

## Maynooth University Ollscoil Mhá Nuad

# Department of History and the Arts and Humanities Institute

**Post-Doctoral Researcher** 

(Specified Purpose Contract)

## The Role

Maynooth University is committed to a strategy in which the primary University goals of excellent research and scholarship and outstanding education are interlinked and equally valued.

We are seeking a full-time post-doctoral researcher for 24 months to work on a major European Research Council funded project. The researcher would lead the project's investigation into veterancy in British colonies in Southern and/or Eastern Africa. The project is based in the Arts and Humanities Institute and the History Department at University of Maynooth. This post offers the opportunity to join a dynamic research environment with state-of-the-art research facilities. The project includes funding to support extensive archival work overseas.

## **Project Details**

COLVET is a four-year long European Research Council Starting Grant project led by Professor Dónal Hassett. It explores how colonized peoples grappled with the legacies of military service. It will develop the first comprehensive and comparative account of colonial veterancy in what was the foundational era for modern conceptions of the veteran, the interwar period. Grounded in a collaborative and comparative methodology, the project will trace and analyse the contrasts and commonalities in the evolution and reception of veteran policy within, across, and between the French Empire, the Italian Empire, the American colonial empire, British-ruled East or Southern Africa, and British-ruled India. The project has three key strands, exploring the way veterancy was defined, demarcated and debated in colonial contexts, the systems set up to cater for and control veterans, and the political impact of veterancy on the colonial order. This innovative research will not only deepen our understanding of veteran history around the world in the period but also help us reimagine the concepts we use to analyse veterans and their stories so they can better capture the diversity of veteran experiences.

For an insight into the project's work, please see the project website: https://colvet.eu/

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## **Principal Duties**

Key responsibilities include:

- Contributing to the literature review of colonial veterancy in the interwar period.
- Conducting original archival research on veterancy in British-ruled Southern and/or Eastern Africa
- Publishing this research in the project's outputs.
- Collaborating with other team members to develop and refine a broader conceptual framework for a global history of veterancy.
- Assisting the PI in organising the project's workshops.
- Carrying out administrative work associated with the programme of research and the project's reporting responsibilities.
- Helping maintain the project website and social media.

#### The ideal candidate will have:

#### Essential:

- A PhD on the history of Southern and/or Eastern Africa in the colonial period.
- Extensive experience of archival work.
- Evidence of a capacity to publish high-quality research.
- A proven ability to work collaboratively.

#### Desirable

- Fluency in a language or languages of the region.
- Knowledge of and publications in the field of First World War studies.
- A record of dissemination of research beyond academic contexts and public outreach.
- Experience of managing social media channels.

#### The Arts and Humanities Institute

The Maynooth University Arts and Humanities Institute, founded in 2018, is the research home of the Faculty of Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy. It is dedicated to the promotion of scholarship within the Faculty and to bringing the best of Maynooth University's rich tradition in humanities research to the world. The Institute supports individual, collaborative and interdisciplinary research by offering scholars a vibrant forum for discussion and exchange in purpose-built facilities. It also facilitates public engagement with the texts and cultural objects that form us, providing access to the scholarly expertise that helps uncover their value and meaning for our time. Events hosted include exhibitions, seminars and public lectures.

## **Department**

The Department of History has 19.5 permanent academic staff and offers undergraduate and postgraduate degrees to PhD level. It offers four MA taught programmes (European History, Irish











History, Local History and Military History and Strategic Studies). Applicants are invited to familiarize themselves with the Department by visiting its website, <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/history">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/history</a>.

## The University

Maynooth University is a very distinctive university, a collegial institution focused on science and engineering, humanities, and social sciences, and equally committed to research, teaching and community engagement. Located in Ireland's only university town, its distinctive features and character owe much to its unique history and heritage. It provides a high-quality educational experience to over 15,000 students on a campus with 18<sup>th</sup> century roots and 21<sup>st</sup> century dynamism.

The strategic trajectory and accomplishments of Maynooth University, in the 25 years since its establishment as an autonomous public university, are exceptional, and a source of great pride to the university community, staff, students and alumni. Maynooth University in 2024 ranked in the top 90 global Times Higher Education (THE) Young University rankings, placing 86th in the world. Maynooth University's growing global reputation is based on the originality, quality, importance and impact of its research and scholarship, commitment to teaching and learning, the quality of academic programmes, and its leadership in widening participation in higher education. The sources of success are the dedication of its staff and the energy and engagement of its students.

Maynooth University is a place of lively contrasts – a modern institution, dynamic, rapidly-growing, research-led and engaged, yet grounded in historic academic strengths and scholarly traditions. With over 15,000 students Maynooth offers a range of programmes at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level in the humanities, science and engineering and social sciences, including business, law and education. The University also offers a range of international programmes and partnerships.

Maynooth's unique collegial culture fosters an interdisciplinary approach to research, which its world-class academics bring to bear in tackling some of the most fundamental challenges facing society today. The University's research institutes and centres consolidate and deliver this impact as vibrant communities of learning, discovery and creation. Research at Maynooth also is very much central to its teaching and the University prides itself on placing equal value on its research and teaching missions.

## **Maynooth University's Values**

Our values define who we are, what we believe in and how we act as a community. They underpin our future success and guide our expectations of ourselves and each other. Our values apply to everyone in the University community:

- Integrity
- Collegiality
- Responsibility
- Freedom of expression
- Ambition

#### Maynooth University Strategic Plan 2023 - 2028

The University's Strategic Plan 2023 - 2028 builds on our rich academic history and strong foundations to set out an ambitious and forward-looking path for the future of our University. This roadmap underscores our commitment to adapt to a changing world while staying true to our values. Our vision is to be a university of excellence, opportunity and impact, having a significant stake in all three.











