

DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP affiliated to the research initiative Eco-Emotions

Job description

A Doctoral Research Fellowship (SKO 1017) in medieval literary/textual studies is available at the Department of Linguistics and Nordic Studies (ILN) or Department of Philosophy, Classics, History of Art and Ideas (IFIKK), University of Oslo.

The PhD student will be affiliated to the research project [Eco-emotions: Affective Response to Environmental Change in and through Literature](#). The project is one of four strategic initiatives funded by the Faculty of Humanities, University of Oslo, 2024–2028.

The main aim of the project is to discuss how humans affectively deal with environmental change, as represented in and through literature, from the past and today, in the North and globally. The project is motivated by the relative lack of success of scientific, technological, and socio-political solutions to the current environmental crisis, which has made us aware of the pressing need for different insight, pertaining to the deeper emotive structures of humanity and the cognitive mechanisms that condition our relationship to the environment. The two main research questions of the project are: (1) *How does literature represent and describe affective responses to environmental change?* (2) *What role does the production, transmission, and reception of literature play as a sustainability tool in times of environmental transformations, on the emotional and cognitive levels?* By discussing these research questions, the project will harvest the yet unexploited potential of powerful, large-scale narratives from the past and today, which have the potential to activate new ways of thinking about and relating to our environment.

The doctoral candidate will be part of the project's core team and will contribute to its main objectives together with the team. The candidate will be responsible for addressing the project's research questions from a historical, and more specifically medieval perspective, and will be expected to develop a project based on Old Norse, Celtic, or Latin sources. Comparative, cross-cultural, or diachronic projects will be prioritized. The PhD student will be supervised by one or two of the project members, depending on the applicants' interests and sources, and will be affiliated to the department of the main supervisor.

The candidate should apply with their own project proposal, but the proposed research project must correspond with the overall framework of Eco-Emotions.

The person appointed will be affiliated with the Faculty's organized research training. The academic work is to result in a doctoral thesis that will be defended at the Faculty with a view to obtaining the degree of PhD. The successful candidate is expected to join the existing research milieu or network and contribute to its development. Read more about the [doctoral degree](#).

The appointment is for a duration of 3 years. All PhD Candidates who submit their doctoral dissertation for assessment with a written recommendation from their supervisor within 3 years or 3 ½ years after the start of their PhD position, will be offered, respectively, a 12 or 6 month [Completion Grant](#).

Qualification requirements

- A Master's degree or equivalent in either Old Norse, Celtic, or Latin philology; or medieval history, history of ideas, or theology, with primary focus on literary sources

- The Master's degree must have been obtained and the final evaluation must be available by the application deadline.
- Fluent oral and written communication skills in English, and a Scandinavian or other language if necessary for the successful completion of the project, see [Language requirements](#).
- Excellent reading knowledge of the source languages relevant for the PhD project.
- Personal suitability and motivation for the position.

To be eligible for admission to the doctoral programmes at the University of Oslo, applicants must, as a minimum, have completed a five-year graduation course (Master's degree or equivalent), including a Master's thesis of at least 30 ECTS. In special cases, the Faculty may grant admission on the basis of a one-year Master course following an assessment of the study programme's scope and quality.

In assessing the applications, special emphasis will be placed on:

- The project's relevance to the research questions and overall framework of Eco-Emotions
- The project's scientific merit, research-related relevance and innovation
- The applicant's estimated academic and personal ability to complete the project within the time frame
- The applicant's ability to complete research training
- Good collaboration skills and an ability to join interdisciplinary academic communities

Applicants who have recently graduated with excellent results may be given preference.

We offer

- Salary NOK XXX – XXX per annum depending on qualifications ([lønnsstrinn 54-59 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 a list of education, positions, teaching experience, administrative experience and other qualifying activities, including a complete list of publications). Max 4 pages.
- Project description, including a detailed progress plan for the project (3 - 5 pages, maximum 14,000 characters. See [Template for project descriptions](#))
- Transcript of records of your Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Applicants with education from a foreign university must attach an explanation of their university's grading system
- Documentation of [Language requirements](#) (if applicable)
- Names and contact details of three references.

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

Educational certificates, master theses and the like are not to be submitted with the application, but applicants may be asked to submit such information or works later.

The application with attachments must be delivered in our electronic recruiting system, jobbnorge.no.

Short-listed candidates will be invited for an interview.

Formal regulations

See also [regulations](#) as well as guidelines for [the application assessment process](#) and [appointments](#) to research fellowships.

Following the Freedom of Information Act (Offentleglova) § 25, Chapter 2, demographic 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: Stefka G. Eriksen