

**Master’s Bursary Scheme – 2021 Competition (for the academic year 2021–22)**

The Philological Society is pleased to offer a limited number of bursaries for students embarking on a taught postgraduate programme in the UK in the areas of linguistics or philology, in accordance with our mission (<https://philsoc.org.uk/about-philsoc>):

*to investigate and promote the study and knowledge of the structure, the affinities, and the history of languages. As well as encouraging all aspects of the study of language, PhilSoc has a particular interest in historical and comparative linguistics, and maintains its traditional interest in the structure, development, and varieties of Modern English.*

One bursary, the Anna Morpurgo Davies Master’s Bursary, is normally awarded to someone working on Ancient Languages (including non-Indo-European ones). For 2021-22 there will be an additional bursary to celebrate the 180th anniversary of the founding of PhilSoc.

The intention is that the bursaries will make a contribution to maintaining and furthering the breadth and diversity of language-study in the UK by providing support for outstanding young scholars in the field.

Each bursary is valued at £5,500, which may be used for either fees or maintenance. A bursary will not be granted to anyone who has full fees and maintenance from any other source, but it may be used to supplement another award which covers only fees. Candidates must inform the Philological Society if they receive any other award(s) towards study on the programme. The Society will not consider repeat applications from people who have already received a Master’s bursary from the Society in the past.

Candidates will normally possess or expect to be awarded a first-class honours degree or equivalent. All candidates must have been accepted or provisionally accepted onto a full-time Master’s programme at a United Kingdom university in the fields of philology or linguistics. In the case of candidates who have not yet received their first degree, a provisional offer may be made.

Completed application forms must be sent by email attachment to [s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk) and must reach the Philological Society by **5pm London time on 26th April 2021**. Applicants must ensure that their two referees send their confidential letters of reference directly to [s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk), also by **5pm London time on 26th April 2021**. Any application received after this time and date or any incomplete application (including applications where referees failed to send their references on time) will be deemed invalid. Please allow enough time for the application to reach the Society and encourage your referees to send their references well before the deadline. Acknowledgement of receipt will be made by **5pm London tine on 3rd May 2021** to the email addresses from which the application and the letters of reference are received. If you have not received an acknowledgement once that time has elapsed, please contact the Secretary ([s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk)).

Applications will be assessed by a panel of members of the PhilSoc Council. Any decision made by the panel will be final.

All candidates will be notified by email of the outcome of their application by **5pm London time on 2nd June 2021**.

Successful candidates will receive their bursary in late September or beginning of October 2021. They will be expected to inform the Society of the outcome of their studies and their future plans (employment, research degree) in February 2022 and in due course to contribute a 500-word article on their areas of interest for our blog.

**PHILSOC MASTER’S BURSARY APPLICATION FORM**

**1. Personal details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Surname |  |
| First name in full |  |
| Contact address |  |
| Email address |  |
| Country of permanent residence |  |

**2. Course details**

Institution:

Title of degree on which you have been accepted:

**3. Previous university education**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of university and/or college (and country, if not UK) | Qualification gained | Main Subject of Study | Start & end date | Degree results or expected class/grade/GPA\* | Date of Award |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

\*If you have already completed your degree, please give your degree results. If you have not yet graduated, please give an indication of your expected class/grade. For non-UK degrees, please give your qualifications in the original language, e.g. licence, maîtrise.

**4. Other relevant information**

Any professional or other qualifications, full-time employment, publications, attendance at summer schools, fieldwork, conferences, etc. (if any).

5. Applications for other scholarships

If you have applied for any other awards please give details, including the outcome of the applications, if known.

**6. 500-word personal statement**

In no more than 500 words set out the reasons and purposes for undertaking this Master’s programme. You should give a brief indication of any previous experience or preparation that is relevant to your proposed study and outline any plans for the future.

7. Referees

Two references are required and any application without these will be considered invalid. Please contact your two referees and ask them to send their confidential references by email to [s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk) by the deadline of 5pm London time on 26th April 2021. References will only be accepted if they are sent from the referee’s institutional email account; references from personal email accounts will not be accepted. Please send the notes on the last page to your referees so that they know how to complete their reference.

**Referee 1**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Affiliation |  |
| Job title |  |
| Contact address |  |
| Institutional email |  |

**Referee 2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Affiliation |  |
| Job title |  |
| Contact address |  |
| Institutional email |  |

Applicant’s Name:

Date:

(Please type your name and the date of application. In doing so you are confirming that all the details on this form are correct. There is no need for a handwritten signature, scanning the application, or submitting it as pdf.)

**PhilSoc Master’s Bursary: Notes for referees**

Please complete your confidential reference and send it by email attachment from your institutional email account (not your personal account) by 5pm London time on **26th April 2021** using ‘Reference for [*name of candidate*]’ as the subject line of the email. Please note that late receipt of a reference, or a reference which is not sent from your institutional email account, will disqualify the candidate. Acknowledgement of receipt of the reference will be made by email. Please enquire with the PhilSoc Secretary ([s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:s.pulleyn@ucl.ac.uk)) if you have not received an acknowledgement by **5pm London tine on 3rd May 2021**.

In your reference, please include comments on the following points.

1. **Quality of Work**: Please provide a realistic assessment of the applicant’s abilities, based on the quality of their academic and/or professional performance to date, providing evidence to support your comments. Please indicate how this candidate compares with other students in your experience. Please indicate your relationship with the applicant (module teacher, dissertation supervisor, course co-ordinator etc.)

2. **Undergraduate performance**. Please provide an explanation of the applicant’s examination marks, e.g. what proportion gain firsts, whether the final-year marks are based just on that year, what level of supervision any dissertation has received etc. Please also indicate whether the candidate is in the top 5%, 10%, 20%, or below in the cohort, and also the size of the cohort. If there is a first-degree examination result outstanding, please provide some indication of the class of degree that you expect this candidate to obtain and why.

3. **Potential for postgraduate study**. Please give your opinion on this candidate’s academic and personal suitability for the proposed course of study and their potential to complete the programme. Please also comment, where appropriate, on any future plans for further research the student might have. Please include the following information in your reference:

Full name and title

Position held

Institution

Contact address

Email address

Telephone number

Date