

# The British Academy

## Notes for Applicants for Small Research Grants (up to £7,500)

### Purpose of grant

Grants are available to support primary research in the humanities and social sciences. The first recourse for funding should be to your own institution (where applicable). Applications will not be considered for less than £500. The maximum grant is £7,500 over two years. Applications for collaborative or individual research projects are equally welcome under this scheme. Applications from international groups of scholars are welcome, provided there is a UK-based scholar as lead applicant.

Funds are available to facilitate initial project planning and development; to support the direct costs of research; and to enable the advancement of research through workshops, or visits by or to partner scholars. Applicants may seek support for any combination of eligible activity and cost up to the overall limit of £7,500. The Academy will assess applications equally on their merits, with no preference as to mode of enquiry.

Grants are not intended to support interchange between UK and overseas scholars where there is no planned programme of activity to meet a clearly specified research objective; nor are they intended to support attendance at open conferences organised by a third party or international organisation.

**All applications** should demonstrate that Academy funds are sought for a clearly defined, discrete piece of research, which will have an identifiable outcome on completion of the Academy-funded component of the project.

### Eligibility

- Grants are available for advanced research, at postdoctoral or equivalent level, in the fields of the humanities and the social sciences. **Postgraduate students are not eligible to apply.**
- Applicants must be ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands (that is, classed as 'ordinarily resident' by the Inland Revenue) **or** currently employed overseas by a recognised UK overseas research organisation.
- UK research organisations based overseas may apply to be recognised by demonstrating that they satisfy **both** the following conditions:
  1. Organisations which are, or which are constituent parts of, charities registered with the Charity Commission; and
  2. which must be able to demonstrate an independent capability to undertake research in the field or discipline in which they wish to be funded, and to lead the research for which funding is received.
- Awards will not be made retrospectively: this means that the work for which support is requested **must not** have commenced before the award is announced. Please note the earliest point at which research can commence:

**Closing date**  
15 March 2009

**Research to commence on or anytime after**  
1 July 2009

**Result notified by**  
end June 2009

Please note that the date for research to commence represents the earliest date for which research costs will be eligible for consideration, but funds may not be made available until up to six weeks later. Please ensure that your completed application is returned to the British Academy by 5pm on the closing date, as late applications cannot be accepted. Further calls for applications will be issued later in the academic year.

### Eligible costs

Funds may be sought to cover the direct expenses incurred in planning, conducting, and developing the research, including:

- project planning and development costs (cost of travel for discussion in the UK and overseas; initial workshops with potential partners)
- travel and maintenance for UK scholars
- travel and maintenance for overseas scholars engaged in collaborative research activity with UK partner(s)
- research assistance (based in UK or abroad)
- workshops to advance the programme of research (principally the costs of travel and maintenance for key participants, though organisational costs may be considered)
- consumables
- specialist software
- costs of interpreters in the field

Bids for the cost of childcare may be considered if the parent/carer is conducting research away from home and it is not possible to make alternative arrangements. In such a case, the Academy will consider making a contribution to the element of cost that is directly attributable to the research project. The costs of normal regular childcare whilst at home are not eligible for support. Consumables include the purchase of datasets, photocopies, microfilms, etc, and any other minor items that will be used up during the course of the project. Applicants may apply for short-term consultancy or salary costs for expert staff, or short periods of research assistance. Provided they are central to the research process and an adequate case is made, the costs of preparing illustrations (including photography, acquisition of images, draughtsmanship and cartography or other bespoke illustrative material) may be considered. The cost of reproduction

rights for text or images may be considered provided there is a contract for publication in place. Costs associated with deposit of digital material in an appropriately accessible repository may be considered. Costs related to conservation may be considered provided there is a clear research context to the work that falls within the remit of the Academy; if an application is purely for technical or practical work with no research objective, it is not eligible for funding. Incidental translation expenses may be considered.

The following items are **not currently eligible** for funding (applicants registered with special needs may consult the Academy about possible exceptions): institutional overheads, or any element that should properly be ascribed to institutional overheads; computer hardware including laptops, electronic notebooks, digital cameras, etc; books and other permanent resources; the preparation of camera-ready copy, copy-editing, proof-reading, indexing, nor any other editorial task; subventions for direct production costs (printing, binding, distribution, marketing etc); costs of publication in electronic media; payment to the principal researcher(s) in lieu of salary, or for personal maintenance at home; replacement teaching costs; travel and maintenance expenses for purposes such as lecture tours or to write up the results of research; attendance at or organisation of conferences either in the UK or abroad to disseminate the results of research. (There are separate schemes for conferences, as distinct from meetings or workshops planned to advance a programme of research. Please see the *Guide to Awards* available online at [www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/](http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/)). Events convened for the purpose of disseminating results of the research in progress are not eligible for funding under this scheme.

#### **Level and duration of award**

Applicants may bid for up to £7,500, for research taking place over a maximum period of 24 months. Applicants should not apply for expenditure that will take place over more than 24 months. There is no bar to reapplying for further funding, providing the conditions of award relating to the preceding grant have been satisfactorily fulfilled. Please note, however, that once a pilot project has been successfully completed further applications relating to the main project may be more appropriately directed elsewhere for funding (ESRC/AHRC). There is no guarantee that a re-application will be successful, so applicants with longer-term projects in mind should ensure that their research is so designed that a single phase will have an appropriate and worthwhile outcome, even if further phases are not funded.

