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Varighet: Åremål

Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Design Studies - Designing with/out Extractive Materials

Job description

A Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (SKO 1352) in design studies is available at the Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas, University of Oslo.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellowship is funded by the Norwegian Research Council and is associated with the project [Designing with/out Extractive Materials \(deXmat\)](#), project no. 343173. The candidate is expected to present a research project closely connected to the main project. Applications must demonstrate expertise in design studies, broadly defined, as it has emerged in the design field's dialogues with other disciplines, including (but not limited to) anthropology, cultural geography, and science and technology studies.

The deXmat project aims to improve our understanding of how design regulates consumption. This is to be done by shifting our attention away from design as consumer products and instead consider designing as a process which consumes extractive materials. Moving the analytical gaze from the design of the consumer product to how design regulates the flow of materials from the mine to the mall provides us with a new prism for understanding how design configures consumption and for assessing its ecological impact. The project aims to chart the historical trajectory of this relation and its ideological underpinning, from the second Industrial Revolution in the late 19th century to the present.

More about the position

The successful candidate will work primarily on the main project's work package 3 (WP3), Designing Away. Within this context, the application's project proposal should explore what kind of design practices and design cultures today are working to reduce or eliminate our dependency on extractive materials, and what are the main obstacles they face in these endeavors.

Designing with extractive materials will not stop overnight, but the goal of reducing their consumption can only be achieved through a transition towards designing without extractive materials, or even designing out extractive materials. The strategy of designing away can take many forms. It can involve a transition from the quantitative to the qualitative, from making to maintenance, designing for durability and for materials recovery, replacing ecologically harmful products with less destructive alternatives, or meeting user needs by means of services rather than products. Whichever strategies are chosen, they all have the potential to reduce the consumption of extractive materials.

The position is available for a period of 2 years.

Given additional funding, the position may be extended.

The successful candidate is expected to become part of the research environment/network of the department and contribute to its development. The main purpose of postdoctoral research fellowships is to qualify researchers for work in higher academic positions within their disciplines.

Qualification requirements

- PhD or equivalent academic qualifications with a specialization in design studies/culture/history or other areas relevant for the project (anthropology, cultural geography, and science and technology studies, etc.)
- A research proposal. The candidate's research project must be closely connected to the main project
- Fluent oral and written communication skills in English
- Personal suitability and motivation for the position

The doctoral dissertation must be submitted for evaluation by the closing date. Appointment is dependent on the public defence of the doctoral thesis being approved.

In the evaluation of the applications, emphasis will be placed on:

- The research project's scientific merit, research-related relevance and innovation
- The applicant's estimated academic and personal ability to carry out the project within the allotted time frame and contribute to the main project
- The research proposal's relevance to the main project
- Good co-operative skills, and the ability to successfully join in academic collaboration within and across disciplines

We offer

- Salary NOK 575 400 - 657 300 per annum depending on qualifications
- A professionally stimulating working environment
- Membership in the [Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund](#)
- [Attractive welfare benefits](#)

How to apply

The application must include

- Application letter describing the applicant's qualifications and motivation for the position
- Curriculum Vitae with grades listed (with a list of education, positions, teaching experience, administrative experience and other qualifying activities)
- List of publications
- Project description (approx. 3 - 5 pages, maximum 14.000 characters. See [Template for project descriptions](#)). The project description must present a feasible progress plan. It is expected that the applicant will be able to complete the project during the period of appointment

Diplomas, certificates, doctoral thesis and other academic works may be requested later.

Please note that all documents must be in English or a Scandinavian language.

The application with attachments must be delivered in our electronic recruiting system, jobbnorge.no. Applicants with education from a foreign university must attach an explanation of their university's grading system.

The short-listed candidates will be invited for an interview.

Formal regulations

See also [Regulations concerning Post-Doctoral Research Fellowships](#).

Following the Freedom of Information Act (Offentleglova) § 25, Chapter 2, information about the applicant may be used in the public list of applicants even if the applicant opts out from the entry in the public application list.

No one can be appointed for more than one Postdoctoral Fellow period at the University of Oslo.

The University of Oslo has an [Acquisition of Rights Agreement](#) for the purpose of securing rights to intellectual property created by its employees, including research results.

The University of Oslo aims to achieve a balanced gender composition in the workforce and to recruit people with ethnic minority backgrounds.

Contact information

For questions about the position:

Professor and Project Leader [Kjetil Fallan](#)

For questions about how to apply:

HR Officer [Anders Rykke](#)

About the University of Oslo

The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest and highest ranked educational and research institution, with 28 000 students and 7000 employees. With its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally recognised research communities, UiO is an important contributor to society.

The Department embraces four disciplines: Philosophy, Classical Languages (Greek and Latin), History of Ideas and Art History. The Department is also responsible for the introductory philosophy courses, obligatory for all students attending study programmes at the University of Oslo. The Department has about 110 employees.

Tilleggsinformasjon

Arbeidssted:

Blindernveien 31 0851 Oslo (Oslo Kommune)