

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Inter-disciplinary PhD by Research programme in the Fields of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences

Call for Applications

Background

With funding from the Gerda-Henkel Stiftung Foundation, College of Humanities and Social Sciences seeks to admit a cohort of 10 PhD students in 2019 to work on topics that address an interdisciplinary study of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences. The Inter-disciplinary PhD by Research programme in the fields of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences engages with a cluster of subjects that study human society with a particular sensitivity to change over time, historical context, and the development of various kinds of evidence to support analyses about the causes, characteristics, and implications of such changes in human society. These are subjects that equip students with many skills such as the ability to conduct independent research, analyse text or images, and write persuasively. They also focus on helping students better understand how these skills and analytical approaches can be applied to issues of societal significance beyond the university.

While internationally, Historical Humanities is a cluster of disciplines such as Art History, Classics, History, History of Science, Medicine and Technology, and Religious Studies; at Makerere University, the Inter-disciplinary PhD by Research programme in the fields of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences is reconfigured to include interdisciplinary research projects with an explicit intersection between Historical Humanities and Social Sciences. Preference in selection will be accorded to interdisciplinary research projects that approach the study of the Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences with **a clear and strong historical bias and/or focus** in disciplines such as:

- a) The Classics, namely, the study of literature, philosophy, epic, and drama
- b) Prehistory/Early History of Africa
- c) Archaeology
- d) Historicising language, linguistics and creative arts in Africa
- e) Historicising religion (Islam and Christianity) in Africa
- f) Security, Society and the State
- g) Islam, the Modern Nation State and Transnational Movements

Note

(For further clarification on the last two sub-themes (Security, Society and the State and Islam, the Modern Nation State and Transnational Movements) please visit our partner's website: http://www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/special_programme_islam or http://www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/special_programme_security

General Requirements for Applicants

Practical research experience from working in Humanities and Social Sciences research projects at a University or a Research Institute and a strong foundation in writing and research methods is desirable. The successful candidates should have excellent oral and written communication skills. Although the programme is structured as a cohort system, which offers the opportunity and possibility of collegiality, and introductory foundational seminars in the first year that can build comradeship and companionship, it is particularly a PhD by research and is thus guided by the existing Makerere University Directorate of Graduate School Guidelines of a PhD by Research. This means that successful applicants should demonstrate the ability to work alone for long hours to achieve set targets. They should also have excellent interpersonal and problem-solving skills.

Eligibility

Eligible candidates to an Inter-disciplinary PhD by Research programme in the fields of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences.

- a) Should be a Ugandan national or a national of a Sub-Saharan African country.

- b) Should be a holder of Master's degree in Humanities and Social Sciences from a recognised university. The Master's degree must have been completed less than ten years ago at the time of application and must be in the discipline the applicant is applying for.
- c) Should be a holder of Honours undergraduate degree in Humanities and Social Sciences from a recognised university.
- d) Should be fluent or show proof of fluency in English Language
- e) Provide two letters from two academic referees who are familiar with his/her work recommending his/her application. It is important that the referees, who have been named on the applicant's application form, are the ones who supply a reference for him/her.
- f) Confirm that s/he will be available from July 2019 to undertake a three-year full-time study leading to the award of a PhD in the fields of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences of Makerere University.
- g) Applicants should be under the age of 40 years (male) or 45 years (female) by 30th June 2019. Qualified female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

Funding

The Inter-disciplinary PhD by Research programme in the fields of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences is a fully-funded programme with the generous financial help from the Gerda Henkel Foundation tenable at Makerere University. The scholarship will cover all costs of the PhD programme, including travel, living expenses, medical insurance, a laptop computer, university fees and related training costs. The maximum value of the scholarship, commencing in 2019 is approximately UGX 40,320,000 in 2019/2020, UGX 40,320,000 in 2020/2021 and UGX 40,320,000 in 2021/2022.

Timeline

The Inter-disciplinary PhD by Research programme in the fields of Historical Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences is a full-time that lasts three years, which starts in July 2019 and ends in June 2020. Successful candidates will develop a full proposal with the help of a supervisor and register with the College of Humanities and Social Sciences before full admission as a student of Makerere University by the Directorate of Research and Graduate Training before the commencement of their PhD programme.

How to apply

Completed application form and accompanying supporting documents must be submitted by Friday, 8th March 2019 to:

The Principal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Makerere University, P.O BOX 7062
Kampala

Tel: +256414531909

Email: graduate.college@chuss.mak.ac.ug with copy to principal@chuss.mak.ac.ug

For Further Information

In case of any questions regarding the programme or your application, kindly contact the following:

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