

Call for Applications

The interdisciplinary Research Training Group (GRK) 1876 “Early Concepts of Man and Nature: Universal, Local, Borrowed” established by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz invites applications for a

four-year postdoc position (wissenschaftliche/r Mitarbeiter/in, 13 TV-L 100%)

starting on **April 1, 2018**.

The GRK is directed by scholars from the fields of Egyptology, Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Pre- and Protohistorical Archaeology (Pleistocene Archaeology), Near Eastern Archaeology, Classical Archaeology, Classics (Greek and Latin), Byzantine Studies and Medieval German Studies.

In the GRK’s research program, the object is to record examples of concepts of man and nature in the Near Eastern, Northeast African and European area in the period dating from ca. 100.000 years B.C.E. until the Middle Ages – based on textual, pictorial and material sources – and to study them from a culturally immanent as well as transcultural perspective. Four main focal subject areas have been defined:

- (1) Primordial conditions and elements, the origin and the end of the world;
- (2) Natural phenomena, the forces of nature, and natural catastrophes;
- (3) Flora, fauna, and natural environment;
- (4) The conceptualization of the human body, of disease, healing and death.

For detailed information regarding our program for research and training and the academic staff involved, please refer to our homepage (<http://www.blogs.uni-mainz.de/fb07-grk-man-nature/>).

Your tasks will be:

- to work independently on an innovative research project from a transcultural comparatistic perspective within the above-mentioned subject areas, which will be finished in four years with a monograph
- to present your project on a regular basis within and outside of the GRK
- to lead, with support from the members, one of the workgroups focusing on the subject-areas (1)+(2) or (3)+(4) and to primarily author articles on the level of synthesis, which will be co-written by several authors of the workgroup
- to take part in supporting and developing the graduate school program and to communicate cooperatively with the professors and the Ph.D. students
- to take part in the activities of the GRK and in the meetings of the executive board

Your qualifications:

- finished Ph.D. with more than average success in one of the member-disciplines of the GRK
- very good knowledge in one of the four subject-areas of the GRK and in the field of cultural theories and methods, documented by publications and/or your dissertation
- experience in international scientific cooperation and interdisciplinary research
- structured and independent way of working, originality, team-orientation, social skills and the ability to communicate clearly and effectively with various publics
- very good knowledge of German and English.

We expect your regular presence at the location of the GRK in Mainz and your participation in the program (e.g. general meetings and meetings of the executive board).

What we offer:

- ample opportunities for intensive professional and interdisciplinary exchange
- a mentoring program with cooperating partners in Germany and abroad
- additional funding for travelling to conferences and lectures inside and outside Germany
- a wide selection of courses for the acquisition of key qualifications and further professional training
- a modern and pleasant working environment
- opportunities to enhance your teaching experience, to acquire leadership skills and further qualifications for an academic career at a senior level

We kindly ask you to submit your application electronically including the following documents:

A) as pdf:

- 1.) one page of motivational letter
- 2.) CV focusing on your previous academic career, list of publications, transcripts of records incl. high school diploma
- 3.) 6 pages outlining your intended research-project (problem, current state of research, aim, methods, work schedule)

B) two letters of recommendation:

directly from your supervisors, electronically to: grk1876@uni-mainz.de; subject heading: GRK1876_Your name.

C) additional pdf-files:

two of your most important publications and your dissertation

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz is keen on increasing the number of women among its scholars and therefore encourages women to apply. The university supports its members in balancing professional and family lives and offers family-friendly study and working conditions. Persons with disabilities will be given preference if equally qualified. It is recommended to refer to a possible handicap in the application.

Further details regarding the application process and the selection of candidates are given on the homepage of the GRK. For questions concerning your specific area of research, you may also directly contact the relevant scholars listed on our homepage. For organizational questions, you may contact the coordination office.

Please submit your complete application in electronic form (pdf) only no later than **February 14th, 2018** to the GRK spokesperson **Univ.-Prof. Dr. Tanja Pommerening** (grk1876@uni-mainz.de). Interviews will be held in Mainz on **February 27, 2018**.