



ERC-Funded Postdoctoral Position in Assyriology

Applications are invited for a full time fixed term Postdoctoral Position in Assyriology at the Department of Near Eastern Studies of the University of Vienna (Austria) to be funded by the ERC-2018-STG “Repetition, parallelism and creativity: an inquiry into the construction of meaning in Ancient Mesopotamian literature and erudition” (REPAC). The appointment is for 18 months, starting May 1, 2019 (or as soon as possible thereafter).

Job description

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated Assyriologist specialized in Ancient Mesopotamian literature and erudition with a research focus on magic.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will work within the ERC-2018-STG-funded research project “Repetition, parallelism and creativity: an inquiry into the construction of meaning in Ancient Mesopotamian literature and erudition” (REPAC).

REPAC is envisaged as a contribution to the intellectual history of Ancient Mesopotamia. The project investigates selected corpora of literary, magical and divinatory texts with a view towards elucidating structures of analogistic thought that cut across text genres. Methodologically, it adopts a combination of methods grounded in philology, textual criticism and historical interpretation. The project also aspires to interdisciplinarity, aiming better to integrate Mesopotamia within the discourse on Ancient intellectual history. REPAC’s core team is composed of four members, the PI, one postdoctoral research fellow and two PhD candidates in Assyriology.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow will play an active role in the research of the group and will also be actively involved in the design of new research concepts. She/he will contribute to the refinement of the project’s theoretical and methodological foundations and to the establishment of its textual base, with a special focus on the magical corpus.

The Postdoctoral Research Fellow is also expected to participate in the project’s teaching and training activities, to organize seminars and other events, and to publish articles both independently and in collaboration with other team members.

Applicants should hold an internationally-recognized PhD-degree in Assyriology. Research experience in the field of Ancient Mesopotamian literature and erudition is essential; applicants familiar with first millennium BCE magical and ritual compositions will be preferred.

Eligibility criteria

To apply for the position, candidates must hold an internationally-recognized PhD degree in Assyriology.

Excellent research skills, as well as good communication skills and the ability to work in a team are essential.

Excellent written and spoken English is a requirement for the position.

Please submit:

- a curriculum vitae (CV, resume)
- a cover letter that explains your motivation for applying to the advertised position and describes your past achievements
- contact email of two potential referees
- a writing sample (15-20 pages in English)
- copies of certificates and copies of translated documents
 - copies of certificates of any academic degrees or advanced qualifications indicating grades and explaining the home's university grading system
 - copies of document(s) certifying knowledge of English language

The application procedure

Applications should be submitted via the Job Center to the University of Vienna (<http://jobcenter.univie.ac.at>) no later than 15.01.2019, mentioning reference number 9264.

Qualified applicants are invited for a first interview (on Skype) within three weeks of the application deadline. Short-listed candidates are subsequently invited for a second interview at the Department of Near Eastern Studies of the University of Vienna (travel and hotel costs will be reimbursed).

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, status as an individual with disability.