



UNIVERSITY *of the*
WESTERN CAPE



**Centre for
Humanities
Research** ■



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR THE HUMANITIES
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

The National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences/ University of the Western Cape Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Programme 2022

In partnership with the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS), the Centre for Humanities Research (CHR) together with the Desmond Tutu Centre for Religion and Social Justice (DTC) and the Department of African Language Studies at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) is pleased to announce a call for Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in the broad thematic area of "A Practice of Post-apartheid Freedom."

RESEARCH AREAS

The project proposes to host Postdoctoral Researchers who would inaugurate original research into Transformation, Race, Culture, Language, and Identity. The Programme will support full-time Fellows addressing the following broad research themes:

- Arts, Performance and Sources of Creativity (creative fields from various settings across the HSS, to study cultural formations and social changes);
- Digital Humanities (the intersection of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the HSS and Arts, an HSS perspective of digital tools, techniques, and platforms, and how these impact society);
- Ecosystems, Climate, and technology; Global Economy, Development Challenges and Socio-Economic Alternatives;
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- Higher Education, Teaching, Research, and Innovation;
- Indigenous Languages (the development of African languages for scientific use);
- Pandemics, Medicine, Disease and Curing;
- Pre-Colonial, Colonial, and Postcolonial Histories (historical construction of South Africa from the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries and link this to the broader region of southern Africa);
- Transformation, Race, Culture, and Identity.

These broad research themes will speak to the thematic lenses of aesthetic education and democratic futures in Africa; the relationship between aesthetics and humanism, and finally, how the aesthetic enables a new synthesis between the human and technology. We expect that the performative, the everyday and the cinematic, will constitute important touchstones for how the aesthetic is construed in the research projects that will be solicited.



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REQUIREMENTS

- Applicants must be South African citizens of historically disadvantaged groups.
- Applicants must have a PhD in the Humanities and Social Sciences obtained within the last five (5) years by the application deadline
- Fellowships must be taken up by **25 March 2022**.
- Fellows will be required to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of the Western Cape (UWC) and the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS).

FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

The value of these prestigious fellowships is set by the NIHSS at ZAR 400 000 per annum. The awards cover a monthly stipend, travel costs, accommodation, and basic research expenses. The fellowship cannot be held concurrently with other fellowships or full-time, permanent employment, and all recipients of grants will be required to fulfil the obligations of the program.

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE:

- A curriculum vitae
- A letter of motivation on why their research fits the research call (candidates should identify the research theme best suited to their respective research interests)
- An academic writing sample or published journal article
- An academic transcript
- A three-page description of your research project, which includes a plan of work across the two (2) years
- A brief statement on how their research intervenes in the larger national and international debates on the humanities, especially, albeit not exclusively, as these relate to advancing its study in Africa
- Three (3) independent academic references.

Email applications along with all required documents to
centreforhumanitiesresearch@uwc.ac.za

Enquiries and referee letters should be sent to
centreforhumanitiesresearch@uwc.ac.za

Telephonic enquiries may be directed to +27 21 959 3162

Closing date: 4 March 2022.