

Call for Applications

The German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz invites applications for the interdisciplinary Research Training Group 1876 "Early Concepts of Man and Nature: Universal, Local, Borrowed". We offer

2 positions (wissenschaftliche/r Mitarbeiter/in, 13 TV-L 65%)

tenable for a maximum of 36 months, starting on **October 1st, 2014**.

The Research Training Group, funded by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (The German Research Foundation), is directed by staff from the fields of Egyptology, Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Near Eastern Archaeology, Classical Philology, Classical Archaeology, Middle High German, Byzantine Studies, and Medical History. Our research and training programme will focus on the development of concepts and ideas about man and nature in the ancient Near East, North-Eastern Africa, and Europe, making use of written evidence, material culture, and iconography, in the following four areas:

- 1) Cosmogony and Primary Elements;
- 2) Nature: Natural Phenomena, Forces, and Catastrophes;
- 3) Flora, Fauna, and Landscape;
- 4) Man's Body in Sickness and in Health.

Topics for PhD theses must be chosen from one of these four areas and belong to one of academic the disciplines mentioned above.

In this application-round we are looking for individual dissertation projects for the following areas (1) Cosmogony and Primary Elements, (2) Nature: Natural Phenomena, Forces, and Catastrophes and (4) Man's Body in Sickness and in Health. You are welcome to submit your own proposal for a PhD thesis, or we will try and identify a suitable topic during the application process.

For detailed information regarding our programme for research and training and the staff involved with our graduate school, please refer to our homepage (www.grk-konzepte-mensch-natur.uni-mainz.de) before submitting a proposal.

Requirements:

Applicants must hold a diploma or master's degree (or equivalent) with excellent results in one of the philological or archaeological disciplines mentioned above and fulfill the necessary requirements for studying for a doctoral degree in either Fachbereich (Faculty) 05 or 07 of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (https://www.uni-mainz.de/studium/171_ENG_HTML.php).

We provide:

The Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz offers a structured dissertation programme within the Research Training Group 1876 as well as the possibility for an intensive professional and interdisciplinary exchange. In thematically related workshops and conferences the doctoral students will be given the opportunity to exchange expertise with other researchers. The individual dissertation projects will be supervised by two professors of different scientific disciplines. Various international cooperation partners are available for participation in a mentoring programme. Further, cooperating institutes of the Research Training Group offer traineeships. Doctoral students have the possibility to stay at a research institute abroad for four weeks as well as to participate in (international) conferences. Beside the acquisition of key qualifications, e.g. time-management or academic writing courses, and further education programmes we offer all doctoral students a modern working place in an agreeable working environment.

Alumni of the Research Training Group have the possibility to apply for a six-month-startup-funding for another research project.

We expect:

Applicants will be able to demonstrate exceptional academic achievement and be willing to engage in interdisciplinary work. Continuous participation in the study programme is compulsory. The presence of doctoral students at the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz is mandatory and recommended for associate members.

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz is keen to increase the number of women among its scholars and thus encourages women to apply. Disabled persons will be given preference if equally qualified.

More details regarding application and the selection of candidates can be found on the homepage of our graduate school. You may also contact a member of staff in your discipline if you have a specific question. For organizational questions you may contact the coordination office.

Please submit your complete application in electronic form (pdf) only no later than **30th June, 2014** to the Research Training Group spokesperson, **Univ.-Prof. Dr. Tanja Pommerening** (grk1876@uni-mainz.de).

Your application (by e-mail only) will include (as pdf):

Application form (to be downloaded from our homepage), curriculum vitae, a complete transcript of records, starting with the last report obtained before entering university (Abitur or equivalent), research activities, résumé of your graduate thesis (3 pages), letter of motivation, optional: exposé for a PhD thesis in one of the areas of the Research Training Group mentioned above (4 pages), summarizing the idea, outlining research questions and state of the art, approach and methods to be used, work and time schedule, two letters of recommendation from members of academic staff allowing us to judge your abilities (to be sent before the closing date directly to the spokesperson).