#### **Application and assessment procedures**

Applicants are required to select one referee and ensure that the supporting statement from their chosen referee arrives at the Academy by the closing date. An application cannot be considered for an award unless the proposal and reference have been received at the Academy on or before the closing date. Applications will be assessed by subject specialists. Applications assessed as being worthy of funding will be submitted to the Grants Committee for final decision on awards.

Please note that only one British Academy research award (Small Research Grant, Larger Research Grant [now discontinued as a separate scheme] Senior Research Fellowship, or British Academy Research Development Award) may be held, or applied for, at any one time. An application cannot be accepted if there is a report outstanding on any previous research grant awarded by the Academy to the **principal investigator** or **co-investigator(s)** named in the current proposal. Please see also note §14 below. Duplicate applications to more than one Academy scheme will not be accepted.

The Academy will accept one resubmission of a previously unsuccessful application. A fresh proposal must be prepared, taking into account any advice previously supplied by the Academy, and a new statement of support supplied by a referee (who may be either the same or different from that named on the first application). Applicants should clearly demonstrate how the proposal has been modified.

#### **Code of Practice**

The Academy has a Code of Practice for assessing research applications, setting out the principles of equity, integrity and confidentiality governing the treatment of all applications for research support. The Code of Practice also covers Data Protection, the Academy's ethics policy and the appeals procedure. The Code of Practice may be viewed on the Academy's website at [www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/codepractice.html](http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/codepractice.html). **Feedback is not a feature of the Small Research Grants scheme**, and the Academy is, regrettably, unable to enter into correspondence regarding the decisions of the awarding Committee, which are governed by the Code of Practice. **Please note** that by applying in this scheme, applicants undertake to accept the terms under which applications are assessed.

#### **How to complete the form**

*Please type/word-process throughout. If it is wholly unavoidable that the application be handwritten in parts, please ensure that you use black ink, and write clearly (applications may be deemed ineligible if they are presented in an illegible manner, or are illegible when photocopied). Applicants may, if they wish, paste word-processed text on to the printed application form; or they may reproduce the entire form in a convenient word-processing package, provided that the layout and content of the printed version are followed exactly. Please use a minimum of **10 pt font size** for your answers to the questions. Please note the length of this form is four sides of A4 (excluding Section 20 if used, references, subject area and monitoring form). Applicants are requested to respect the regulations regarding font size and length. Applications that fail to meet the regulations will be returned.*

§1 Please note that this form may be used for 15 March 2009 closing date only.

§2 Please note that all applications should have one lead applicant, named on the form as the principal investigator, although applications on behalf of more than one person are welcome. Please note that all correspondence will be sent **only** to the named individual at the address specified on the form. The principal investigator is responsible for notifying any other parties. If there is more than one applicant, or the research involves other partners, please complete Section 20. (A 'co-investigator' is a joint director of the project with

equal responsibility for the academic management of the project. It is expected that no more than two co-investigators would normally be named on a proposal for a Small Research Grant.) Please give details of the present appointment, and a **brief** summary of academic career of the principal investigator, listing principal previous appointments (no more than three lines of text). Postgraduate students are **not eligible** to apply for grant support from the Academy, and investigators (and co-investigators) are asked to confirm that they are not currently working towards a PhD, nor awaiting the outcome of a *viva voce* examination, nor awaiting the acceptance of any corrections required by the examiners.

- §3 Please supply the title of the project.
- §4 Please state the sum requested from the Academy to the nearest full pound (maximum £7,500). If you are applying to one of the Academy's special funds from private bequests (listed on the web site at [www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/special.html](http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/special.html)) please state the name of the Fund.
- §5 Where overseas travel is to be undertaken, please list the countries and institutions to be visited. This information is used for monitoring purposes and may be provided to sister Academies or other organisations which have agreements or links with the British Academy, or the British Academy-sponsored overseas Institutes and Societies. The proposal, including contact details of the applicant, may be shared with the sister Academies or Institutes where this is part of the assessment process, or where joint funding is available (see [www.britac.ac.uk/intl/](http://www.britac.ac.uk/intl/) for list of organisations with which the Academy has links). Applicants should be aware that the same level of data protection as is provided in the UK may not be in place in organisations based overseas. If applicants would prefer their contact details not to be shared, please indicate.
- §6 Please state (a) the start and end dates of the current proposal, and (b) the duration of the entire research project if different. Small Research Grants are tenable for up to 24 months from the start date given in 6(a), **so please do not apply for expenditure that will take place over more than 24 months**. There is no bar to reapplying for further funding on completion of any grant awarded as a result of the current proposal. Please see also note §14.
- §7 The applicant's principal publications should be listed, and/or the most relevant, particularly if a new field of enquiry is proposed. The evaluation of a proposal may take into account the applicant's track record in terms of publication.
- §8 Please provide details of other support given or applied for in connection with the current proposal. Please note that scholars may not apply for cash support from *both* the British Academy *and* the British Academy-sponsored overseas Institutes and Societies. There is no bar to scholars seeking cash support under the Small Research Grants or BARDA scheme, and logistical, permit-related, or other *non-cash* assistance from an Institute or Society. If the project is *funded* by an Institute or Society, an application may not be submitted under the Small Research Grants or BARDA scheme. If your research will take you to a country or region in which one of the British Academy-sponsored overseas Institutes or Societies operates, you are strongly encouraged to make contact with it before completing this form so that you can take account of any relevant expertise, facilities and logistical advice: details can be found on the Academy's web site at [www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/index.html](http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/index.html).

