

# Center for Multilingualism in Society Across the Lifespan (MultiLing)

## Doctoral and Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Multilingual acquisition, learning or decline

One Doctoral Research Fellowship (SKO 1017) and one Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (SKO 1352) are available at the Center for Multilingualism in Society across the Lifespan (MultiLing) at the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, University of Oslo, starting January 2019.

MultiLing is a Center of Excellence funded by the Research Council of Norway and opened on June 1, 2013. The Center successfully completed the Midterm Evaluation to secure funding for the second period of five years, until 2023. MultiLing aims to generate scientific knowledge on multilingualism across the lifespan, related to three themes: Multilingual competence, multilingual practices, and multilingualism, ideologies and language policies (for more information, see <http://www.hf.uio.no/multiling/>). The Research Strategy Plan for MultiLing's Second Five Year Period (2018 – 2023) can be found [here](#).

MultiLing seeks to recruit one doctoral candidate and one postdoctoral candidate with excellent research qualifications who will work with MultiLing researchers collaborating on research Theme 1 “Multilingual Competence”. This Theme covers multilingual acquisition, learning and decline, as addressed in MultiLing's Research Strategy Plan (Theme 1: Parts 1.1, 1.2, 1.3):

- 1.1: Multilingual acquisition and learning
- 1.2: Heritage languages
- 1.3: Language in the elderly: healthy and pathological aging in multilinguals

For the **doctoral fellowship**, the candidate will work on a project that is anchored in 1.1 of MultiLing's Research Strategy Plan “Multilingual acquisition and learning”:

“Cognitive control in bilingual language processing and second language learning” ([lenke til prosjektsiden](#))

For the **postdoctoral fellowship**, the candidate will work on a project in one of the three research areas noted above (1.1, 1.2, 1.3). Projects may be firmly anchored in one of the three research areas, or may draw on aspects across the three areas.

For each position, applicants are expected to present an independent research project proposal. The candidate must articulate how the proposed project fits in MultiLing's Research Strategy Plan for Theme 1 “Multilingual Competence”. MultiLing has recently opened its [Socio-Cognitive Laboratory](#), and the fellows are expected to use the affordances of this lab for their research. The successful candidate for the doctoral fellowship will receive instruction and supervision for using the lab, as part of the research training.

The successful candidate for each position is expected to become part of MultiLing's research environment and contribute to its development. The successful candidate is expected to strengthen the relevant research areas addressed above, to contribute to and participate in the various workshops, conferences and activities organized by MultiLing, and to be an active member of the MultiLing team in Oslo.

The positions are available for a period of three years, starting January 1, 2019. For the doctoral position, the fellowship period may be reduced if the PhD candidate has previously been employed in a research fellowship position. The appointment is for a duration of three years. All PhD candidates who submit their doctoral dissertation for assessment, along with a written recommendation from their supervisor, within 3 years or 3 ½ years after the start of their PhD position will be offered, respectively, a 12 or 6-month Completion Grant.

The successful doctoral candidate must participate in the research training program organized by the Faculty of Humanities (cf. regulations and supplementary provisions for the faculty's researcher education) and must engage in the designated research activities on a full-time basis. The purpose of the Doctoral Research Fellowship is research training leading to the successful completion of a doctoral dissertation (monograph or article-based) to be defended at a public defense for the doctoral degree. The successful candidate will be automatically accepted for the research-training program (PhD program) at the Faculty of Humanities, UiO. Read more about the doctoral degree [here](#).

For the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, there is a 10% duty component devoted to teaching or other qualifying work for MultiLing. The main purpose of postdoctoral research fellowships is to qualify researchers for work in higher academic positions within their disciplines.

