

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Research Assistant (f/m/d)

Project „The Bible in Middle Byzantine Hagiography (8th-10th Century)“

The University of Cologne is one of the largest and most research-intensive universities in Germany, offering a wide range of subjects. With its six faculties and its interfaculty centres, it offers a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines and internationally outstanding profile areas, supported by the administration with its services.

The Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies at the Institute of Classics is seeking to appoint a research assistant in the framework of a project on “The Bible in Middle Byzantine Hagiography (8th–10th Century)”, funded by the Fritz Thyssen Foundation. In conjunction with KU Leuven (Prof. Dr. Reinhart Ceulemans), the project investigates the role of the Bible in the implementation and dissemination of political and religious decisions through hagiography of the Middle Byzantine period (detailed information on the project is available on the homepage of the departments in [Cologne](#) and [Leuven](#)). The successful candidate will be supervised at both universities and will work towards obtaining a joint PhD degree awarded by both institutions.

YOUR TASKS

- » carry out your own research in order to complete a doctoral dissertation in the framework of the project (joint PhD, supervised in Cologne and Leuven)
- » complete the doctoral thesis within the duration of the research project; the thesis will be written in German or English
- » be willing to work in a team and to be open to international collaboration and mobility (the successful candidate will be based in Cologne but will also spend time in Leuven)
- » contribute to the scholarly activities of the research group (the successful candidate will help with the organization of an international conference in Leuven in autumn 2024)
- » present and publish your research results at national and international conferences and in academic volumes and journals

YOUR PROFILE

- » an MA or comparable degree with distinction in Byzantine Studies or a neighboring discipline (such as Classics)
- » a demonstrable interest in academic research with the aim of a doctorate
- » the dedication to work out a PhD topic suitable for the research-project
- » very good knowledge of English or German
- » experience with Byzantine (esp. hagiographical) literature
- » a strong command of classical Greek, and at least good notions of medieval Greek
- » reading skills in other languages relevant to the field (such as French, Italian, Russian, Modern Greek)
- » social skills and an attitude to work in a team

WE OFFER YOU

- » a diverse and fair working environment
- » support in reconciling work and family life
- » flexible working time models
- » extensive advanced training opportunities
- » occupational health management offers
- » local transport ticket at a discount for UoC employees
- » opportunity for remote work

The position is to be filled part-time (65%, 25.89 hours per week) from October 1st, 2022. It is initially limited to two years and can be extended by a further year if the project is evaluated positively. At least 6 months must be spent in Leuven as part of the doctorate program. If the necessary prerequisites required by tariff regulations as well as the sought-after personal qualifications are met, the salary will correspond to the pay grade 13 as specified in the States' Tariff Agreement (TVL).

The University of Cologne is committed to equal opportunities and diversity. Women are especially encouraged to apply and will be considered preferentially in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also expressly welcome applications from people with disabilities / special needs or of equal status.

Please send your application with proof of the sought-after qualifications (CV, certificates including accurate information on grades and study results, letter of motivation, 3-page proposal of the doctoral project). These documents should be e-mailed as a single PDF file to Prof. Dr. Claudia Sode (claudia.sode@uni-koeln.de) and Prof. Dr. Reinhart Ceulemans (reinhart.ceulemans@kuleuven.be) with the reference number Wiss2203-26. One recommendation letter should be sent to the same addresses by the same day (to be sent directly by the referee, not through the candidate). The application period ends on 6 June, 2022. Interviews will take place via Zoom on 28 June, 2022.