Please indicate whether any other grant applications relating to this project have been submitted, either to the British Academy or to any other funder. Applications submitted to the Academy by separate principal investigators will not be accepted if it is considered that both (or all, if more than two) applications relate to the same project, whose components would not be viable as independent pieces of research. Scholars with interdependent programmes of research whose combined costs exceed the upper limit available under the Small Research Grants scheme should consider submitting a joint application under the BARDA scheme (if eligible).

The Academy has no objection to its grants being held in conjunction with awards from other bodies, provided that there is no duplication of expenditure. **Applicants are requested to keep the Academy informed of the outcomes of any other applications.** Failure to do so may jeopardise the application's prospects of success. In cases where simultaneous applications to the Academy and to another funding agency covering the same elements of a project are both successful, the applicant will be asked to choose which award to accept. Only if there is no duplication and no unnecessary inflation of a project will an applicant be permitted to retain both awards (subsequent requests to alter the plan of research simply to allow the applicant to retain both awards are unlikely to be considered favourably).

- §9 Languages: The Academy expects that applicants will have any language skills necessary to conduct the research. If relevant, please state the level of language competence of the PI and other participants, or otherwise explain how the objectives of the research will be met.
- §10 Applicants should prepare accurate costings for the proposed research expenses, and should be particularly careful not to overestimate the resources required. Applicants are advised that competition for funds can be fierce, and proposals on the margin for award may have a greater chance of success if they are modestly costed.

Costs should be clearly itemised and justified in terms of the research programme. If the Academy is being asked to support only a proportion of the total costs, please list all the expenses connected with the particular

phase of research for which you are seeking support from the Academy, as assessors will wish to gauge the scale of the whole project. In this case, please indicate which costs are being sought from the Academy by typing in bold, or asterisking the relevant items.

It is advised that travel costs should be fully itemised; that the length of time for which subsistence is sought should be justified in the application; that *per diem* rates should be explained; that hourly or monthly rates of research assistants should be specified; and that the period of employment needed for a research assistant should be fully justified. If a claim for child care is included, please supply sufficient justification for the case to be assessed (you may use section 17 of the form to provide details).

*Per diem rates:* The Academy will offer no more than £2,000 per month for subsistence away from home, or a maximum daily rate of £100 for shorter visits, to include food, accommodation and local daily travel. Applicants are asked to quote realistic daily rates, bearing in mind that the Academy reserves the right to reduce the amount requested if it is thought excessive.

In cases where funds are sought for the costs of illustrative material, please note that if there is an agreement for commercial publication, further information may be sought about the general finances for the volume(s). Requests for reproduction fees (for text or image) will only be considered if a publishing contract is in place.

Please note that no payments can be made to the principal investigator or co-investigator(s) either for their own salary costs or for replacement teaching.

Please note that grants are cash-limited, and there is no scope for supplementation of an award. Projects should be fully costed from the outset. HEIs should use their own forward planning tools to calculate indexation, including the cost of any salary increments and allowing for inflation.

§11 Applicants are advised that failure to provide adequate detail on the research proposal in the space allocated may seriously disadvantage their application. If using a downloaded form, please **do not** expand the space provided, which, at one side of A4 paper, allows for a maximum of 1000 words in 10/11 pt. (Please do not reduce the font size below 10 pt). The proposal must;

- clearly specify the context, and research objectives of the proposed study,
- describe the methodology to be used, and
- set out a realistic research programme, describing the activities that will take place, and explaining how they will contribute to the achievement of the research objectives

Applicants should give an account of their research which is complete of itself, and should not depend on material facts being provided by their referees, nor rely on special prior knowledge on the part of assessors.

Where the bulk of funding sought is to finance a workshop(s), applicants should give a clear account of the overall research programme, provide a justification of the contribution of the event(s) to the achievement of the research objective, and give an account of the onward research planned.

It is essential that applicants clearly state the reasons why funds are needed. For example, it is not sufficient to state that the applicant will visit a particular archive: adequate details must be provided of sources to be consulted, and the length of visit must be clearly justified. The applicant should briefly explain why alternative access to material, such as microfilm, is not appropriate.

Grants are intended only for the planning and conduct of primary research. They are not available to cover the costs of spending time at another institution for purposes such as the writing up of primary research. All applications must clearly itemise the **research programme** to be undertaken at any location. Convenience is not a justification.

If support is sought for visits between UK and overseas scholars, applicants should clearly explain the purpose of the meeting(s).

If a research assistant is to be employed, applicants should provide a job description, clearly stating the nature of the work to be undertaken by the research assistant, and the arrangements for ensuring adequate supervision. A brief cv of the proposed researcher(s) (if known) should be included with the application (maximum length, one page of A4). Otherwise, applicants should state the skills and qualifications sought. Applicants should justify the period of employment (or number of hours) for which funding is sought (e.g., has a pilot study or sample been conducted to show how long it will take the assistant to achieve the task in question?). **Please note** that PhD candidates employed as research assistants on projects funded by the Academy should work for no more than 10 hours per week on projects outside their own PhD research. British Academy research grants may not be used to fund work by PhD candidates that is directly related to their PhD thesis.

