

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Job description

A three-year Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship (SKO 1352) in Old Norse philology is available at the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, University of Oslo.

The Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship is connected to the Norwegian Research Council funded project Old Norse Poetry and the Development of Saga Literature (SagaPoetry), project number 313688. The main goal of this project is to investigate the importance of skaldic poetry to the development of Old Norse saga literature.

The project sets out with two overall hypotheses:

- First, that skaldic and to some extent eddic poetry had a profound formative effect on the development of Old Norse saga literature, and one that goes far beyond what previous scholarship has appreciated.
- Second, that there was a development where early saga authors quoted poetry as sources and as documentation of historical facts, whereas poetry later became an integrated part of the production of saga narrative. Gradually, the practice of quoting poetry became a stylistic ideal in its own right, and saga authors would then increasingly compose poetry themselves and attribute it to the protagonists.

For more information, please visit the project website.

Applicants are expected to present an independent research project proposal, that addresses core research themes of the overarching project.

Possible topics include investigation into the background of key prosimetrical genres and works. Current members of the project study sagas of Icelanders, kings' sagas, legendary sagas, *Landnámabók* and skaldic poems as precursors to sagas. Applicants may opt to expand on one of these topics or to explore other genres. For instance, contemporary sagas and the prosimetrum of the *Eddas* are not covered in the project description. Applicants may also investigate aspects of the poetic tradition that are relevant for the emergence of saga literature, or address the main hypotheses in some other way. The choice of methodological and theoretical frameworks and perspectives should be elaborated by the applicants.

The successful candidate is expected to become part of the research environment/network of the department and contribute to its development. S/he is expected to be involved in all aspects of the research, including theoretical and methodological design

The position is available for a period of 3 years. There is a 10 % component of the position which is devoted to teaching and administrative duties. The main purpose of postdoctoral research fellowships is to qualify researchers for work in higher academic positions within their disciplines.

Requirements

- PhD or equivalent academic qualifications with a specialization in Old Norse poetry or saga literature (or with a prominent poetic component)
- The candidate's research project must be closely connected to [the main project](#)

- Fluent oral and written communication skills in English. The project's working language for internal communication and project meetings will be Scandinavian (Norwegian, Swedish, Danish), and some proficiency in a Scandinavian language is therefore required.
- 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 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](#)
- [Intellectual independence \(e.g. the ability to generate hypotheses based on real problems, rather than on current scholarly trends\)](#)
- Good co-operative skills, and the ability to successfully join in academic collaboration within and across disciplines

We offer

- Salary NOK XXX – XXX per annum depending on qualifications ([lønnsstrinn 59-67 LO/YS/UNIO](#))
- 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 (3–5 pages). 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

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, please follow the link "apply for this job". [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.

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.

Deadline:

Contact persons: Applicants may contact mikael.males@iln.uio.no in order to receive the full project description.