

Amy Buller PhD Scholarship

Cumberland Lodge, the educational charity based in Windsor Great Park, seeks applicants for a jointly-funded, 3-year doctoral scholarship in partnership with Royal Holloway, University of London, to start in September 2020.



Established in 2015, this unique opportunity offers the chance to complete a three-year PhD at Royal Holloway, whilst enhancing your public engagement skills and teaching profile, and actively contributing to the work of Cumberland Lodge.

Founded in 1947, Cumberland Lodge is a charity that empowers people, through dialogue and debate, to tackle the causes and effects of social division. Through a wide range of programmes, with people of all ages, backgrounds and perspectives, it promotes progress towards more peaceful, open and inclusive societies.

‘The three years I spent as the Amy Buller scholar were some of my most formative. Cumberland Lodge gave me access to a wonderful variety of people, from many different backgrounds and fields. Many of the people I engaged with have since provided invaluable advice or help, both during my PhD and afterwards. Through meeting extraordinary people and having extraordinary experiences at the Lodge, I feel that I am now well-equipped to deal with life after my PhD. I will value the contacts I made for the rest of my life.’

- ‘Kitty O’Lone, Amy Buller PhD Scholar (2015-17)

Financial support and mentoring

This scholarship is jointly funded by Cumberland Lodge and Royal Holloway, University of London. In addition to Home/EU tuition fees, it provides:

- **£12,600** annual tax-free stipend
- **Up to £500 per year** contribution towards research expenses.

The recipient’s PhD will be supervised by staff in the relevant academic department at Royal Holloway, and he or she will also receive ongoing mentoring and support from academic staff at Cumberland Lodge.

Additional benefits

We are located close to Englefield Green, a 10-minute drive from Egham and a short cycle ride from campus. The successful applicant will have the chance to engage with a range of high-profile public figures, such as parliamentarians, NGO leaders and policymakers, as well as academics from a wide variety of disciplines. She or he will be welcome to use the resources and facilities at Cumberland Lodge to further their research, including office facilities on site, and we hope that they will also go on to play an active role in our alumni community.

What's involved?

In addition to carrying out academic studies and research at Royal Holloway, the recipient is expected to act as an ambassador for Cumberland Lodge at high-profile, interdisciplinary conferences and events, and whilst hoping to host residential [student retreats](#).



This includes carrying out 12 residential duties over weekends at Cumberland Lodge, each year (with overnight accommodation and meals provided). These duties involve hosting visiting groups for study retreats, by giving welcome talks, escorting groups on excursions within the Great Park, and being on hand to help group leaders as required. The Amy Buller PhD Scholar is also required to facilitate [St Catharine's Sessions](#) - group discussions on topical social or ethical issues - for these visiting groups, as required.

Eligibility

The Amy Buller PhD Scholarship is open to candidates from any academic discipline who are exploring ethical or social questions in their research and wish to conduct doctoral studies at Royal Holloway, University of London.

Applications are particularly welcomed from the following research areas:

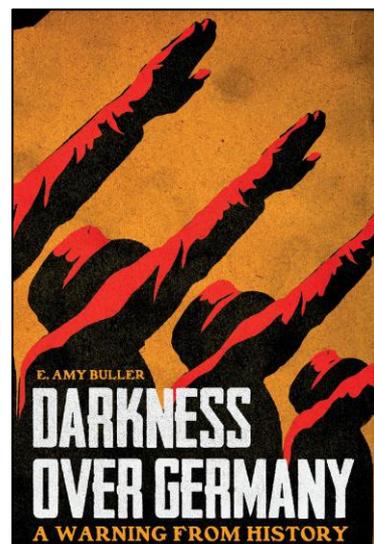
- Sociology
- Social geography
- Social policy and criminology
- Politics
- Religious Studies
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- History of World War II (including the time before and after the war)

Applications will be assessed on the basis of academic and interdisciplinary merit, and proposals that demonstrate both academic and non-academic relevance will be of particular interest.

More about Cumberland Lodge

Cumberland Lodge works with people of all ages, backgrounds and perspectives to challenge 'silo thinking' and incubate fresh ideas about pressing issues facing society. It actively involves students and young people in all aspects of its work, to nurture them as future leaders and change-makers.

Cumberland Lodge was established in the aftermath of the Second World War, with the support of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth (the Queen Mother). Amy Buller, to whom this scholarship is dedicated, was our founding warden. She was a pioneering woman who led delegations of intellectuals and public figures to Germany in the 1930s to find out more about what was happening to ordinary people living through the rise of National Socialism. Her candid accounts of conversations with people from all walks of life, including students,



academics and Nazi party leaders, were published in her 1947 book *Darkness over Germany*, which attracted the attention of the Royal family. Buller believed that the political and educational systems had failed young Germans and, in leaving them unable to critically evaluate and challenge extremist views, had left them vulnerable to the brutal ideology of Nazism. The founders of Cumberland Lodge were inspired by Buller's vision of helping people of all ages - particularly young people - to get together and discuss the pressing issues candidly, in an inclusive environment.

Cumberland Lodge is both a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It operates on a not-for-profit basis, employing about 70 people on site, including permanent (full-time and part-time) staff and casual shift workers. Its stunning rooms and facilities are available to hire for residential and non-residential conferences, meetings, away-days and special events, the income from which supports the work of the charity. Around 12,000 commercial guests visit Cumberland Lodge each year, mostly for residential meetings, and about 4,000 of these are students attending subsidised study retreats (mostly at weekends), which the Amy Buller PhD Scholar helps to host.