If the study will involve the use of a questionnaire as a research tool, a sample of the questionnaire (in English) should be submitted, if available at the time of application.

Independent researchers, not affiliated to an institution, should provide evidence of access to relevant facilities and resources.

Please note that additional sheets of paper relating to the current grant application (unless containing information specifically requested) will not be forwarded to the Committee, so applicants are requested to supply all relevant information on the application form itself. In exceptional cases where the context of the proposal cannot be adequately assessed without reference to further material, additional information may be accepted, but in this case applicants are requested to seek prior authorisation from the Research Grants office. Please do not submit cvs of the principal investigator or co-investigator(s).

**Vulnerable subjects:** If you consider your subject is vulnerable (endangered or emerging) please tick the box and ensure you have provided an explanation in section 11. The Academy is not prescriptive, and will consider all cases on their merits. Applicants may wish to view HEFCE's statements at [www.hefce.ac.uk/aboutus/sis/](http://www.hefce.ac.uk/aboutus/sis/)

- §12 Please identify the primary product of your research. In assessing value for money, the assessors may take into account the intended outcome as compared with the amount of money sought, although it is fully appreciated that some modes of research are more expensive than others and proposals will not be discriminated against on grounds of cost alone. It is a condition of award that digital resources created as a result of research funded by the Academy be deposited in an appropriately accessible repository. Applicants should ensure that any necessary technical advice is obtained before commencing work that involves the creation of digital resources. (Costs associated with deposit of digital material may be claimed as a research expense and listed in section 10.)
- §13 The Academy attaches importance to the dissemination of research, and assessors will take into account how far the plans for publication or other dissemination have been developed.
- §14 Please give details of any research applications submitted to the British Academy within the last five years. In the case of a further application for continuing research which has received previous Academy support, **please note that a full report and statement of expenditure for the previous grant must be submitted**, before further funding can be considered. **Please note** only one British Academy research award may be held, or applied for, at any one time. Scholars who are currently in receipt, as principal investigator, of an Academy research award (a Larger Research Grant [now discontinued as a separate scheme] or a Small Research Grant) are not eligible to apply - either as principal or co-investigator - for another award, whether for the same project or for a different one, until the conditions relating to an award held as principal investigator have been met. Concurrent bids for both a BARDA and Small Research Grant will not be entertained: applicants must select one research scheme only to which to submit a proposal.
- §15 Please list any unpublished studies previously funded by any agency, including but not restricted to the British Academy. Please give details of planned publication dates, or explain why the research has not yet been published. Assessors may take backlogs of publication into account.
- §16 Please note the Academy's ethics policy described in the Code of Practice. Independent researchers (i.e. those without access to institutional ethical scrutiny) may give details of relevant professional codes of conduct to be followed. Approval to undertake the research must be granted by the relevant authority before any work requiring approval begins.
- §17 Applicants may supply a supporting personal statement to explain any unusual feature of their application, not accounted for elsewhere on the form.
- §18 Your referee should be familiar with your project and able to comment on its significance and feasibility, and on your abilities. Please note that your referee should be drawn from outside your own employing institution and from outside the employing institution of your co-investigator(s), if any. The reference may be supplied by a scholar based outside the UK if you wish. Applicants are requested to explain the relevance of their choice of referee to their application.

**Assessment criteria:** *Assessors will evaluate the proposal on the basis of its academic merit, taking into account its originality, its relationship to, and the volume of, research already in the field, the scholarly importance of the research proposed, the suitability of the methodology, the feasibility of the research programme, the specificity of the scheme of research, the presentation, and intended outcomes.*

*Assessors will evaluate the ability of the investigator(s) to undertake the proposed research, taking into account their track record in terms of publication, their academic age and stage of career. Backlogs of publication (including any reasons given by applicants) may be taken into account in assessing the current proposal.*

*The primary assessment of quality will be based on the specific research objective of the proposal, and whether the methodology and research programme outlined are likely to lead to successful achievement of the objective. The details of how the objective will be achieved - whether through research visits, use of research assistance, workshops, or any combination of eligible activities/costs - will be assessed only in relation to each individual application. No preference will be shown between individual or collaborative modes of research. There are no quotas for different types of application, and no comparisons will be made across applications on the grounds of their operational and financial specifications. For projects involving partners from other countries, assessors*

*may take into account the availability of partner funding: in cases where partner funding is likely to be scarce, assessors may give priority to those projects which are likely to contribute to capacity building and lead to benefits for the wider scholarly community.*

*Assessors may take into account evidence of language competence where the understanding of material in a foreign language is crucial to the achievement of the research objective.*

*Comparative judgements about value for money may be taken into account at the final stage of assessment. Any special case made for endangered or emerging fields may be taken into account at the final stage of assessment.*

§19 Please sign and date your application form. If you are employed by or attached to a recognised UK research institution, **institutional authorisation is required** to validate the application. Please ensure that institutional authorisation has been obtained, and that the necessary signature is included on the form before submitting it to the Academy. Applications that are not validated **on the original form, received by the due deadline**, will not be accepted. Please note that signing the application form constitutes confirmation that the information provided is complete and accurate, and acceptance of all terms, conditions and notices contained in the Notes for Applicants. Subsequent discovery of any deliberate falsehood will automatically render the application null and void. If an award has been made, the Academy will require a full refund.

§20 If the project involves co-investigator(s) or other participants, please complete Section 20.

