



NATIONAL INSTITUTE  
FOR THE HUMANITIES  
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ISCIA

Identities and Social  
Cohesion in Africa

## The National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences/Nelson Mandela University Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Programme 2022

In partnership with the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS), the ISCIA Chair, seated in the Humanities Faculty, Nelson Mandela University, invites applications for postdoctoral fellowships to advance knowledge in the humanities and the social sciences.

Successful applicants will be hosted by strong researchers in the Faculty of Humanities linked to the ISCIA Chair, together with whom they will conduct research according to their approved research proposals over a period of twenty-four (24) months. Visit the Faculty's website at <https://humanities.mandela.ac.za>, and the Chair's website at <https://isciachair.mandela.ac.za/>

### About the Fellowship Programme

The Fellowship seeks to support Postdoctoral researchers with a keen interest in contextually relevant research with transformational impacts in the African context, who are interested, and eager scholars committed to excellence in research and continuous learning towards impacting transformational knowledge generation. The Programme will support full-time Fellows addressing the following broad research themes:

- ▶ Arts, Performance and Sources of Creativity (creative fields from various settings across the HSS, to study cultural formations and social changes);
- ▶ Digital Humanities (the intersection of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the HSS and Arts, an HSS perspective of digital tools, techniques, and platforms, and how these impact society);
- ▶ Ecosystems, Climate, and technology;
- ▶ Global Economy, Development Challenges and Socio-Economic Alternatives;
- ▶ Higher Education, Teaching, Research, and Innovation;
- ▶ Indigenous Languages (the development of African languages for scientific use);
- ▶ Pandemics, Medicine, Disease and Curing;
- ▶ Pre-Colonial, Colonial, and Postcolonial Histories (historical construction of South Africa from the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries and link this to the broader region of southern Africa);
- ▶ Transformation, Race, Culture, and Identity.

## Requirements

- ▶ Applicants must be South African citizens.
- ▶ Applicants must have a PhD in the Humanities and Social Sciences obtained within the last 5 years by the application deadline.
- ▶ Fellowships must be taken up by March 25 2022.
- ▶ Fellows will be required to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Nelson Mandela University and the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS).
- ▶ Fellows will be required to present work at a year-end workshop/colloquium hosted by the ISCIA chair and funded by the NIHSS/NMU Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Programme.

## Information

- ▶ The full fellowship value is R 400 000 p.a. Stipends of R375 000 p.a. will be offered to successful applicants. These are currently tax exempt.
- ▶ R 25 000 p.a. will be retained by the ISCIA Chair and administered centrally to fund overall running costs of the programme and the year-end workshop/colloquium.
- ▶ Successful candidates must fund their own research costs, such as conferences and fieldwork, from the stipend.
- ▶ The fellowship is tenable for one academic year, and renewal for the second year is subject to progress.
- ▶ Successful candidates are responsible for their own medical aid and insurance.

## Application

To apply, please complete the attached NMU Postdoctoral application form. Submit this, which will contain your research proposal, and attachments to Harsheila Riga at [Harsheila.Riga@mandela.ac.za](mailto:Harsheila.Riga@mandela.ac.za)

**Closing Date: 28 February 2022**