



Università  
Ca' Foscari  
Venezia

Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici

Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici  
Palazzo Malcanton Marcorà  
Dorsoduro 3484/D, 30123 Venezia  
P.IVA 00816350276 - CF 80007720271  
www.unive.it/dsu

**Research fellowship on “Society and environmental change in the western Mediterranean in the first millennium CE” - Università Ca' Foscari Venezia (Italian law 30 December 2010, n. 240, art. 22)**

**The present document in English is to be considered as a mere summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition which is available in Italian at the following ([link](#)) The text in Italian is the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, in the event of non-conformity with the present document, it shall prevail.**

#### **Description**

The Department of Humanities at Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici dell'Università Ca' Foscari Venezia) invites applications for a fellowship in: “**Society and environmental change in the western Mediterranean in the first millennium CE**”, Academic discipline: L-ANT/08 Christian and medieval archaeology, duration 36 months, tutor prof. Helen Foxhall Forbes, financed by the ERC COG project “SSE1K - Science, Society and Environmental Change in the First Millennium CE”, Grant Agreement n. 101044437, CUP: H73C22001720006, Principal Investigator Prof. Helen Foxhall Forbes.

**Abstract:** The postdoctoral researcher will be an environmental archaeologist interested in socio-ecological systems. They will carry out original research into the relationships between society and environmental change in the western Mediterranean in the first millennium CE. They will work with existing GIS-linked datasets for central and southern Italy (such as material from the Tiber Valley Project) to undertake macro- and micro-level analyses, including producing large-scale models of climate trends and environmental change across the western Mediterranean for the first millennium CE. They will also examine specific case-study areas to identify patterns relating to relationships between humans and environmental variation.

In addition to preparing their research for publication, the researcher will participate in the various activities of the SSE1K project, including attending team meetings and undertaking dissemination activities (conferences, seminars, workshops) on the project topics.

The motivation letter to be enclosed with the application shall include a proposal of the research that the candidate would aim to undertake during the research position.

The research may be carried out in English.

The fellowship is intended to provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to pursue his/her own research while benefiting from the range of expertise at Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

The postdoctoral researcher will work with existing GIS-linked datasets for central and southern Italy, and for other areas of the Mediterranean. These datasets include both material culture (e.g. ceramic finds, marble, glass) and landscape data (e.g. relating to topography, rainfall, soil morphology). The first task will be to identify and extract relevant material relating to the western Mediterranean and to compile and clean the data in order to organise it in a form suitable for use and integration with the Italian datasets. This will also be the first step in making available a large integrated dataset for the western Mediterranean. The researcher will use these integrated datasets to undertake both macro- and micro-level analyses: at a macro-level, they will produce large-scale models of climate trends across the western Mediterranean for the first millennium CE to identify spatial and temporal variability; at a micro-level they will examine specific case-study areas in detail to identify patterns relating to relationships between humans and environmental variation. One case-study area will be central and southern Italy; others will be identified in collaboration with other team members, depending on the quality and quantity of available evidence. Ideally this will include at least one area within the Iberian peninsula, and at least one within southern France. Information from textual sources (provided by Prof. Foxhall Forbes) will be integrated into these datasets and GIS-linked where possible. The researcher will undertake different kinds of analysis (e.g. principal component analysis) of various proxies to identify and investigate patterns of correlation and variation within the data, such as spatial and temporal variation in hydro-climate and its relationship with archaeological evidence.

#### **Who can apply**

Prospective candidates are expected to hold a **PhD in archaeology or related fields, in particular regarding aspects of environmental archaeology in the western Mediterranean and should have a suitable scientific / professional track record.**

The candidate is invited to provide a list of his/her modern (and ancient, if relevant) language skills.



Ca' Foscari encourages applications from researchers with positive evaluation in all the criteria in individual proposals such as Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar. Researchers having successfully completed Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar funded projects are warmly encouraged to apply.

**Duration of contract:** 36 months (approximately starting: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023)

**Stipend:** The research fellowship amounts to **85.500,00 Euros**, including taxes and social charges.

**Deadline for submission of applications: 17<sup>th</sup> June 2023, h. 12.00 noon (Italian time).**

#### How to apply:

Candidates shall submit:

1. The application form;
2. A motivation letter along with their CV in European format, duly dated and signed, both to enclosed as a one single.pdf file ([link](#)); a declaration must be appended in the footnote of the curriculum, pursuant to the Italian DPR 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions, that the information provided corresponds to the truth. Moreover the candidates have to consent to the use of their personal data for the purposes of this selection procedure pursuant to the Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003 and to the EU Regulations 2016/679;
3. The attachments called “obligations and understanding” and “participation and compatibility”;
4. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice - [link](#));
5. A copy of a valid identity document (either Identity Card or Passport);
6. (If available) Evaluation Summary Reports of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) individual proposals having passed all the evaluation thresholds;
7. (If available) Details of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships, ERC Starting Grants, FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/ SIR Scientific Young Independence Research funded projects;
8. Declaration on availability to held the interview in remote ([Link](#)) to be send via email at the following address: [ricerca.dsu@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.dsu@unive.it)

All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website ([link](#)).

**Incomplete applications will be rejected.**

#### How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage ([link](#))

**Or submit here:** <https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/2023-dsu-ar-3>

The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of his/her application.

The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials by the link provided by the e-mail, in any case any updates must be made no later than the deadline on **17<sup>th</sup> June 2023, h. 12.00 noon (Italian time)**.

Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (h. 1 p.m. Italian time).

Please note that in case of an high number of applications and / or weight of the materials loaded by the



candidates the system might become slower, Therefore it is suggested not to start the process close to the deadline.

**NB:** the University does not take on responsibility for wrong or late communication of addresses, nor for any communication problem not depending on the University.

### Evaluation

Up to 100 points, specifically:

For qualifications, publications and possible tests, from 0 to 60;

For interview, from 0 to 40.

The following qualifications are considered as evaluation criteria:

- a) a list of publications on research topics related to the subject of the project;
- b) electronic submission of a maximum of 3 publications (in PDF format), already published or in press, which will be evaluated by the commission (one of which may be a chapter of the candidate's PhD thesis);
- c) documented research activity following the PhD with contracts, research grants, short-term research fellowships, research fellowships and assignments;
- e) attached 'preferential securities', if the candidate possesses them - see Article 5 of the competition available in Italian ([link](#));
- f) any other element provided for the announcement, to the articles 2, 3 and 5 of the competition available in Italian ([link](#)).

The interview aims to assess the candidates' skills and expertise on the following subjects:

- Knowledge of environmental archaeology in the western Mediterranean in the first millennium CE;
- Familiarity with relevant archaeological and environmental datasets;
- Knowledge of the English language.

At the end of his/her research activity, the research fellow is required to provide the Department with:

- The preparation of two scholarly articles on the subject;
- contribution to co-authored articles as part of the ERC project SSE1K;
- The preparation of a database of environmental and archaeological data.

### Selection procedure

The interview will be **on 29 June 2023, h. 2.30 p.m.** The interview will be held in remote with Zoom.

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview, or any postponement, will be published on the University's webpage by 23 June 2023 ([link](#)).

### Information and contacts

Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following ([link](#))

For further information please contact Department of Humanities - Research Office, e-mail: [ricerca.dsu@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.dsu@unive.it)