### **Subject areas**

An indicative list of subject areas covered by the Academy is appended to the form. Please tick the section(s) and subject(s) most relevant to your application. Your choice will help determine how the application is assessed.

### **Monitoring form**

The Academy has a commitment to equal opportunities and therefore monitors the age, gender and ethnic origin of those who apply to the British Academy for support. The form will be used for monitoring purposes **only**. It will be detached from your application on receipt, and will not be used in the assessment of your application. It would also be helpful for publicity purposes if you could indicate where you heard about the British Academy's grant schemes. If you choose not to return the form, this will not affect your application in any way.

### **What to do next**

Please complete sections 1 and 2 on the reference form and send it together with a copy of your application to your referee. The reference form may be downloaded as a Word document from <http://www.britac.ac.uk/form>. The reference should be returned directly to the Academy by the closing date. It is **your responsibility** to inform your referee of the closing date, and to ensure that the reference is submitted by the due date. Applicants are advised that an application cannot be considered for an award unless the reference has been received by the closing date. **Please allow your referee sufficient time to write his/her report.** Faxed references are not accepted, as they cannot be photocopied satisfactorily. Any reference arriving by fax will be immediately disposed of.

Please send the hard copy of your application to the British Academy at the address shown below. It is strongly recommended that you attach a stamped and self-addressed postcard for acknowledgement of receipt of your application. Applications will not otherwise be acknowledged, and the Academy cannot accept responsibility for applications that go astray in the post. Please submit **only** the original application - please **do not** provide additional copies. Applicants are advised to retain a copy of their application for their own records and to ensure that the relevant officer in their employing institution has a copy. Requests to supply applicants, or their institutions, with copies of applications submitted will be subject to payment of an administrative charge.

Please note that **emailed or faxed applications are not acceptable**. Any documents arriving by either of these means will be disposed of immediately, and will not constitute an application, nor are they acceptable as a 'place-holder' pending the arrival of a hard copy. Application forms must include the signature of the principal investigator, and of the relevant officer at the institution where applicable (see §19). **The application form must arrive in hard copy at the Academy by 5 pm on the closing date in order for the proposal to be considered, and no exceptions will be made to this rule.**

### **Outcome of application**

Please note principal investigators will be notified of the outcome of their application approximately **three months after** the closing date. Results are issued by letter only, and cannot be given over the telephone nor by email. Payment of an award may be withheld if there is an *overdue* report on any other grant awarded by the Academy to the principal investigator, pending submission of the relevant final report.

*Applicants in any doubt about their eligibility or any other aspect of their application are advised to contact the Research Grants office at the Academy, where staff will be pleased to assist.*

The British Academy  
Research Grants Office  
10 Carlton House Terrace  
London SW1Y 5AH

Tel: 020 7969 5217  
Fax: 020 7969 5414  
Email: [grants@britac.ac.uk](mailto:grants@britac.ac.uk)

**Notes effective for closing date 15 March 2009**

# The British Academy

10 Carlton House Terrace  
London  
SW1Y 5AH

Office use only:

## RESEARCH GRANTS

Tel: 020 7969 5217  
Fax: 020 7969 5414  
email: grants@britac.ac.uk

**Confidential**

## Small Research Grant

Please ensure that this form, when completed, does not exceed four sides of A4, or six sides of A4 if Section 20 is used.

Office use only

APN		
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**1. Closing date: 15 March 2009** Please do not use this form after 15 March 2009

### 2. Principal Investigator

Surname	Hall
Forename	Alaric
Title (Dr, Professor, etc)	Dr
Tel No:	0113 343 4761
Email:	a.t.p.hall@leeds.ac.uk

### Address for correspondence

School of English	
University of Leeds	
Woodhouse Lane	
Leeds	
Postcode:	LS2 9JT

Present appointment and employing institution

Lecturer in Medieval English Literature, School of English, University of Leeds
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Brief summary of academic qualifications and career (no more than 3 lines, including principal appointments)

BA Cambridge University (2000); M.Phil. University of Glasgow (2001); Ph.D. University of Glasgow (2004). Research fellow, Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, University of Helsinki (2005–7). Lecturer (permanent), School of English, University of Leeds (2007–).
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I confirm I am not presently working towards a PhD, nor awaiting the outcome of my viva/submission of corrections. (Please tick)

Other partners are involved in the proposal and I confirm Section 20 is attached (Please tick if relevant)

### 3. Title of project

<i>Sigrarðs saga frækna</i> : the manuscript tradition
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### 4. Grant requested (to the nearest full pound)

£2450
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Name of private fund (if applicable, otherwise leave blank)

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### 5. Overseas travel

Country/institution to be visited	Dates of visit
Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies and National Library of Iceland, Reykjavík	September 1 <sup>st</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2009

### 6. Duration of research project

(a) Duration of current proposal (maximum 24 months)

start

end

(b) Duration of entire research project (if different)

start

end

If research is planned for more than two years, do you envisage approaching the Academy for support in future years?

