



Call for n. 1 Short Research Fellowships - Ca' Foscari University of Venice– Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

L. 240 del December 30th 2010, art. 18, DL 19/2012; Regulations about Short Research fellowships issued under D.R. 300/2014 of 14/04/2014 and subsequent amendments and additions

HAVING REGARD TO the Article 18, paragraph 5, letter f) of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, and subsequent amendments and integrations;

HAVING REGARD TO the Article 21 quinquies of Law No. 241 of August 7, 1990, and subsequent amendments and integrations;

HAVING REGARD TO Article 1 bis, paragraph 2, of Decree-Law No. 45 of April 7, 2025, as amended during conversion by Law No. 79 of June 5, 2025, which came into force on June 7, 2025, and which, in Article 4, paragraph 3, of Law No. 210 of July 3, 1998, abolished the favorable tax regime for short-term research fellowships post-graduation, establishing the application of IRPEF and IRAP taxes on such short-term research fellowships;

RECALLED the Regulation for the establishment of short-term research fellowships for post-graduate activities pursuant to Article 18 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, issued with Rectoral Decree No. 300/2014 of April 14, 2014, and subsequent amendments and integrations;

WHEREAS the tax treatment of short-term research fellowships is subject to the legislation in force at the time of granting. Even if not expressly referred to in this notice, the applicable tax regime will be that provided for by current legislation pro tempore.

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere translation of the provisions of the call 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.

The Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage of Ca' Foscari University of Venice, having regard the resolution n. 41 of the Consiglio di Dipartimento [Departmental Council] of the 19th of October 2023 that delegates the Director to issue calls for research fellowships, research grants and collaborations funded by external projects, once verified the needs and the budget of the projects together with the project coordinator; invites to submit applications for the awarding of no. 1 short fellowship “Geo-Anthropological Thinking: The Genesis of Anthropocene Epistemology”, lasting 11 months, within the project “The Water City: The Political Epistemology of Hydrogeological Praxis (Amendment To the Collaboration Agreement on the establishment of a Max Planck Partner Group Rep. n. 275/2025 prot. n. 159157 of the 19/06/2025), CUP H75F2100077000, tutor of the short fellowship prof. Pietro Daniel Omodeo.

Should the funding provided under the Amendment to the Collaboration Agreement on the establishment of a Max Planck Partner Group (Rep. no. 275/2025, protocol no. 159157 of 19/06/2025), CUP H75F21000770007, be wholly or partially withdrawn, the University will not proceed with the award of the short fellowship (unless otherwise evaluated by the Department in terms of opportunity and convenience).

The Max Planck Partner Group “The Water City: The Political Epistemology of Hydrogeological Praxis” takes Venice as a case study of global Anthropocene processes. This call aims at complementing its research agenda with an epistemological inquiry into the conceptual and material foundations of geanthropological thinking. In particular, it addresses the relation between organisms and surroundings before the Industrial Revolution



at the intersection of what are today known as the interdependent spheres of technology, geology and biology.

The recipient of this fellowship will support the collection and analysis of historical sources related to organisms and their environments within the framework of a historical examination of the entanglement between the biosphere, technosphere, and geosphere in scientific practices preceding and concurrent with the Industrial Revolution (e.g., in A. Humboldt, Lyell, and Darwin). This call particularly aims to reconstruct the epistemic shifts that enabled the emergence of geo-anthropological/Anthropocene narratives, adopting a materialist epistemology. Transformations in the ways knowledge about the body was produced are understood as closely linked to the technological means used to measure and conceptualize the surrounding environment. A new conception of the organism—distinct from, but not necessarily opposed to, the machine—did not prevent its scientific formalization. On the contrary, it coexisted with reductionist approaches to life and environment, offering alternative ways to think about their interdependence.

