Call for Applications

For 1 Doctoral Position with a PhD project

Within the ERC project "Mapping Ancient Polytheisms"

T*he ERC Advanced Grant "Mapping Ancient Polytheisms. Cult Epithets as an Interface between Religious Systems and Human Agency" (MAP - 741182) explores the naming systems for the divine in the Greek and Western Semitic worlds, from 1000 BCE to 400 CE. Onomastic sequences used for the gods show how divine powers are constructed, arranged and involved within rituals. The analysis deals with the structural aspects of religious systems and with their contextual appropriation by social agents. Considered to be the elements of a complex language, the names give access to a mapping process of the divine, to its ways of representation and to the communication strategies between men and gods.*

For more information: https://map-polytheisms.huma-num.fr/

Presentation and objectives

The PhD will be located in the field of History of Ancient Religions, within the framework of the research project MAP, directed by Prof. Corinne Bonnet (Université Toulouse – Jean Jaurès), with the possibility of a co-director.

The position is to be filled by **1 October 2019** for a period of **36 months**, according to the legal framework of the doctoral contract, namely for what concerns the salary (http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid76053/le-financement-doctoral.html).

The project will deal with a significant corpus of inscriptions coming from the Greek colonies founded in the East, between Syria and the Indus, and providing evidence on the presence of Greek and non Greek gods. According to his/her specific expertise, the candidate will choose a relevant area within this large framework. The chronological focus will be the Hellenistic and Roman period. Greek inscriptions will be systematically gathered, studied and registered in the database of the MAP project, with a special attention paid to the onomastic sequences used for the gods. Bilingual inscriptions, with Aramaic, Phoenician, or other "indigenous" idioms, will possibly be analyzed, in collaboration with the MAP team.

Different issues will be addressed, such as the relation between the onomastic sequences and the political, economic, military environment. The corpus will probably contribute to a better understanding of the process of translatability and *interpretatio*. A special attention will be paid

to the agents involved in the inscriptions and to the networks of gods designed by the onomastic elements. The relationship between divine names and iconography may also be considered.

The successful candidate will participate in the project's research activities, engage in joint research and fill in the database with the MAP team.

Requirements

- Excellent MA degree in Ancient History, History of Religions or a closely related discipline.
- Excellent knowledge of Ancient Greek and possibly, but not necessarily, of some Semitic language.
- Knowledge of French and English, and other languages relevant for the research planned.
- Willingness to cooperate within the research project and to take part in the activities of MAP.

For more information, please contact elodie.guillon@univ-tlse2.fr

Application documents and deadline

Please submit your application (in English *or* in French) with
- One PDF document including
  o CV with a specific focus on your MA research (topic, results, methodology) and the level in modern and ancient languages.
  o Copies of your university degree or your more recent marks (first year of MA).
  o A letter of recommendation from your MA tutor.
- A copy of your MA dissertation thesis in PDF (with a 3 pages abstract in French or English if the thesis is written in a different language).
- An outline of the project you would like to pursue (maximum 5 pages + 2 pages of bibliography) with a stringent discussion of your research questions accurately focused on divine onomastic matters, the state of research on the topic, your methodological approach, the relevant corpus and the leading hypotheses as well as a working schedule.

Send it to: erc-map@univ-tlse2.fr

Deadline: **30 April 2019**

Within the 15th May, we will select a short-list of candidates.
Interviews will be conducted in the first half of June 2019, with a final answer before the 15th June 2019.

Notice
The University of Toulouse does not refund any costs incurred in the application process.