Yes

No

### 7. Publications

Please list your principal and/or relevant publications (to a maximum of six)

1. *Elves in Anglo-Saxon England: Matters of Belief, Health, Gender and Identity*, Anglo-Saxon Studies, 8 (Woodbridge: Boydell, 2007).
2. 'Changing Style and Changing Meaning: Icelandic Historiography and the Medieval Redactions of *Heiðreks saga*', *Scandinavian Studies*, 77 (2005), 1–30.
3. 'Gwŷr y Gogledd? Some Icelandic Analogues to *Branwen Ferch Llŷr*', *Cambrian Medieval Celtic Studies*, 42 (Winter 2001), 27–50.
4. 'Folk-healing, Fairies and Witchcraft: The Trial of Stein Maltman, Stirling 1628', *Studia Celtica Fennica*, 3 (2006), 10–25.
5. 'Constructing Anglo-Saxon Sanctity: Tradition, Innovation and Saint Guthlac', in *Images of Sanctity: Essays in Honour of Gary Dickson*, ed. by Debra Higgs Strickland, Visualising the Middle Ages, 1 (Leiden: Brill, 2007), pp. 207–35.
6. ' "Þur sarrípu þursa trutin": Monster-Fighting and Medicine in Early Medieval Scandinavia', forthcoming for *Asclepio: revista de historia de la medicina y de la ciencia*.

**8. Particulars of other support** (please read note §8 before completing this section)

Please tick the appropriate box

To undertake the proposed research, will you need to be absent from your employing institution? Yes  No

If yes, has the necessary leave been granted? Yes  No  If yes, is it paid? Yes  No

Is a permit/special permission required? Yes  No  If yes, has it been obtained? Yes  No

Will you require the (non-cash) support of a BA School or Institute abroad? Tick if yes  If yes, have you got approval? Yes  No

Have you/any co-applicants made any other applications in connection with this project? Yes  No

If so, with what results? Please keep the Academy informed of results of any other applications relating to this project.

Fund/organisation	Amount requested	Result (or date expected)
British Academy Small Grants, October 2008	£3350	negative

**9. Language competence**

If relevant, please state the level of language competence of the PI and other participants, or otherwise explain how the objectives of the research will be met.

The PI has an excellent reading and philological knowledge of Old and Modern Icelandic.

**10. Particulars of costs**

Give a breakdown of the total costs that will be incurred, specifying the particular items for which application is here being made to the Academy.

Item	Cost
Travel costs: please itemise each journey. Please note that Apex/economy fares should be quoted unless there are special circumstances, in which case, please specify.  Leeds to Reykjavík return incl transfers	£600
Accommodation and daily maintenance (incorporating local travel costs) away from home: please state number of days and rate claimed, for each location  Reykjavík: 18 days @ £100 per day	£1800
Consumables: please state item and number	
Research/clerical assistance: please state period of employment and hourly/monthly rate. Please specify how total period has been calculated	



Other eligible costs: <i>please specify</i>			
Travel insurance		£50	
Total cost	£2450	Total sought from the British Academy	£XXXXXX

## 11. Scheme of research

Please read note §11 before completing this section

### Context

The proposed research, with (in the first instance) a journal article as the proposed outcome, is basic research into the textual history of a medieval Icelandic saga, *Sigrarǫðs saga frækna* (*The Saga of Sigrgarðr the Valiant*). The saga has enjoyed almost no scholarly comment, but is one of the best attested examples of Icelandic romance-sagas, a genre which has itself received little study. Unravelling the relationships of the 51 manuscripts of *Sigrarǫðs saga* will be my first step towards editing this neglected text and will also provide information about textual transmission and methods for studying it which will be useful more generally for understanding Icelandic literary culture from the Middle Ages into the nineteenth century. The research builds on my past studies of Icelandic legendary sagas and their manuscript traditions (publications 2 and 3) and my previous experience in editing (publication 4). To undertake it, it is necessary for me to examine the manuscripts of *Sigrarǫðs saga* held in Reykjavík.

### Objectives and methodology

The methods for determining how the different manuscripts of a given text are related to one another are well established. Applying these methods to Icelandic sagas, however, is difficult because scribes often rephrased texts freely as they copied: variations between manuscripts tend to be too thoroughgoing and unpredictable for easy tracking by a researcher, a challenge often increased by the large numbers of surviving manuscripts. Consequently, the precise textual histories of most of our Icelandic sagas are unknown—and the extensive data on Icelandic manuscript production, literacy, and textual communities which these would afford is largely inaccessible to researchers. My present research is a case-study which is developing and promoting ways efficiently to address this problem.

My research uses an approach currently being pioneered in textual studies: the use of software originally developed in the life sciences for cladistics (the classification of species into ‘family trees’). This software allows established methodologies for reconstructing textual relationships to be applied electronically to evidence for textual variation, allowing very large and complex ranges of variants to be assessed far faster and more consistently than by human researchers. The reliability of this software when applied to texts with relatively simple variations is now fairly well established. My pilot study for the present project, based on the twelve manuscripts of *Sigrarǫðs saga* available in digitised facsimile (at <http://sagnanet.is/>), has tackled a tradition with far more thoroughgoing textual variation, and established that the cladistic software will enable me efficiently to establish the likely stemma of this saga.

The funding sought is to enable me to proceed to a full study, examining all 51 known manuscripts of *Sigrarǫðs saga*. Funding from the University of Leeds will enable me to study the 17 manuscripts held in Copenhagen and Stockholm, but I also need to consult the 31 held in Reykjavík. In most cases, these are not available in facsimile, and some readings need to be checked in those which are. Meanwhile, since few of the manuscripts have been catalogued in detail, examination of the manuscripts is also likely to reveal external evidence for textual relationships (such as evidence for provenance or statements about the source of the exemplars) which can be used to test and complement the evidence of textual variation.

