University Library, including use of the common study areas in the University library
- Limited free use of the Department’s photocopier
- Participation in research seminars and other Departmental and public events
- Suitable desk space may be available in a building adjacent to the Department, in the Humanities Research Centre (HRC), Berrick Saul Building. The HRC’s facilities are always in demand and therefore workspace cannot be guaranteed; however, if visitors would like to work in the HRC from time to time, access may be arranged on an individual basis. The HRC houses research projects and postgraduate students from arts and humanities departments, such as English and Related Literature, History, History of Art, Philosophy. There is a lively programme of activities in the building.
- If visitors wish to audit modules and attend lectures and seminars, this can usually be arranged. However, there is an additional charge made for each module taken. You can check before applying whether there is a module(s) that interests you, or you might review our catalogue when you arrive. Arrangements can sometimes be made to take a module(s) for credit, which involves following a modules in the usual way (lectures and seminars or workshops, completing formative and summative assessments and being awarded a final mark, but again a charge would be made, in line with University policies and rates, for modules taken for credit.

The academic year

The academic year at York is divided into two semesters; the first (Semester 1) runs from September to January and semester 2 from February to June.

Whilst you may like to join from the beginning of the academic year or the beginning of a semester, we recognise that people’s availability and the academic periods in their home institutions vary. We are flexible about start dates, and can usually accommodate visits for varying periods, according to whatever is mutually convenient.

The cost

Visitors are charged a fee to cover the costs that we incur in hosting them. The normal rate is currently £3000 for 12 months; visits of less than 12 months are charged pro rata (£250 per month). There is no charge for visits of a month or less, so long as a University of York email address and library borrowing rights are not required.

An additional charge will normally be made for each module audited. The charge per module is calculated pro rata at the relevant student fee rate. Visitors may be self-funded, or may have secured a grant through a research project or funding agency (e.g. a government agency). If you think that the fees quoted above may be difficult for you or
there are special circumstances, you should mention this in your letter of application (see below). Fees are payable in full on arrival in the Department.

(These charges do not apply if you are a member of one of those universities with whom this Department has exchange or other collaborative agreements.)

**Applying to be an Academic Visitor to the Department**

You may apply by emailing the Department’s Visiting Scholar Co-ordinator, Professor Paul Drew (paul.drew@york.ac.uk), with the following information (3 items):

**A letter of application:** There is no standard form for this letter, but it should include the reason you’d like to come to the University of York as a Visiting Scholar, including the benefit you hope to gain from the visit; the proposed dates of your visit; and whether there is a faculty member or research group with whom you would like to be associated – indeed you might give an indication of whether you have been in touch with a particular faculty member. You should also tell us in your letter whether you will be self-funding or whether you have applied for or secured funding for your visit.

**Research:** Provide a brief outline (about 1000 words max.) of the research activity in which you propose to engage during your visit.

**Your CV:** The final item you should send is your up-to-date CV, including full name, institutional address, and current position.

**Visa Procedures and Accommodation**

The Department is unable to provide advice on visas. For more information on visa applications, please visit the University’s website. Nor are we able to provide assistance with arranging accommodation. Please contact the Accommodation Office.

We receive many requests for visiting scholar status each year, and regretfully we are unable to accept all applications. Applications are reviewed by the Department’s Visiting Scholars’ committee. Don’t be put off applying to us – Visiting Scholars make a hugely important contribution to the intellectual life of the Department, and we’re confident that a period working at York will benefit our visitors intellectually and personally.

Please send any enquiry you may have and your application by email to:

Professor Paul Drew  
International Visiting Scholar Co-ordinator  
(Department of Language and Linguistic Science University of York, UK)  
paul.drew@york.ac.uk

We wish you well with your application and hope to be able to welcome you to York in the future.

August 2023