

ARCHIVE
& PUBLIC
CULTURE

Research Initiative

Archive and Public Culture Research Initiative
Department of Historical Studies

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Archive and Public Culture Post-Doctoral Fellowships 2021

The NRF-funded South African Research Chair in Archive and Public Culture, Faculty of Humanities, University of Cape Town, is advertising post-doctoral fellowships in areas of research relevant to the focus of the Chair on interrogation of the intersection and co-production of archive and discourse. See www.apc.uct.ac.za. The post-doctoral fellowships are open to candidates in any discipline whose earlier work prepares them for the specific post-doctoral project that they will pursue in this area.

The Post-Doctoral Fellow will register at the University of Cape Town for one year (with a possible extension of an additional year subject to satisfactory progress). The Fellowship offers a tax-free stipend of R200,000.

The Chair and projects associated with the Chair offer a dynamic and supportive environment for researchers and students that includes specialist research administration, reading groups, research development workshops, local and international networks and publication projects, innovative digital research infrastructure as well as work/study opportunities in digital archival curation projects. For post-doctoral fellows specifically, career-development in the form of mentoring, collaborative publication opportunities, and workshop/seminar convening would be included in the Fellowship.

Two areas of special interest supported by the Chair are:

- *The history of southern Africa in the late independent era.* This includes, but is not confined to, research into ideas, concepts, currents of thought, expertises and praxis that existed in southern African societies in periods spanning some three hundred years before colonialism and which became part of the intellectual and cultural inheritances of subsequent eras. Post-docs undertaking research in this area will be encouraged to engage in innovative theoretical and methodological work. An ability to work with materials in vernacular languages is a necessary prerequisite.

- *The digital humanities and new epistemologies.* A key focus in this area is on digital opportunities for curatorial experiments in the development of new archives, the digital refiguring of inherited archives, the development of innovative digital humanities methodologies as well as of new media materials for presentation in public life.
- We are especially interested in projects at the intersection of these two areas, conceptualised in our research work as "innovative archives for new African futures."

For an example of the range of current post-doctoral projects in the Chair see: <http://www.apc.uct.ac.za/postdoctoral-projects>. This I think would give a good idea of the range and scope of projects...

To apply:

Please send an initial letter of application and a CV to

apc-admin@uct.ac.za

Your letter should include the following:

- an indication of the area in which you propose to undertake research (800-1500 words);
- a statement that provides insight into the intellectual and academic concerns that interest you;
- any contextual information that you would like to provide concerning your studies and work experience to date;
- the names and contact details of two academic referees who are familiar with your recent work. Please explain in what capacity they know your work.

Your CV must include full details of degrees completed. You are strongly advised to attach official transcripts. If you do not attach them at this stage and if you proceed to the next stage of application you will need then to submit them immediately in order to continue.