My pilot study compared the stemmas produced by different sizes and distributions of sample passages to establish how much of each manuscript needs to be transcribed in order to produce a reliable basis for analysis. This has allowed me to identify five diagnostic passages of around 200 words each (the saga is about 7,500 words long in total). The funding sought will enable me to undertake the necessary transcriptions and examine other evidence for the manuscripts’ relationships. Full analysis of the diagnostic transcriptions will then be undertaken and prepared for journal publication during the Christmas vacation.

*Sigrarǫðs saga* is one of the most extensively attested sagas of its kind, making it a good basis for developing and promoting the methods described above so that they can inform saga-studies more generally. My choice also relates to a range of wider research objectives, however. Although considerable attention has been devoted to Icelandic sagas written about Icelanders themselves, the numerous prose romances composed in Iceland but set on the Continent have only recently begun to receive modern critical attention, usually only with reference to their earliest manuscripts. Few have been translated or accessibly edited. However, these romance sagas were composed and copied in large numbers, often alongside texts now more canonical. Investigating the full textual history of a non-canonical romance saga will help us to understand why these were so attractive to Icelanders and how they reflected and affected Icelandic society, providing a richer context for interpreting the canonical saga-corpus and laying the groundwork for an accessible edition of a key representative of the genre.

### Research programme

1. Christmas vacation 2008–9: pilot study undertaken of the twelve manuscripts available in facsimile.
2. May 18–25 2009: examination of the 12 manuscripts in Copenhagen (funded by Leeds).
3. August 24–28 2009: examination of the 5 manuscripts in Stockholm (funded by Leeds).
4. September 1–19 2009: examination of the 31 manuscripts in Reykjavík.
5. Christmas vacation 2009–10: data analysis and writing of article for submission for peer review.

## 12. Output

Is the primary product of your research intended to be (please tick one or more as appropriate)

(a) monograph or critical edition

(c) creation of a digital resource (see also below)

(b) article(s)

(d) other (please specify)

**Digital resource** if the primary product of the research will be a digital resource have you obtained guidance on appropriate standards and methods? Yes  No

## 13. Plans for publication/dissemination

Please describe the proposed output from the research, and outline your plans for publication or other dissemination of the research for which you are seeking an award.

A peer-reviewed article, to be submitted to *Saga-Book*.

## 14. Previous grants

Have you received Academy support within the past five years for this project? Yes  No

Have you received Academy support within the past five years for a different project? Yes  No

If you have applied to the Academy for a research grant **within the last five years**, please details of three most recent applications.

Date	Title of project	£ awarded (list £0 if unsuccessful)
1.		
2.		
3.		

## 15. Unpublished research

Please list any extant unpublished projects funded by the Academy or any other agency, and their publication dates (or other explanation)

## 16. Ethics

Are there any special ethical issues arising from your proposal that are not covered by the relevant professional Code of Practice? Yes  No

Have you obtained, or will you obtain ethical approval from your employing institution or relevant authority? Yes  No

If you have answered yes to the first question and no to the second question, please describe any non-standard ethical issues arising from your research and how you will address them.

## 17. Personal statement

Applicants are invited to include any information relating to their professional career which they may wish to be taken into account in assessing this application. For example, details of a career break, of the effect of working on a part-time contract may be relevant

## 18. Referee

Please see note §18

Please give the name of a referee from **outside** your own institution.

Name:	
Post/Dept:	
Institution:	

Please briefly explain the relevance of your choice of referee

I confirm the information provided in connection with this proposal is complete and accurate, and I accept all terms, conditions and notices contained in the Notes for Applicants.

## 19. Signature and date

Applicant's signature

Date

Institutional authorisation (see note §19)

Signature
Name (please print)
Position (please print)
Date

Please send the completed form to: Research Grants Office, British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH

**20. Details of collaborators**

Please complete this Section if the research involves a co-applicant(s) or other participants.

**Co-investigator (1)**

Surname	
Forename	
Title (Dr, Professor. etc)	
Tel No:	
Email:	

**Address**

Postcode:	

Present appointment and employing institution

--

Brief summary of academic qualifications and career (no more than 3 lines, including principal appointments)

--

I confirm co-investigator is not presently working towards a PhD, nor awaiting the outcome of viva/submission of corrections (Please tick)

List of principal and/or relevant publications (up to a maximum of six)

--

If co-investigator has applied to the Academy for a research grant within the last five years, please give details of the most recent application

Date of application (month/year)	Title of project	Amount awarded (list £0 if unsuccessful)

**Co-investigator (2)**

Surname	
Forename	
Title (Dr, Professor. etc)	
Tel No:	
Email:	

**Address**

Postcode:	

Present appointment and employing institution

--

Brief summary of academic qualifications and career (no more than 3 lines, including principal appointments)

--

I confirm co-investigator is not presently working towards a PhD, nor awaiting the outcome of viva/submission of corrections (Please tick)

List of principal and/or relevant publications (up to a maximum of six)

--

If co-investigator has applied to the Academy for a research grant within the last five years, please give details of the most recent application.

Date of application (month/year)	Title of project	Amount awarded (list £0 if unsuccessful)

**Other participants**

Please give the names, appointments, and institutional affiliation of any other participants (excluding research assistants). Where the total participation is not known at the start of the project, please indicate the numbers and status of people who might become involved.