The Royal connections of Cumberland Lodge are an important part of its work and ethos. The organisation operates under a Royal Warrant, granted initially by King George VI and renewed by Her Majesty The Queen, who is also the charity's Patron. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was previously Patron, from 1947 until her death in 2002. Her Majesty's most recent visit to Cumberland Lodge was in 2017, as part of the charity's 70th anniversary celebrations.

Charitable programmes

Today, alongside the Amy Buller PhD Scholarship, the charitable programmes run by Cumberland Lodge include:

- **Subsidised residential study retreats** for up to 4,000 students from universities and educational institutions across the UK (including the Inns of Court and medical training institutions), every year. Most of these groups are led by individual university departments, who come to the Lodge for two or three days at a time to explore 'big picture' themes relating to their courses and to help students to develop critical skills. There are bursaries available to support students with limited financial means to attend these retreats with their peers. You can find out more about study retreats at Cumberland Lodge [here](#).

Visiting groups are responsible for developing their own programme, but they are invited to take part in a **St Catharine's Session** during their stay, led by the Amy Buller PhD Scholar or a member of staff, to engage in group discussion on a topical social issues outside of their normal field of study. You can find out more about St Catharine's Sessions at Cumberland Lodge [here](#).

- An annual series of **multi-sector conferences**, panel debates and interdisciplinary retreats for students and academics, community leaders and practitioners, charity workers, policymakers and influencers, featuring high-profile speakers drawn from academia and public life. Bursaries are available to support PhD students working in relevant fields to participate in the conferences. In 2019-20, Cumberland Lodge is exploring issues relating to '[Inclusion & Opportunity](#)', and from September 2020 it will be exploring issues relating to 'Youth & The Future'.





Cumberland Lodge conferences are supported by interdisciplinary research we commission from early-career researchers, who work as freelance Research Associates for up to one year at a time, producing a conference briefing and post-conference report on an area they have expertise in. They also participate in the conference discussions and a subsequent consultation to review and refine key findings and recommendations. This helps them to prepare a final Cumberland Lodge Report, which is published widely and

launched in central London to an audience of policymakers, practitioners, students, and media representatives, with a panel discussion.

In 2020, Cumberland Lodge is introducing two new **annual Forums** to this series: the Media & Public Culture Forum (every summer); and the British-German Democracy Forum (every autumn) in partnership with the Goethe-Institut.

- **Cumberland Lodge Scholarships** to support high-potential PhD students from universities across the UK to benefit from communications, event facilitation, networking, non-academic writing and public engagement skills, by being closely involved in the work of Cumberland Lodge, over two years. These scholarships are non-funded, but travel expenses are provided for travel to and from Cumberland Lodge events, as well as overnight accommodation when required. A new cohort of up to 10 Cumberland Lodge Scholars join every September (one of whom is nominated by the Council for At-Risk Academics, which supports academics from overseas who have been at risk of persecution or discrimination in their home countries).
- **Emerging International Leaders** programme on Freedom of Religion or Belief, which equips 50 high-potential international students every year to become with three residential retreats and ongoing networking opportunities with the skills and insight necessary to drive debate, influence policy and build a powerful global network around this important aspect of human rights. Participants are selected annually in the early autumn, through the Commonwealth and Chevening scholarship schemes.



- **Workshops and educational activities** for school children and their families, to encourage them to think more deeply about pressing issues facing us all. These include intergenerational family storytelling days during school holidays, and Knowledge Cafés in local secondary schools, which engage pupils in small-group discussions about lessons we can learn, and parallels that can be drawn, from the experience of people living in 1930s Germany, as recounted by Amy Buller in *Darkness over Germany*.

- **Educational and cultural events** for the wider community; including art exhibitions, public lectures, literary events, open days and guided tours. These include a regular series of informal Cumberland Conversations with public figures from the worlds of philanthropy, the arts and academia.

History and heritage

Cumberland Lodge itself is a beautiful Grade II listed, former royal residence. Its roots, however, are republican. The main building dates back to 1652, shortly after the English Civil War. It was built by one of Oliver Cromwell's soldiers, Captain John Byfield. Byfield House, as it was originally known, became royal property following the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. It takes its current name from William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland and second son of King George II, who was Ranger (or overseer) of the Great Park in the mid-18th century.



Historically, the Lodge was home to many of the Rangers, including Sarah Churchill, Duchess of Marlborough, and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, son-in-law of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. The final private occupant of the Lodge was Lord FitzAlan of Derwent, last Viceroy of a united Ireland under British rule, who was never Ranger but who lived at the Lodge from 1924 until his death in 1947.

You can find out more about the history of Cumberland Lodge [here](#).

Applications



If you are interested in this opportunity, please initially contact the relevant [Director of Postgraduate Education](#) at Royal Holloway to find out about potential supervisors and discuss your research proposal further.

Please also feel free to make any informal enquiries about the scholarship to Sarah Galvin, our Programme Administrator, at sgalvin@cumberlandlodge.ac.uk.

Please submit your PhD application to Royal Holloway via the College's [online application portal](#) and then email your CV and a covering letter outlining how you meet the eligibility criteria for the Amy Buller PhD Scholarship to Janet Heaney, Doctoral School Recruitment & Scholarships Administration Manager at Royal Holloway, at Janet.Heaney@rhul.ac.uk.

Please note that the deadline for applications (including PhD application, and the scholarship application by CV and covering letter) is **midnight on Monday 3 February 2020**.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview at Cumberland Lodge, **w/c 23 March 2020**.