



Center for Multilingualism in Society Across the Lifespan (MultiLing)

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Psycholinguistics with a Focus on Speech Sound Production

Job description

The Center for Multilingualism in Society across the Lifespan (MultiLing) at the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies at the University of Oslo, Norway, invites applications for a 2-year postdoctoral position (SKO 1352) in psycholinguistics, starting October 2021.

MultiLing is a Center of Excellence funded by the Research Council of Norway (2013-2023). MultiLing aims to generate scientific knowledge on multilingualism across the lifespan, related to three themes: Theme 1 Multilingual competence, Theme 2 Multilingual practices, and Theme 3 Multilingualism, ideologies and language policies (for more information, see <http://www.hf.uio.no/multiling/>). MultiLing's Research Strategy Plan (MRSP) for the Second Five Year Period (2018 - 2023) can be found [here](#).

MultiLing seeks to recruit a postdoctoral candidate with excellent research qualifications who will work with MultiLing researchers collaborating on research as addressed in MultiLing's Research Strategy Plan (MRSP). The fellowship is connected to MultiLing's Theme 1 Multilingual competence, more specifically to a project on "Individual-specific preciseness in speech sound production over time and across languages", led by Dr. Natalia Kartushina, in collaboration with Pr. James Flege (University of Alabama at Birmingham) and Dr. Clara Martin (BCBL, Spain).

The successful candidate 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.

More about the position

The successful applicant will work closely with Natalia Kartushina (project manager) to examine within-category variability in native and non-native speech sound production (in monolingual and bilingual speakers, respectively), and its stability across time and languages. The project aims to answer the following questions: What determines this variability? and How stable is it across time?

Applicants are expected to present an independent research project proposal on individual-specific preciseness in speech sound production.

We particularly welcome projects adopting across-linguistic perspective (e.g., Norwegian, English, Spanish). However, projects focusing on one of the afore-mentioned languages will also be considered.

The position is available for a period of two years, starting October 2021. The main purpose of postdoctoral research fellowships is to qualify researchers for work in higher academic positions within their disciplines.

Qualification requirements

- The candidate should have a PhD degree or equivalent in Linguistics, Psychology, Language Science, Speech engineering or some other relevant discipline related to the project
- Experience in working on speech sound processing and acoustic analyses (e.g., Praat, Matlab, Audacity)
- Solid background in statistics (e.g., in R)
- Ambitions for high-quality research within the project, as evidenced by the required research statement, explaining the motivation for applying and how own qualifications are suitable for the announced position
- Excellent oral and written communication skills in English

The following qualifications will be an advantage

- Experience in L1/L2 language development/acquisition research
- Open Science practice
- Experience in coding (e.g., R, Matlab) is a big advantage
- Knowledge of Norwegian (or a Scandinavian language) is a plus

We seek strongly motivated, competent candidates, with excellent qualifications in the relevant area of research. In the assessment of the applications, emphasis will be placed on:

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

We offer

- Salary NOK 526 000 - 608 200 per annum depending on qualifications in position as Postdoctoral Fellow (position code 1352)
- The possibility to attend conferences, courses and workshops
- A professionally stimulating working environment
- Attractive welfare benefits and a generous pension agreement, in addition to Oslo's family-friendly environment with its rich opportunities for culture and outdoor activities

How to apply

The application must include:

- Statement of research (statement of motivation, summarizing scientific work and research interest in relation to the project)
- Curriculum Vitae (complete list of education, positions, teaching experience, administrative experience and other qualifying activities, including a complete list of publications)
- Project description, including a detailed progress plan for the project (3 - 5 pages, see [Template for project descriptions](#))

The application with attachments must be submitted in our electronic recruiting system.

Please note that all documents should 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 a digital interview. It is expected that the successful candidate will be able to complete the project in the course of the period of employment.

Formal regulations

Please see the [guidelines and regulations](#) for appointments to Postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Oslo.

No one can be appointed for more than one Postdoctoral Fellow period at the University of Oslo.

According to the Norwegian Freedom of 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.

Inclusion and diversity are a strength. The University of Oslo has a personnel policy objective of achieving a balanced gender composition. We also want to have employees with diverse expertise, combinations of subjects, life experience and perspectives. We will make adjustments for employees who require this.

If there are qualified applicants with special needs, gaps in their CVs or immigrant backgrounds, we will invite at least one applicant in each of these groups to an interview.

Contact information

For questions about the position: Project leader [Natalia Kartushina](#)

For questions about MultiLing: Center Director [Elizabeth Lanza](#)

For questions on how to apply: HR-Officer [Steffen Remvik](#)

About the University of Oslo

The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest and highest ranked educational and research institution, with 28 000 students and 7000 employees. With its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally recognised research communities, UiO is an important contributor to society.

Center for Multilingualism in Society across the Lifespan (MultiLing) is a Center of Excellence (CoE) under the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies at the Faculty of Humanities, financed through the Research Council of Norway's CoE scheme. The center also has status as one of five world-leading research communities at the University of Oslo, and is currently building a socio-cognitive laboratory. MultiLing's vision is to contribute to the knowledge on multilingualism across the lifespan for the individual and for the society. Through this the center aims to shed light on the opportunities and challenges represented by multilingualism for the individual in the family, school, other institutions, and in the society as a whole. The staff consists of 40 employees from 15 different countries. Moreover, MultiLing has an extensive network of national and international collaborative partners working on multilingualism at various research institutions.

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