



Department of Historical Studies, University of Cape Town
History Access Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Department of Historical Studies at the University of Cape Town has entered a new phase of curriculum innovation and knowledge production, expressed in an innovative five-year programme, HISTORY ACCESS, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Aimed at training a new generation of South African historians who are conceptually multilingual, technically competent, and academically rigorous, the projected key outcomes of this programme include the production of a critical multilingual conceptual lexicon, journal articles/ book chapters, innovative (new media) articulations of original research, and increased interface with public lives of the historical discipline.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for two Postdoctoral Fellowships at the Department of Historical Studies. The HISTORY ACCESS Postdoctoral Fellowships will enable two outstanding doctoral graduates to obtain experience of research and innovation at a higher education institution under the mentorship of established researchers. We particularly encourage applications from scholars pursuing innovative research in any field of intellectual, cultural, political, economic and social history of modern Africa; and connected and comparative histories of colonial and postcolonial global south. Candidates would be expected to have strong empirical grounding in their fields of specialization, a collaborative spirit, theoretical fluency, and ability and willingness to (i) work with African vernacular language sources, and/ or (ii) develop innovative (new media) articulations of original research.

The questions of equity, redress, diversity and inclusion are absolutely central to both intellectual and operational aspects of the HISTORY ACCESS programme. We particularly encourage applications from woman and black (and especially African) South African students.

Main Conditions of Award:

- ❑ Eligible candidates must have achieved their doctoral degree in History or a cognate discipline within the past five years and may not have held prior full-time permanent academic or professional posts.
- ❑ The successful candidates will be required to conduct innovative research and participate in all activities of the HISTORY ACCESS programme.

- ❑ The successful candidates are expected to produce at least two (2) single-authored peer-reviewed publications in ISI-rated journals in the year of the fellowship.
- ❑ The successful candidates will be required to register and reside as postdoctoral research fellow at the Department of Historical Studies, UCT and to comply with relevant policies, procedures and practices at the University of Cape Town. They are required to be based in Cape Town and spend at least 80% of their postdoctoral period at the UCT.
- ❑ The successful candidates may not hold full-time salaried employment during the fellowship.

Value and Tenure:

- ❑ The value of each Fellowship is ZAR 200,000 per annum.
- ❑ Each fellowship is available for a period of one year.

Application Procedure:

Suitable candidates are required to email the following documents by 30 September 2021 to History.Access@uct.ac.za

- ❑ A cover letter of no more than 2 single-spaced pages, which includes a brief description of past and current research and an outline of future research plans.
- ❑ One writing sample of no less than 8000 words.
- ❑ A complete and up-to-date curriculum vitae, including a list of publications/scholarly output and the names and e-mail addresses of three academic referees.
- ❑ Full transcripts of academic record and copy of doctoral degree certificate
- ❑ Copy of ID document (or copy of passport in the case of foreign applicants)

Application deadline: 30 September 2021

Commencement of fellowship: 1 January 2022

For more information please contact History.Access@uct.ac.za or call (+27) 021 650 5527.

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The University of Cape Town reserves the right to disqualify ineligible, incomplete or inappropriate applications. The University of Cape Town reserves the right to change the conditions of the award or to make no awards at all.