



Open Rank Professor, British/Anglophone Literature

Department of English

POSITION SUMMARY

The [Department of English](#) at Occidental College invites applications for a tenure-track Open Rank, Professor of British/Anglophone Literature with appointment to begin **August 2027**.

The English Department is searching for a new colleague in British/Anglophone Literature. The specialization is open, though the department is especially interested in the fields of Long Eighteenth Century, the History of the Novel, Romanticism, British Modernism, Contemporary Global Anglophone literature. We welcome a range of methodologies that practice close reading, examine literary form, and attend to literary history. The new hire will offer courses in Modern British Literature, from its 18th-century origins to its 21st-century manifestations. This will include [ENGL 288: Modern British Traditions](#), as well as other courses at the 100, 200, and 300 levels in their area(s) of specialization. In addition, the new hire will teach required seminar courses that rotate among members of the department, including [ENGL 290: Literary Methods](#), the [ENGL 390: Junior Seminar](#) and [ENGL 490: Senior Seminar](#). We are particularly interested in courses that would meet College [Core requirements](#) or would engage with the city and communities of Los Angeles. As necessary, the new hire will contribute to the [First Year Seminar](#) program, which focuses on writing and community-engagement. The new hire will also have the opportunity to mentor undergraduate researchers in Oxy's renowned [Summer Undergraduate Research Program](#). The new hire will have an active research agenda, producing scholarship that is commensurate with their rank. Finally, the new hire will participate in the life and development of the department, advise students, and serve on broader college-wide committees.

The Department of English studies literature to develop our critical and creative potential in a nation and world going through drastic changes. We embrace the view that historically, geographically, and culturally grounded readings of literature deepen its aesthetic value. Literature continues to be a wellspring for other creative mediums (including television, film, music, visual art, performance art, and beyond). We also introduce our students to archival research in Occidental's special collections as well as other libraries and archives in Southern California.

Our students embrace literature's role in nourishing their critical and creative potential. Every English major researches and writes their own critical analysis of a literary work in their [Senior Comprehensive Project](#). In recent years, students have taken up a range of topics for their Senior Comprehensive, including Gothic literature, Margaret Atwood's fiction, Ecoliterature, Toni Morrison's fiction, Ekphrastic Poetry, Anticolonial Literature, the relationship between Literature and Gaming, and Reginald Shepherd's Elegies. Our students who take on the creative writing emphasis have published poetry chapbooks, children's literature, and short fiction. English majors and minors comprise the majority of the editorial collective that publishes [The Oz](#), Occidental's literary magazine that features short fiction, poetry, experimental writing, and visual art from

students across campus. Our students have also made their mark across Los Angeles, from interning with the Los Angeles Review of Books to volunteering in mutual aid projects. Our graduates go on to work in independent publishing, education, marketing, and law, among other fields. Our faculty are committed teacher-scholars who bring critical inquiry and discovery into the classroom. They establish themselves as exceptional researchers and practitioners in their fields and they provide departmental and college-wide service, as well as service to their professions. As a small institution with a commitment to Shared Governance, faculty across the College collaborate in maintaining the excellence of the College's academic program.

Located within the vibrant city of Los Angeles, Occidental is committed to a [community-engaged curriculum](#)—faculty carry out fieldwork, visit local museums and cultural organizations, and develop long-standing partnerships across the city. For decades, Occidental has been a leader in creating access for a diverse student body. That diversity enriches the education of all students. We seek an innovative teacher, scholar, mentor, and colleague who wishes to work in such an environment and who shares the commitments articulated in the [Mission of the College](#).

QUALIFICATIONS

Required Qualifications

- Ph.D in English, with a focus in British/Anglophone Literature by the position start date, August 2027.
- Record of or willingness to teach and mentor effectively in a Small Liberal Arts College environment.
- Record of or willingness to advance equitable opportunities and inclusive pedagogies for learning and mentoring, especially for minoritized students.
- Record of or willingness to teach courses in Modern British/Anglophone Literature, including [ENGL 288: Modern British Traditions](#), as well as other courses at the 100-, 200-, and 300-levels that fulfill either the [Group II, III, or IV Requirements](#) in the major curriculum.
- Experience teaching or willingness to teach their own versions of required courses in the English major, including [ENGL 290, Introduction to Literary methods](#); [ENGL 390, Junior Seminar](#); and [ENGL 490, Senior Seminar](#) (with ENGL 290 being the most important in this series).
- Ability to teach [First-Year Seminar](#) courses.
- Evidence of an established research agenda, appropriate to the level of appointment.
- Evidence of active participation in their specialized field(s).
- Evidence of furthering their research agenda through recent and forthcoming research.

