Academic visitors to the Department of Sociology, 2019

The Department welcomes applications from scholars who wish to spend up to one year in the Department as Academic Visitors. Visiting scholars pursue independent research and are encouraged to participate in the academic life of the department and the University. They are able to attend open academic seminars, present papers and take advantage of library resources and University facilities to enhance their research. We encourage visitors whose research interests connect with our research staff or our research clusters. We are unable to offer academic supervision to visiting scholars, but we would welcome academic collaborations.

Academics wishing to apply for visiting status should submit an outline of their research plans. It is helpful to indicate how these map onto the interests of the department. Potential visiting scholars should familiarise themselves with the information below, which includes full details of the application process for a position in the department.

NB: This scheme is for established academic scholars only (most applicants will have an academic post). We also welcome visiting PhD students to the Department, but this is a different scheme, for information follow this link: [https://www.york.ac.uk/study/international/applying/visiting-students/](https://www.york.ac.uk/study/international/applying/visiting-students/)

About Sociology at York

The Department’s research interests and staff are listed on the webpages:
http://www.york.ac.uk/sociology/research

The Department of Sociology (founded in 1964) is one of the longest established and distinguished in the UK. The Department was ranked 1st in the recent Research Excellence Framework exercise (REF 2014) and is a QS World Top 150 Department. Our research is recognised as amongst the most innovative and influential in the world.

Research in the Department is consolidated into four core clusters which engage in empirical and theoretical work: Culture, values and practices; Language and social interaction; Gender, sexuality and inequality; and Science, health and technology. Several members of staff work across as well as within these clusters, each of which supports the work of colleagues through activities such as regular reading groups and research development meetings.

We run regular research seminars, paper development sessions and/or guest lectures covering a wide range of topics. If you are accepted as a visitor, we will usually ask you to give a seminar, as a way of making yourself known to members of the department, and so you can find it easier to make contact with staff and students. You will be expected to actively participate in the research environment of the department by pursuing opportunities to present and discuss your own research, attend research events, and participate in any other research related activities.

What will it cost?

Bench fees are costs which visiting academics are required to pay, in order to cover the costs that the University will incur in hosting them. The normal rates are: £250 a month or £3000 a year. Our normal policy is that visitors with funding from e.g. their government or a research grant should be able to fund their visit this way. Otherwise they will be covered privately. Please contact the
Department Research Facilitator (contact below) if the fees are problematic for you, as we do not intend for these costs to be prohibitive and there may be ways in which we can help.

What facilities are available?

The following facilities are provided or made available for Academic Visitors to the Department:

- University of York email address and limited use of University and Department computing facilities;
- Use of the University Library and related resources;
- Admission to most lectures and other teaching by agreement;
- Copies of course materials;
- Attendance at research departmental and university seminars and other public events;
- Limited free use of the Department's photocopier and printing facilities

What is the Best Time to Visit?

The academic year at York is divided into three terms. Autumn term is from late September to December. Spring term is from January to March. Summer term is from April to June. Please check [http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/po/terms.htm](http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/po/terms.htm) for exact term dates. The University vacation begins in July and lasts until the end of September. Many people are away at this time and the Department has no teaching and few events. The libraries may also open for shorter hours and may close completely for short periods.

Where will I be located?

The department has some study space available for visiting researchers, but this is likely to be shared with other researchers. The building has wifi access and computers will be set up for individual use. This is in the Wentworth Building on Heslington West campus and is on the same floor as the whole Department of Sociology. There is a lively programme of activities in the building. All academic visitors are also eligible to use the common study areas in the University library and across campus.

Application Procedures

To apply, please prepare the following documents:

- A brief letter of application, indicating:
  - why it would be useful to you to spend time in York;
  - a clear indication of how you intend to pay the fees;
  - a clear indication of the period you wish to be in York (e.g. start and end date of your stay), and your plans for finding accommodation.
- A 1-2 page research proposal for your time in York;
- A 1-2 page CV, with full name, address, and current academic position;
- A letter of recommendation from your Head of Department or other senior academic who knows you and your work.

Please send your inquiries and application by email to: Sophie.bramley@york.ac.uk (Department Research Facilitator)

Applications are considered once a term (September/October, January/February, May/June) and applicants will be informed as soon as possible after the meeting has taken place. Please note, we are not in a position to invite every applicant and applications will be reviewed according to the following criteria:
1) Fit with the department’s research interests.
2) Benefit to the department in terms of research engagement, prestige and potential for collaboration.
3) Strength of application/research proposal.

Payment of Fees

Academic Visitors may apply to spend between three and a maximum of twelve months associated with the Department and pay the associated bench fee (see above). The full amount is payable either upon or before arrival; we will generate an invoice for payment with instructions for how to pay the fee once the payment date has been decided.

Visa Procedures

The Department cannot provide advice on visas. For more information on visa applications, please visit the University's website: [http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/ias/](http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/ias/).

The York Welcome Service

The department will provide a short induction to the department, your working space and the events we have planned when you arrive with us. For any other queries, including finding accommodation, setting up a bank account or settling in, please visit [https://www.york.ac.uk/admin/hr/new-starters/welcome-to-york/welcome-service/](https://www.york.ac.uk/admin/hr/new-starters/welcome-to-york/welcome-service/).

The department is unable to provide advice on any of the above.