

Call for Short Research fellowship on: *Spoke 6 - Unveiling the effects of aging on cognitive and linguistic processes to enhance technology and provide support in communication* - Università Ca' Foscari Venezia (Italian law 30 December 2010, n.240, art. 22). PNRR Project no.: PE0000015
Title of the project: "AGE-IT" Subject: Università degli Studi di Firenze CUP: H73C22000900006.
Call issued by Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

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 (<https://www.unive.it/data/28824/>). 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 Economics at Università Ca' Foscari Venezia invites applications for four scholarships

- **funding** – PNRR_PE8-AGE-IT – CUP: H73C22000900006, Responsible Prof.ssa Agar Brugiavini
- **start of the programme**: The research programme envisages the start of the activity approximately in March 2025.

Title: Spoke 6 - Unveiling the effects of aging on cognitive and linguistic processes to enhance technology and provide support in communication

- **scientific coordinator and tutor**: Prof.ssa Anna Cardinaletti
- **duration**: 9 months, starting from March 2025
- **SSD**: GLOT-01/A; **GSD**: 10/GLOT-01

abstract:

Cognitive and linguistic processes undergo significant changes with aging, which can be challenging for older adults to manage. For instance, issues with speech comprehension and overall communication can lead individuals to withdraw from everyday activities and social interactions, ultimately leading to isolation from others. Institutions, therefore, should aim to support an aging population by providing resources, such as the latest technological advancements, to help overcome potential communication barriers. The aim of this project is to deepen our understanding of the changes occurring in cognitive and linguistic processes with aging and to contribute to ongoing discussions concerning the improvement of current technologies that assist older adults in speech comprehension and communication. A review of the scientific literature on the mechanisms of speech processing and comprehension in older adults will establish a theoretical foundation for examining how new technologies - automatic speech recognition (ASR) systems in particular - can enhance communication for this population. It will also address the current limitations of this technology and discuss improvements to refine its effectiveness. The project's output will be relevant for researchers in psycholinguistics, as well as for companies developing ASR systems and related technological solutions to support communication. Therefore, the product resulting from this project will be submitted to interdisciplinary journals that focus on language and technology research.

Stipend: The research fellowship amounts to **11.400,00=.**Euros.

Deadline for submission of applications: 2025-02-11, h. 12:00 noon – local time

Minimum Application Requirements

Citizens belonging to European Union member states and non-community citizens in possession of the following qualifications may take part in the selection:

- Master's degree in the field of languages

The requirements must be satisfied on the date of expiry of the deadline set by this call for applications

Qualifications and Skills to be evaluated

The following qualifications will be evaluated

- a. previous research experience relevant to the project;
- b. specialisation diplomas and certificates of attendance at postgraduate specialisation courses, obtained both in Italy and abroad, the performance of documented research activities at public and private entities with contracts, scholarships or assignments both in Italy and abroad.

How to apply

1. Candidates should submit A CV in European format (<http://www.unive.it/data/28900/>), duly dated and signed.
2. A photocopy of a valid identity document (e.g. Identity Card or Passport).
3. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure.

How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted here:

<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dec-borsacardinalagetit-24012025>

by inserting their Italian Tax Code. Foreign citizens not yet in possession of the Italian Tax Code can use the following link <https://apps.unive.it/utills/cf> to obtain a temporary one and be able to proceed with the request

The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials by the link, in any case any updates must be made no later than the deadline **2025-02-11, h. 12.00, noon, local time.**

Incomplete applications, those without the required data and the compulsory attachments will not be taken into consideration. Furthermore, the applications which, for any reason, reach this University beyond the deadline indicated above cannot be accepted.

The declarations made in the application shall be considered issued in accordance with the DPR no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments, by candidates entitled to use the simplified administrative certifications permitted by the above decree

Incompatibility

The short-term research fellowship may not overlap with:

- other scholarships granted in any capacity, apart from those granted by national or foreign research institutes in order to integrate with periods abroad the specific activity foreseen by the work plan of the appointed fellow;

- attendance of PhD courses with scholarship and medical specialization, in Italy and abroad;
- research grants “assegni di ricerca”

Fellowship holders may carry out self-employed work or occasional or permanent collaborations, as long as this is coherent with the ongoing research, upon approval and on the condition that:

- does not involve a conflict of interest with the specific research activity carried out;
- does not prejudice the university, in relation to the activities carried out.

Subordinate employment contracts holders, in addition to obtaining permission by the university, must provide the authorization of their employer.

In the specific case that the subordinate employment contract started prior to the awarding of the fellowship, compatibility with the existing employment will have to be assessed; if the assessment yields a negative result, the short research fellowship will not be awarded; in the case of a positive result, the successful candidate will have to provide the authorization of his/her employer within 15 days.

In the event that the subordinate employment contract will start once the fellowship is ongoing, the successful applicant is required to notify this change at least 15 days before the start of the employment contract for an assessment of compatibility; if the assessment is negative, the fellowship will cease by the start of the employment contract; in the event of a positive outcome, the successful applicant must provide the authorization of his/her employer within 15 days.

The awarding of the short-term research fellowship does not imply the establishment of any employment contract, nor does it give rise to any rights of access to positions of employment at the university

Evaluation Procedure and Commission.

The selection is made by assessment of the scientific-professional qualifications of the candidates, by a Selection Committee appointed by order of the Director of the research department taking into account, whereas possible, gender balance.

The selection will take into account the cross-cutting priorities of the PNRR in relation to generational, gender and territorial equal opportunities

A **Commission** summoned by the Director of the Department, who indicates the President of the Commission and the member taking the minutes, will evaluate the applications.

Evaluation procedure.

The Commission defines the general evaluation criteria and any other test must ascertain the suitability of the applicant to the research activity. The Commission compiles a ranking and specifies the winning applicant, having regard to the score appointed to experience and qualifications, interview and any other test, as specified by the call.

Awarding of the short research fellowship

Having received the selection documents, and at the outcome of the checks, the Director approves, by his own decree, the classification and the selection procedure reports and makes them public.

Notification, including the start date of the short-term research fellowship, shall be sent to the winning candidate.

The winner must accept the short-term research fellowship within seven days of receipt of the written notification referred to above, under penalty of revocation. In the event of withdrawal, the short-term research fellowship shall be awarded to the next available candidate, following the order of the final ranking of merit.

The Director Decree approving the selection acts and designating the winner and the Report defining the evaluation criteria or any postponement will be notified through the publication, on the University's webpage (<https://www.unive.it/data/12136/>) from **2025/02/15**.

Access to the selection documents is guaranteed pursuant to the law of August 7th 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions and relative internal implementation regulation.

Processing of personal data

Personal data provided by the candidates in their applications for participation in the selection procedures, are processed pursuant to the legislative decree of June 30th 2003, no. 196 and subsequent amendments and additions and to EU Regulations 2016/679. Comprehensive information on personal data processing can be found [here](#).

The person responsible for administrative proceedings

In accordance with Art. 5 of Law no. 241 dated 7 August 1990, as amended, the person responsible for the selection process (RPA) is Dott. Silvia Lovatti who can be reached at the Department of Economics, at the e-mail address silvialo@unive.it and telephone no. +39 04102349158

Information and contacts

For further information please contact Segreteria Amministrativa del Dipartimento di Economia, phone number: 041-2349173; e-mail: simar@unive.it

Final provisions

For anything not specified in this call, see the University of Venice's current regulations regarding the awarding for research fellowships and the current legislation.