The Newnham College Essay Prize 2017-18: Hints and Tips for Students

- We are not necessarily expecting the same kind of essay as you might write for an A Level exam or piece of coursework, and we will not be judging it according to ‘Assessment Objectives’ or rigid criteria. Hopefully you will enjoy writing an academic essay in the way that best suits you. Primarily, we are looking for originality and clarity of thought, a logical argument, excellent written communication, and solid evidence of reading and thinking far outside your school syllabus.

- Please type your essay in an easily readable font (like this one, in size 11 or 12).

- You must acknowledge and cite all sources you refer to or get ideas from, including websites and magazines. These can be referenced as footnotes or in the text in brackets.

- Referencing material from websites is not the same as copying and pasting it, which we strongly discourage you from attempting.

- Please provide a bibliography, detailing the sources you have referred to or drawn from. This is not included in the word limit.

- Please check the word count for the essay subject you are attempting. Each subject has a slightly different word count.

- Many of the essay topics are deliberately wide-ranging, and you should not be put off by this. For instance, in the case of the Woolf Prize, this allows you to touch on history, politics and society as well as literature.

- Using specific examples in your essay is encouraged.

The deadline is 12pm on Friday 9th of March 2018.