The research fellows will carry out the following research activity:

- Collection, cataloging, and analysis of sources related to:

- 1) The history of scientific practices that contributed to early understandings of the organism–environment relationship, particularly in the context of natural history and geology of the 18th and 19th centuries.
- 2) The philosophical and epistemic history of the theories from which the concepts of technosphere, biosphere, and geosphere emerged prior to the Industrial Revolution.
- 3) The socio-political and technological history of the earth and life sciences at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries.

- Support in organizing a workshop on the themes of the call.

The research results will support the production of a scientific article to be published in a peer-reviewed journal.

The expected starting date is **September 15th, 2025**.

Each research fellowship amounts to **Euro 17.753,08** gross percipient and will be subject to taxation according to current regulations. It will be paid in bimonthly instalments after certification of the regular performance of the activity.

Deadline: August 19th, 2025, at noon (Rome CET)

Rules of eligibility – Beneficiaries

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

- People with a bachelor degree or a masters degree (or equivalent) in the field of Humanities or History, with particular focus on the history and philosophy of science.

Applicants must hold all the requisites within the call deadline. The qualifications will be evaluated by a Commission that examines the eligibility and qualifications of the candidates and makes a merit rank of them



Skills Required

- Proven knowledge of history and philosophy of science, with a particular focus on the 18th and 19th centuries;
- Proven ability to read and interpret primary sources in intellectual history;
- Proven knowledge of the English and of the French Language;
- Demonstrated expertise in handling archival materials, especially concerning early scientific practices in natural history, geology, and the life sciences;
- Proven familiarity with key figures and conceptual developments in pre-industrial science;
- Proven competencies in historical epistemology and materialist frameworks for understanding knowledge production.

Incompatibility

The short-term research fellowship may not overlap with:

- a) 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;
- b) attendance of PhD courses with scholarship and medical specialization, in Italy and abroad;
- c) 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 30 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

How to apply

- a) The application form

Applicants must declare in the application, under their own responsibility:

- educational qualification held;



- the possession of a residence permit valid at the deadline of the call for applications, in case he/she is a non-European citizen residing in Italy;
 - that they understand that the short-term research fellowship is not compatible with the positions referred to in Art. 12 of the present Regulations and current legislation;
 - to be medically fit to discharge his/her duties for the fellowship;
 - not to have received measures restricting personal freedom at the time of submitting the application;
 - not to have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with any professor belonging to the department or facility issuing the call or with the Rector, the General Manager or a member of the University Board of Directors and that they are aware of the provisions of the Law no 240/2010, Art. 18, para. 1, letter b);
 - any benefit under L. 104/92.
- b) A CV in European format (<http://www.unive.it/data/28900/>), duly dated and signed.
- c) A copy of a valid identity document (e.g. Identity Card or Passport).
- d) All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure

How to submit your application

Applications, together with all the required documentation, have to be submitted exclusively online at the following webpage:

<https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/dfbc-borsa-maxplank-geoentrop>

not later than **noon time (12:00 Rome CET) of the 19th of August, 2025**

The University will be closed from August 11th to August 15th included.

The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of their application. The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials through the link and submission number provided in the e-mail until the call deadline expires.

Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 24 hours prior to the deadline. For further information please contact the Research Office of the Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage, email address calls.fbc@unive.it

Please note that in case of a 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.

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.

Selection and Evaluation Procedure

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 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. In the event of two or more candidates obtaining the same score at the end of the selection, the younger candidate will be preferred.

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.

Publication of the results of all the selection phases shall be published in the online University notice board, on the specific Department web page ([link](#)) and on the University website ([link](#)).

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.

Person in charge of the procedure

Pursuant to the provisions of art. 5 of the law of August 7th 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions, the person in charge of the administrative procedure for this selection is Atty. Esterita Vanin, Executive Officer of the Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage.

Final provisions

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

THE DIRECTOR

of the Department of Philosophy
and Cultural Heritage
Prof. Giovanni Maria Fara

Visto R. P. A.

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER
of the Department of Philosophy
and Cultural Heritage
Atty. Esterita Vanin