

Virtual Visiting Scholar Guidelines

Faculty of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences

The Policy of Lancaster University

Lancaster University welcomes overseas academics who wish to spend a period as a visitor attached to one of its disciplines. Visiting Scholars are accepted by the University on recommendation of a discipline and after approval from the Dean of the appropriate faculty.

Virtual Visiting Scholar Status: Eligibility

If you are a staff member of another university or research institution and wish to make use of the facilities and resources of Lancaster University, you can apply for Virtual Visiting Scholar status at the Faculty of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences. In order to qualify, you should hold an academic post at your home institution, and you should already have publications in recognised outlets (journals, book chapters, etc.).

In order to apply for Virtual Visiting Scholar status, you will have to (1) complete the appropriate application form, and (2) submit your curriculum vitae.

If your application is approved by your chosen discipline and by the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, you will be sent an official letter of appointment. Acceptance is space dependent and on condition that a staff member is available to act as a point of contact for the duration of the proposed visit.

Lancaster University requires the faculty to charge a fee to visitors, commensurate with their call on faculty resources. The faculty's basic charge is currently £50.00 per week.

Visitors are expected to attend an online induction meeting shortly before the start of their visit.

Doing research during your virtual visit to Lancaster University

If you plan to collect any type of data during your visit at Lancaster University, you must obtain ethics approval in advance, first from your home institution, then from the FASS-LUMS Research Ethics Committee ([see details here](#)). Ethical approval is also necessary if you plan to publish or present your research with a Lancaster University affiliation.

Facilities for Visiting Scholars

As a Virtual Visiting Scholar in the Faculty of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences, you are entitled to the following:

- Monthly online consultative meetings with the member of staff that serves as your discipline contact (typically, one hour per month);

- Access to up to two modules that are part of the discipline's postgraduate degree schemes (discipline and relevance dependent);
- Attendance of online talks or workshops organised by the discipline's research groups;
- Use of online University facilities available to staff, including use of the University Library.

Your first week as a Visiting Scholar

If you are joining us a Virtual Visiting Scholar, please contact the Research & Engagement team, (fhassvisiting scholars@lancaster.ac.uk), ahead of your start date. During your first week, please also arrange to meet with the member of staff online that has agreed to serve as your contact point.

It is to be noted that, during your visit to Lancaster University, you will hold the title of Virtual Visiting Scholar, reflecting this esteemed position.

Version: 9th March 2026 (TN)