## Qualifications and Personal Skills

In assessing the applications, special emphasis will be placed on the quality of the project description and its relevance for MultiLing's Research Strategy Plan for Theme 1 on Multilingual Competence (1.1, 1.2 and/or 1.3). For the Doctoral position, special emphasis will also be placed on the assumed academic and personal ability to complete the dissertation within the given time frame. For the Postdoctoral position, we seek strongly motivated, competent and internationally oriented candidates, with high-ranking academic qualifications in the relevant area of research.

## Requirements

*For the Doctoral position:*

- The candidate must have an MA degree or equivalent in linguistics, Scandinavian languages, psychology, or some other relevant discipline related to MultiLing's work (note the requirement of a minimum 2-year MA or equivalent and that the Master's degree must have been obtained at the latest by the application deadline.).

*For the Postdoctoral position:*

- The candidate should have a PhD degree or equivalent in linguistics, Scandinavian languages, psychology, or some other relevant discipline related to MultiLing's work.
- The doctoral dissertation must have been submitted for evaluation before the application deadline.
- Experience with laboratory research on language
- Experience in working on bilingualism or multilingualism

*For both positions:*

- Excellent written and spoken language skills in English.
- Personal suitability and motivation for the position.

One or more of the following additional qualifications will be an advantage, but are not requirements:

- Knowledge of at least one minority language used in Norway, such as Punjabi, Turkish, Arabic, or Polish
- Knowledge of Norwegian

In the assessment of the applications, emphasis will be placed on:

- The project's scientific merit, research-related relevance and innovation
- The applicant's international experience and network
- The applicant's academic and personal qualifications to carry out the project within the allotted time frame
- Good cooperative skills, and the ability to successfully join in academic collaboration within and across disciplines
- Personal suitability and motivation for the position.

In the case of equally qualified applicants, an applicant proposing a project that addresses issues relevant for the multilingual situation in Norway will be given preference. Candidates with a minority language background relevant for the multilingual situation in Norway are encouraged to apply.

## We offer

- PhD position: salary level 51-57 (NOK xxx - xxx, depending on level of expertise)
- Postdoctoral position, salary level 59-67 (NOK xxx - xxx, depending on level of expertise)
- a challenging and stimulating working environment
- Attractive welfare benefits

## How to apply

Applicants must submit the following attachments with the electronic application, preferably in pdf format:

- Application letter describing the applicant's qualifications and motivation for the position
- Curriculum Vitae (complete list of education, positions, teaching experience, administrative experience and other qualifying activities, including a complete list of publications)
- For the doctoral fellowship, transcript of records of your Master's degree. Applicants with education from a foreign university are advised to attach an explanation of their university's grading system.
- Project description, including a detailed progress plan for the project (3 - 5 pages, see [Template for project descriptions](#))

Please note that all documents must be in English.

Publications, MA theses or PhD theses and the like are not to be submitted with the application, but applicants may be asked to submit such information or works at a later date.

The short-listed candidates will be called in for an interview at the University of Oslo or we will arrange for an interview on Skype.

**Formal regulations**

Please see the guidelines and regulations for appointments to Research Fellowships at the University of Oslo.

According to the Norwegian Freedom and Information Act (*Offentleglova*), information about the applicant may be included in the public applicant list, also in cases where the applicant has requested non-disclosure.

The appointment may be shortened/given a more limited scope within the framework of the applicable guidelines on account of any previous employment in academic positions.

The University of Oslo has an agreement for all employees, aiming to secure rights to research results, etc.

The University of Oslo aims to achieve a balanced gender composition in the workforce and to recruit people with ethnic minority backgrounds.

**Region:**

Oslo

**Reference number:**

2018/xxx

**Home page:**

<http://www.hf.uio.no/multiling/>

**Contacts:**

For questions about the position:

Professor and Center Director Elizabeth Lanza

E-mail: [elizabeth.lanza@iln.uio.no](mailto:elizabeth.lanza@iln.uio.no)

For questions on how to apply:

HR-Officer Steffen Remvik

E-mail: [steffen.remvik@hf.uio.no](mailto:steffen.remvik@hf.uio.no)