

PhD Studentship in Literature and Science

Project title: Nature's Stories: Francis Cole, Zoological Collections and Narrative

Department: English Literature

Supervisors: Dr Andrew Mangham and Dr John Holmes

Project Overview: The Cole Library of Early Medicine and Zoology, one of the University of Reading's key archival resources, comprises around 8,000 volumes of printed books and scientific papers, covering subjects like the history of medicine and zoology, comparative anatomy and reproductive physiology. The collection was originally the private library of Professor F. J. Cole (1872-1959), FRS, Professor of Zoology at the University of Reading from 1907 to 1939. His major work *A History of Comparative Anatomy* (1944) was based on his own collection and became a landmark study in the history of zoology. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to explore the full range of literary and scientific collections held at the University of Reading.

We invite applications from appropriately qualified candidates in English Literature who have an interest in the intersections between science and literature. The project will explore the use of narrative, 'storytelling' and other literary conventions in the interdisciplinary history of zoology. Taking the Cole Archive as his or her central focus, the successful candidate will seek to make a significant contribution to existing research by adding the dimension of collections-based research into the study of literature and science. Although the successful candidate will be expected to develop his or her own research questions, possible areas of research include the importance of Francis Cole and his library in the history of zoology and the rise of literary Modernism; the impact of nineteenth-century literary narratives on zoological methodologies; the popularisation of animal science across cultural forms.

Eligibility:

- Applicants should hold a minimum of a 2:1 Bachelors Degree in a relevant subject.
- Due to restrictions on the funding this studentship is only open to candidates from the UK/EU.

Funding Details:

- Start date: October 2014
- Duration: 3 years or part-time equivalent
- Value of award: Fees paid plus £2000 per annum bursary.

How to apply: To apply for this studentship please submit an application for a **PhD in English Literature** to the University – see <http://www.reading.ac.uk/Study/apply/pg-applicationform.aspx>



Please quote the reference CBR11 in the '*Scholarships applied for*' box which appears within the *Funding Section* of your on-line application.

Application Deadline: 29 March 2014

Further Enquiries: For further details and informal enquiries please contact Dr Andrew Mangham a.s.mangham@reading.ac.uk