**Role of other participants**

Please describe the contribution to the project to be made by other participants, citing any particular specialisms and expertise.

**Added value of collaboration**

Please provide any comments you wish on the particular relevance, timeliness, or other aspects of the collaboration, and the benefits envisaged.

## Reference Form

**Closing date: 15 March 2009**

**Referee:** Please complete in typescript and return the form to the British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH. **Email references are acceptable and should be sent to grants@britac.ac.uk (please remember to include a grade).** Faxed references are, regretfully, not accepted. It would be much appreciated if you could ensure that your reference arrived by the closing date indicated above. This form may be downloaded as a Word document from [www.britac.ac.uk/form/srgref.doc](http://www.britac.ac.uk/form/srgref.doc) Please send your reference form only, and do **not** send a copy of the application form. Thank you.

**1. Applicant's name:**

**2. Referee's name:**

**Referee's post/dept:**

**Referee's institution:**


Please give your confidential assessment of: (a) the scholarly importance of the research proposal; (b) the ability of the applicant(s) to carry it out; (c) the feasibility of the programme (methodology and timescale); and (d) the estimated costs provided by the applicant. Please also provide a grade.

(a) importance: Negligible / Low / Moderate / High / Exceptional (please delete as appropriate)

Comments:

--

(b) ability: Negligible / Low / Moderate / High / Exceptional (please delete as appropriate)

Comments:

--

(c) feasibility: Unrealistic / Weak / Plausible / Strong / Outstanding (please delete as appropriate)

Comments:

--

(d) costs: Unrealistic / Acceptable / Precise (please delete as appropriate)

Comments:

--

**Overall grading:** please tick grade selected, or delete those that do not apply (see below for definitions)

A+                      A                                      A-                                      B                                      R

**Signature**

**Date**

**Definitions of grades:** **A+**: an excellent application, top priority for support; **A**: a very good application, high priority for funding; **A-**: a good application, to be supported if funds allow; **B**: an application with good aspects, but reservations either about the proposed programme of research, or the applicant's abilities; **R**: not recommended for award.

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I am willing for my reference to be disclosed to the applicant      Yes  No

# 1 The British Academy

## Subject areas

Applicants are invited to tick one or more of the sections, and one or more of the individual subject areas listed below. The choice of section and subject will help determine how the application is assessed. The subject areas listed below should not be taken as belonging definitively to any one particular section.

### Section

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classical Antiquity                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Modern History from c. 1800   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theology and Religious Studies                   | <input type="checkbox"/> History of Art and Music  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> African and Oriental Studies                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Linguistics and Philology                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Law   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Modern Languages and Literature to c. 1800 | <input type="checkbox"/> Economics and Economic History  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modern Languages, Literatures and other media    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Anthropology and Geography   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sociology, Demography and Social Statistics                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medieval Studies: History and Literature         | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Modern History to c. 1800                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Political Studies: Political Theory, Government and International Relations |

### Subject areas

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> African Languages                            | <input type="checkbox"/> History of Art                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Studies                             | <input type="checkbox"/> History of Ideas                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ancient History                              | <input type="checkbox"/> History of Science               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Geography                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business and Management Studies              | <input type="checkbox"/> Italian                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Celtic                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Law                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classical Languages (Greek and Latin)        | <input type="checkbox"/> Library and Information Sciences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cognitive Science                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Linguistics                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications and Media Studies             | <input type="checkbox"/> Medieval History                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comparative Literature                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Modern History from c. 1800      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Studies                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance (non-performative)                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Oriental Languages               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demography                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Languages and Literatures  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drama and Theatre Studies (non-performative) | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Modern History to c. 1800              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political Studies                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics and Economic History               | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Russian and Slavonic Languages   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> English Language and Literature              | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Anthropology              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Film Studies                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Socio-legal Studies              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Socio-linguistics                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> German                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sociology                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic Languages                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Theology and Religious Studies   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)                       |   |



As part of the Academy's commitment to equal opportunities, the age, gender and ethnic origin of people who apply to the Academy is monitored. We should therefore be grateful if the **principal applicant** would complete all sections of this form. Any information you give will remain confidential. The form will be detached from your application, and the information will be used for monitoring purposes only.

**Please do not sign the form, or give your name.**

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)

 Male Female

Please show which group best describes your ethnic origin or descent by ticking ONE of the boxes below.

### White

British

Irish

White Other

### Mixed

White and Black  
Caribbean

White and Black  
African

White and Asian

Mixed Other

### Asian or Asian British

Indian

Pakistani

Bangladeshi

Asian or Asian British  
Other

### Black or Black British

Caribbean

African

Black or Black British Other

### Chinese or other ethnic group

Chinese

Other Ethnic Group

**Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**

Yes

No

If yes, please specify the nature of the disability:

*The Disability Discrimination Act defines disability as 'A physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term effect on the person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'.*

**Have you applied to the Academy before?**

Yes

No

**Where did you hear about the British Academy's grant schemes?**

It would be helpful to our marketing strategy if you could indicate where you heard about the British Academy's grant schemes. Please tick one of the following

British Academy literature

British Academy website

British Academy email bulletin

University Research Office

Colleague

*Times Higher Education Supplement*

Other (please specify)

**If you do not wish to complete this form, your decision will not affect your application in any way**