For more information about Maynooth University's future direction, please visit: https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/

#### Plean Straitéiseach Ollscoil Mhá Nuad 2023 - 2028

Tógann Plean Straitéiseach na hOllscoile 2023 - 2028 ar ár stair acadúil shaibhir agus ar ár mbunchlocha láidre chun conair uaillmhianach agus cheannródaíoch a leagadh amach do thodhchaí ár nOllscoile. Soiléiríonn an treochlár seo ár dtiomantas do dhul i dtaithí ar dhomhan atá ag síorathrú agus ár ngníomhaíochtaí a chur in oiriúint dó, agus san am céanna a bheith dílis dár luachanna Ollscoile. Is í an fhís atá againn a bheith mar ollscoil feabhais, deiseanna agus tionchair, agus lámh láidir a bheith againn i ngach ceann de na trí ghné seo.

Léigh anseo le haghaidh breis eolais faoi thodhchaí Ollscoil Mhá Nuad: https://strategy.maynoothuniversity.ie/?lang=ga

Our Strategic Plan sets out an ambition to be an excellent place to learn and work, and an inclusive community where students and staff can flourish and make a distinctive contribution to the national system of higher education and the public good. Achieving this requires staff to have a strong sense of connection to the University and support from colleagues. We recognise that our people are our greatest resource and actively seeks to attract, develop, and retain a talented workforce by creating a positive and welcoming University environment. As well as offering a competitive salary, access to a public sector pension scheme, and annual leave allowance, the University also provides other facilities and benefits including, but not limited to:

- Family-friendly leave schemes
- Tax Saver travel scheme and Cycle to Work scheme
- On-campus crèche
- On-campus restaurants and coffee shops
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Health and Well-Being programmes
- Education support opportunities
- Continuous Professional Development opportunities, including leadership programmes, mentoring, Aurora programme.
- Study and Exam leave
- Sports facilities and gym

To learn more about being part of the Maynooth University team, please visit our website at <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/come-work-with-us">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/come-work-with-us</a>

## **Selection and Appointment**

- Only shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend for interview;
- Candidates invited for interview will be required to make a brief presentation.
- Appointments will be approved by the President based on the report of the selection board;
- It is anticipated that interviews will be held in November 2025;
- The appointment is expected to be effective from as soon as possible thereafter.

## **Equality and Diversity**

Maynooth University is committed to being a community that promotes and advances equality, respects and values diversity, and develops a collegiate environment of excellence with equality, in which the











human rights and diversity of all are recognised and respected. We value the enrichment that comes from a diverse community and seek to promote equality and diversity, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of each individual. We aim to reflect the diversity of the community we serve and welcome applications from all individuals across our society.

To learn more about our commitment to Equality and Diversity, please read the Maynooth University Equality and Diversity Policy / Polasaí Comhionannais agus Éagsúlachta, and our policy on the Employment of People with Disabilities. Additionally, as an Athena SWAN Bronze Award Institute, we are committed to advancing gender equality across the University.

## **Terms and Conditions**

Tenure	This is a full-time, temporary post for a specified purpose, anticipated to be 24 months' duration.
Location	The place of work is the campus of Maynooth University, Maynooth, Co. Kildare.
Salary	Post-Doctoral Researcher (2025):
	Appointments will be made in accordance with public sector pay provisions.
Hours of work	A 37-hour working week is in operation in respect of full-time positions (prorated for part-time positions).
	This can be reviewed or adjusted from time to time through national agreements.
Annual Leave	Annual leave and public holidays are provided for in the University policy: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies/annual-leave-policy
	Annual leave will be allocated on a pro-rata basis for part-time and temporary positions.
University policies and schemes	Employees of the University will be subject to the terms of the University policies and schemes, available on the University website at:
	https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies
	https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/policies
Pension	This is a pensionable post. Employees of the University will enter into a public sector pension scheme, details of the schemes are available at: <a href="https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information">https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/pension-information</a>
Eligibility	Applications from <b>non-EEA citizens</b> are welcomed, applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at: <a href="https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/">https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/</a>











	Non-EEA applicants are responsible for ensuring they can secure a visa to travel to Ireland. Any offer of employment is conditional on applicants securing the appropriate employment permissions.  Former Irish Public Service employees - Certain Restrictions on Eligibility  Eligibility of applicants formerly employed by an Irish Public Sector body, and who availed of an Irish Public Service Redundancy or Incentivised Retirement Scheme under the Schemes below, may be affected:  • Collective Agreement: Redundancy Payments to Public Servants  • Incentivised Scheme for Early Retirement (ISER)  • Department of Health and Children Circular (7/2010)  • Department of Environment, Community & Local Government (Circular Letter LG(P) 06/2013)  Applicants should ensure that they are eligible to be re-engaged in the Irish Public Service under the terms of such Schemes. Applicants should address queries with their former Irish Public Sector employer.
Garda vetting	Garda vetting or clearance may be required by the University.
Medical	The University may require a medical examination as a condition of employment.

## **Data Protection Law**

Applications to the University will be treated in accordance with the University Data Protection Policies. For information on the University's Data Protection Policies and Privacy Notice, please see our website: https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/data-protection

## **Application Procedure**

## **Closing Date:**

23:30hrs (local Irish time) on Friday, 3rd October 2025.

Please note all applications must be made via our Online Recruitment Portal at the following link:

https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/human-resources/vacancies

Applications must be submitted by the closing date and time specified above. Any applications which are still in progress at the closing time on the specified closing date will be cancelled automatically by the system.

Late applications will not be accepted.

Maynooth University is an equal opportunities employer

The position is subject to the Statutes of the University