Preferred Qualifications

- A Specialty in the Long Eighteenth Century, the History of the Novel, British Romanticism, British Modernism, Contemporary Global Anglophone literature, or related fields.
- Willingness and ability to teach community-engaged or practice-oriented courses
- Willingness and ability to mentor students during the school year in [Directed Research](#) courses in the English major or during the Summer in the [Undergraduate Research Program](#) or [MSI](#).
- Willingness and ability to organize programming, events, exhibitions
- Experience in or commitment to departmental leadership and management responsibilities (e.g., curricular development, annual assessment, long-term departmental planning, etc.)
- Potential to teach some cross-listable courses with other departments/curricula at the College.

SALARY

EXPECTED SALARY RANGE (for Academic Year, Nine-month Appointment):

- If hired at Assistant rank: \$87,000 - \$94,000
- If hired at Associate rank: \$103,000 - \$116,000
- If hired at Full rank: \$120,000 - \$145,000

If you are offered this position at Occidental College, your final base salary compensation will be determined based on factors such as skills, education, experience, and/or geographic location. In addition to those factors, Occidental complies with applicable pay equity laws and considers internal equity among current employees when developing the final offer. Please keep in mind that the range mentioned above is the base salary range for the role. Hiring at the maximum of the range would not be typical in order to allow for future and continued salary growth.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To receive full consideration (with the exception of life emergencies), your application materials must be received by **midnight Eastern time (9:00 pm Pacific time) on November 15, 2026.**

Applicants must submit a complete application package electronically via Interfolio to be considered by the search committee. <https://apply.interfolio.com/194069>

A complete application includes all of the following:

- Cover Letter (2 to 3 pages), detailing your interest in teaching in an urban liberal arts environment; your interest in teaching core courses in the English major and courses in your field specialty or courses elsewhere in the College. Applicants with administrative and leadership experience are welcome to mention this information in their cover letter as well.
- Curriculum Vitae listing degrees, research fields, scholarly activities, courses taught, and other relevant professional activity (conference participation, contributions to professional associations, journal activity, or editorial work).
- Research Statement (2 to 3 pages) that includes a discussion of your past and present scholarly work as well as your plans for future research. This can include future articles, single-authored or co-authored book projects, edited collections, or public intellectual work.
- Statement of Teaching Philosophy (2 to 3 pages) that includes a discussion of your teaching experience, proposed courses, preferred pedagogical practices, as well as your record of and future plans for creating equitable opportunities for learning and mentoring a diverse student body.
- List of 3 possible references - names and contact information. Please do NOT submit letters with your application

Applicants who advance to future stages will be asked to submit additional materials; please do not submit any of these materials at the initial stage.

Applicants who advance to the Semifinalist phase will be asked to submit the following:

- Writing Sample (15 to 25 pages) that represents recently completed or ongoing scholarly research. This could be a published article or book chapter, a forthcoming article or book chapter, or a recently presented scholarly lecture. Whatever form the writing sample takes, it should complement the trajectory explained in the research statement.
- Two sample syllabi. One sample syllabus must be for [ENGL 288, Modern British Literature](#). The other sample syllabus can cover one of the following courses: [ENGL 332, Eighteenth Century Literature](#); [ENGL 351, Modernism and Contemporary British Fiction](#); or a new 300 level course that would reflect the applicant's research specialty and fulfill [Group II, III, or IV requirements](#) in the English major.

Applicants who advance to the finalist phase will be asked to submit three Confidential Letters of Recommendation.

If you have any questions about the position, the application materials, or the application instructions, please contact: James Ford at jford@oxy.edu or call 323-259-1472. If you have questions about Interfolio or the application process, please contact the Academic Support Administrator, Beatrice Gonzales, at facultysearch@oxy.edu.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Occidental is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not unlawfully discriminate against employees or applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, breastfeeding or related medical condition, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, marital status, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic characteristic or information, military and veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law. Occidental is strongly committed to increasing the diversity of the campus community and the curriculum, and to fostering an inclusive, equitable, and just environment within which students, staff, administrators, and faculty thrive. Candidates who can contribute to this goal through their work are encouraged to identify their strengths and experiences in this area. Individuals advancing the College's strategic equity and justice goals and those from groups that are underrepresented in the field are particularly encouraged to apply.

Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. A comprehensive benefits package is available that includes: excellent health, dental, life, and retirement benefits; tuition benefits for the employee, spouse, domestic partner, and dependents; additional extras including use of gym facilities and the College Library. For a detailed description of benefits, please visit <https://www.oxy.edu/offices-services/humanresources/benefits-information>

All qualified applicants will be considered for employment, including those with criminal histories, in a manner consistent with the requirements of applicable state and local laws, including the City of Los Angeles' Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance.

Occidental College is committed to working with and providing reasonable accommodations to applicants with qualifying disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation because of a disability for any part of the application or employment process, please contact Human Resources (hr@oxy.edu).

As a condition of hire for a staff position and for appointment to a faculty position, Occidental College requires that all candidates who have received a conditional offer of employment complete an application form (if they have not already done so) and consent to a background check. Satisfactory completion of a background check, along with pre-employment verifications and references are required as a condition of employment, but only as permitted by federal, state, and local law, including the City of Los Angeles Fair Chance Initiative for Hiring Ordinance.