Teaching in the University of Cambridge Law Tripos (the course leading to the BA degree in law) is provided by the Faculty of Law (https://www.law.cam.ac.uk/) and by the colleges, the Faculty of Law providing lectures and certain classes, and the colleges providing supervisions (tutorials) which normally take place in groups of between two and four students. In addition to Fellows who hold University teaching posts in law, many colleges appoint College Teaching Officers (CTOs) in law, with a view to the provision of core undergraduate teaching, together with directing studies for both undergraduate and postgraduate law students, and associated administrative activities. The advertised fixed-term College Teaching Officer post at Magdalene College will be one such CTO post. It is anticipated that the post holder will be elected to an Official Fellowship of Magdalene, which carries membership of the College’s governing body and responsibility as a trustee of the College (which is a registered charity).

The post is intended to provide an opportunity for someone near the start of their academic career to develop teaching and administrative skills, and their research record, with a view to progressing to a more senior academic post in Cambridge or elsewhere. The post is therefore offered for a fixed term of three years eleven months, which will not be renewed or extended.

Magdalene College normally admits about eight undergraduates each year to read law, together with a smaller number of students on the LLM (Master of Law) and MCL (Master of Corporate Law) courses, and PhD students in law and cognate areas.

There are currently two University teaching officers in law who are Official Fellows of Magdalene, Dr Neil Jones (University Reader in English Legal History) and Dr Antje du Bois-Pedain (University Reader in Criminal Law and Philosophy). The Master of Magdalene is Sir Christopher Greenwood, formerly Professor of International Law at the London School of Economics, and a judge of the International Court of Justice. Professor W.R. Cornish (Emeritus Herchel Smith Professor of Intellectual Property Law) is a Life Fellow, and Mr Alistair Mills, a practising barrister at Landmark Chambers is an External College Lecturer in Law. The College’s honorary fellows include Lord Judge (formerly Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales), Sir Andrew Morritt (formerly Chancellor of the High Court), Wong Yan-lung GBM, SC (formerly Secretary for Justice of Hong Kong), and Baroness Hale of Richmond (formerly President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom).

College teaching

College undergraduate teaching in law (as in other subjects) takes the form of supervisions, which is law are usually in groups of between two and four students, students having a total of ten hour-long supervisions for each of their four or five papers in the course of an academic
year. Supervisions build upon and supplement University lectures, and include provision of written feedback on formative essays. Each academic year consists of twenty teaching weeks, eight weeks in each of the Michaelmas and Lent terms, and four weeks in the Easter term (followed by examinations). The post-holder will be expected to teach a total of at least 160 hours of supervisions across the academic year, an average of eight hours per week in full term. Should the post-holder choose to teach additional hours this would be paid for at the College’s normal hourly rates for supervising.

The post-holder will be expected to provide supervisions in at least two supervised Law Tripos papers. Preference will be given to applicants who are able and willing to teach at least one of the following papers: Constitutional Law, Law of Tort, Law of Contract and Equity. Details of the papers available in the Law Tripos may be found at https://www.ba.law.cam.ac.uk/studying-law-cambridge/tripos-papers. The post-holder will be expected to give preference within their supervising hours to Magdalene students, but supervisions may also be given for other colleges, in particular where this would assist with supervising swap arrangements.

Direction of Studies

In common with other subjects, all Law undergraduates have a college director of studies whose duties include monitoring their academic progress, advising on study methods and paper choices, provision of references, and liaison with each student’s personal tutor (who will be in a subject other than Law). Directors of studies also arrange supervisions for their students and build relationships with specialist supervisors in other colleges under swap arrangements where needed. Direction of studies is also provided for LLM and MCL students (for whom all teaching is arranged and provided by the Faculty of Law). The post-holder may be required to act as director of studies for at least one Magdalene undergraduate year-group and/or for Magdalene LLM or MCL students. Such work would be remunerated as part of the annual stipend.

Other College responsibilities

The post-holder will be required to take part in Law undergraduate admissions activities, including interviewing applicants and attending open days and other outreach or widening participation events, and may be asked to assess applications for postgraduate courses in law. The post-holder may also be required to participate in oversight of the activities of the College Law Society, including its mooting activities. As an Official Fellow the post-holder will be required to attend meetings of the College’s Governing Body (usually held three times in each term), and may be asked to take on other College offices or duties as appropriate, which will always be commensurate with an early-career fixed-term appointment.

Research and publication

It is expected that the post-holder will engage in research, and publication in peer-reviewed journals. The teaching commitment for the post has been set with a view to enabling the post-holder to devote sufficient time to research and publication, and to other activities appropriate to the development of an early-career legal academic. The University of Cambridge and other institutions offer a wide range of relevant professional development courses, with which the post-holder will be encouraged and expected to engage. The College is able to make limited grants towards research expenses.
Conditions of employment

The post-holder will be employed by the College for a fixed term of three years and eleven months, without possibility of renewal, from 1 September 2021 to 31 July 2025, as a College Lecturer in accordance with the College Statutes. They will be elected to an Official Fellowship, and will be subject to the residence requirements for College Officers. The annual stipend will be equivalent to point 41 of the Cambridge University Scale (currently £32,816). The post-holder will be eligible for participation in the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). Any additional teaching beyond the contractual requirement of 160 hours a year will be paid at the normal hourly rates for College supervisions.

Any offer of employment will be subject to the applicant holding the right to work in the UK. If necessary the College may be able to assist the successful candidate in obtaining a Skilled Worker Visa, please email the HR department separately on hr@magd.cam.ac.uk if you believe you will require a visa.

Official Fellows are eligible to take a buffet lunch free of charge in College on any or all weekdays, Monday to Friday. This applies when Fellows’ lunch is served and there is no payment in lieu for occasions when there is no lunch. Official Fellows may also take dinner free of charge on High Table, which prior to the covid-19 pandemic, took place seven days a week. Guests may be signed in for dinner on any day except Sunday, and are paid for by the Fellow. Wine taken by Fellows and their guests is also charged at a reasonable rate.

Official Fellows may apply for single accommodation in College (in the Precincts), for which there is a service charge. Accommodation in the estate is subject to availability.

Applications

There is no application form. Applications should be uploaded through the following link https://app.casc.cam.ac.uk/fas_live/lawtrf.aspx to arrive no later than noon on Wednesday 31 March 2021. Applications should consist of a covering letter; a curriculum vitae with details of qualifications, publications and relevant experience; a statement of no more than 1,000 words of the applicant’s research; and the names and contact details of two referees (who have agreed to act as such). Referees will receive an email with details of how to provide a reference and the deadline. Applicants are required to ask their referees to send their references by the closing date for applications. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that references are received.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interview. Interviews are expected to be held in early May 2021. Shortlisted candidates may be asked to submit copies of written work before the interview. Interviews will be face to face or via Zoom at the discretion of the appointments panel and subject to government guidelines.