

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (DEADLINE: 22.7.2022)

2 STUDENT ASSISTANT POSITIONS, 8H/WEEK, FROM 1.9.2022 OR 1.10.2022 WITH PROF. DR. MICHAELA PELICAN, UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE

The call is directed to Masters and advanced Bachelor students in Social and Cultural Anthropology or in Culture and Environment in Africa, enrolled with the University of Cologne. We are looking for 2 student assistants in 2 different projects who are interested in our field of study and would like to support our work. In turn, we offer the chance to refine your academic skills, acquire knowledge in contemporary subjects of study, and advance your career through employment in a well-known institution on a global scale.

Position 1) is to assist Prof. Dr. Michaela Pelican and Saleh Seid Adem with their project “Migration, Intersectionality and Institutional Interaction: African Migrants’ Experiences in the United Arab Emirates”, which is part of the research unit “Transborder Mobility and Institutional Dynamics” (<https://for5183.uni-siegen.de/sub-projects-overview/sub-project-3/?lang=en>)

Position 2) is to assist Prof. Dr. Michaela Pelican and Dr. Jonathan Ngeh with their project “Debates on ‘Trafficking in Persons and Slavery’ in Cameroon”, which is part of the research unit “The Production and Reproduction of Social Inequalities” (<https://socialinequalities.uni-koeln.de/projects/debates-on-trafficking-in-persons-and-slavery-in-cameroon>).

Requirements:

- We are looking for two students at an advanced stage of their BA studies or an early phase of their MA studies.
- They should have an interest in one or more of the following subjects: social inequality, labour exploitation, transnational migration, trafficking in persons, intersectionality, knowledge production, decolonial research practice.
- We prefer candidates who can imagine to write their final year thesis on a related topic.
- Excellent English and German language skills and familiarity with standard Office application are required. Basic knowledge of MAXQDA (for qualitative data analysis) is a plus.
- Good communication skills, reliability, flexibility, and the ability to work both independently and in a team are key to a good working relationship in our projects

What we offer:

- Insight into the day-to-day work of a research unit
- The opportunity to network
- Obtaining skills in academic methods that will complement your studies, like literature research, writing summaries, transcribing interviews, and coding,
- Gaining access and experiences with popular computer programs like MAXQDA, Happyscribe, Sciebo and Trello

- Inspiration and guidance for your master thesis
- A job reference for further applications

Work environment:

- The student assistant will work closely with Prof. Pelican and Saleh Adem or Dr. Ngeh on the research project.
- In addition, they will collaborate with other student assistants to facilitate the work of the respective research unit.
- They will participate in regular in-person and online meetings of the project team and the research unit (during the semester)
- They will be able to access shared office space in the Global South Studies Center.

Specific tasks include:

- Internet and library research
- Writing summaries of academic texts, taking minutes of meetings, transcribing interviews
- Support with publication projects, e.g. editing
- Assistance with the organization of workshops, including taking care of international guests
- Assistance with regular backup of project data
- General secretarial work

Application Documents

- CV (English)
- Transcript of Records
- Motivation letter (English, 1 page)

For further information, please feel free to contact: Prof. Dr. Michaela Pelican (mpelican@uni-koeln.de) and/or Dr. Jonathan Ngeh (jngeh@uni-koeln.de). If you are interested in the experience of other research assistants in the research units, you are invited to contact Sophia Mayer: smayer6@uni-koeln.de

Deadline for applications is 22.7.2022

Please send your application documents, preferably combined in one PDF-file, to Dr. Jonathan Ngeh: jngeh@uni-koeln.de

Interviews (online or in person) with selected candidates are planned for Friday, 29.7.22