

Objectives of the LAC Visitor Programme

Areas of Research

The Latin American Centre

The Latin American Centre (LAC) welcomes suitably qualified academics and practitioners who wish to contribute to the research and activities of our centre. The research focus of the Latin American Centre falls within five broad disciplines:

- Economic Policy, with particular reference to issues of inequality and development
- The Politics of Democracy, including: transitions to democracy, presidentialism, parties and congresses, elections, media and public opinion, populism, the rule of law, attitudes to democracy.
- Sociology of Latin America, including: development, poverty and inequality, nation- and state-building, social movements and mobilization, gender, race and ethnicity, religion, justice and injustice, and violence.
- The International Relations of Latin America, including: the evolution of the relations of the Latin American states with the United States, other extra-regional powers, the evolving character of intra-Latin American relations, the foreign policy of the major states of the region.
- The Modern History of Latin America, including: the colonial legacy and consequences of independence, state and nation building, export-led growth, race, slavery and migration, revolutions and dictators, electoral practices, party politics and citizens, populism.

The Brazilian Studies Programme

Within the LAC, there is also a specific Brazilian Studies Programme (BSP) run by Professor Timothy J. Power. Here, the focus is on the following areas:

- Comparative Politics of Brazil, including: Brazil's post-1985 democratic regime, democratic consolidation, the design of political institutions, parties and elections, political culture and public opinion in contemporary Brazil.
- The International Relations of Brazil and Brazil's evolving position in the global order.

You may apply to be affiliated with either the LAC, or the BSP, but your research should fall within one of the broad areas defined above.

Please note that the LAC does not accept visitors whose research is in linguistics, literature or cultural studies, as those disciplines are not taught within our centre.

Duration

Visitor stays should be planned to coincide with a minimum of one or more Oxford terms, in order to take advantage of opportunities to interact with research staff and students and to attend events in the LAC. The three University terms are as follows:

- Michaelmas (Autumn/Fall): October-December
- Hilary (Spring): January-March
- Trinity (Summer): April-June

You can check the exact dates by searching for dates of term on the main [University website](#). Between June and September there is very little activity within the LAC and wider University due to exams. The minimum stay for visitors is one month, and the maximum is one year.

Please note that we receive many more applications than we are able to accept, and it is best to apply at least a year in advance of the date you wish to start in Oxford.

What We Expect of You

We ask all our visitors to agree to the following:

- To contribute to the research environment of the LAC.
- To participate in the LAC's weekly General Seminar series, including giving one presentation of your own research.
- To attend any LAC workshops or conferences as appropriate to your area of research.
- To provide a short profile about your research activity that may be added to the LAC/BSP website.

What You Can Expect from Us

The LAC is able to provide the following:

- A university card, which gives access to the Bodleian Libraries of the University, including online journals.
- The sponsorship of an academic member of Department, who will meet with you and provide (limited) guidance and feedback on your work.
- Opportunities to attend workshops, conferences and seminars at the LAC and St Antony's College.

The LAC is not able to provide assistance with any local logistics such as accommodation, schools, and travel bookings. We ask that you do not request these services from our administrative staff, but instead refer to the guidance which you will receive in our handbook for visitors.

The LAC may be able to provide a workspace, but without computing or printing facilities; this will be confirmed when and if your application is approved.

The Role of the Academic Host/Supervisor

As an academic visitor you are expected to work independently and be responsible for your own research activities whilst in Oxford. Your academic host/sponsor is there for the following:

- To sign your official letter of invitation and visa letter (if appropriate)
- To introduce you to the LAC, relevant academic colleagues, and suggest activities/events in which you may wish to participate.
- To provide occasional and limited comments on your research work, depending on the time and availability of the host/sponsor themselves.

Academic terms in Oxford are only eight weeks long and extremely intensive! For that reason, your academic host/sponsor is unlikely to be able to meet with you on a regular basis.

How to Apply to the LAC Visitor Programme

Application Procedure

If you would like to apply to be a visitor, please email the following to administrator@lac.ox.ac.uk

- Your CV (no more than 4 pages)
- A short proposal of the research you intend to carry out in Oxford (no more than 2 pages)
- The dates you intend to be in Oxford
- An indication if you wish to be affiliated to the Latin American Centre (LAC), or the Brazilian Studies Programme (BSP) specifically
- State in your email if you already know a member of our academic staff, or if you are working on a topic that fits with an individual staff member's area of research. Your application will be considered by either the LAC or BSP committee as appropriate. We will endeavour to let you know the outcome of your application

within one month of receipt. The committee meets three times a year to decide on applications so you should submit all materials by the beginning of October, January and April.

If your application is approved, you will be asked to confirm the following:

- The exact dates of your visit.
- If you hold an EU passport. If not, you will need to check if you require a visa.
- Your home institution and postal address for correspondence.
- You agree to pay the affiliation fee.
- Your full name as appears in your passport.

Thereafter, we will issue you with a formal **letter of invitation** signed by your academic host/sponsor and a **letter to support your visa application**, if appropriate.

Application Fee

The application fee for affiliation with desk space is currently £500 per term, or £1,500 per academic year. Payment is normally made on arrival and once per term. In the event that a desk is not available, or not required, a lower fee will be applied.

Visas

UK immigration law is changing constantly. As soon as your visit is confirmed, we advise you to check with the UK visa application centre in your country. Please read through the information available on the website of the **UK Visas and Immigration** (UKVI).

You must check all the immigration requirements and restrictions well in advance, and make sure that you know under what status you will enter the UK. The type of visa you need will depend on the duration of your stay in the UK and your nationality.

Plan ahead, and make sure that you have copies of all the relevant paperwork with you on arrival in the UK, including the formal letter of invitation issued by the LAC.

If you have further questions about applying for the LAC Visitor Programme, please email administrator@lac.ox.ac.uk.