



## **Marie Curie Fellowship Early Stage Researcher (ESR) in the field of Transdisciplinary Diaspora Studies**

### **Visual, Literary and Theoretical Imaginings of Home and Homeland in Post-Colonial Novels and Cinema**

Applications are invited for the position of one early stage – or doctoral – researcher for 36 months (full time) in Diaspora Studies to work on a project situated within the area of literary, cultural and post-colonial studies at The University of Northampton, UK.

### **Marie Curie Initial Training Network “Diasporic Constructions of Home and Belonging” (CoHaB)**

All over the world, stable concepts of home and belonging have, for a variety of reasons, become the exception rather than the rule, which has led to dramatic cultural, social and political changes and challenges. The study of diaspora and migration has evolved into a burgeoning field which sets an urgent research agenda for our time. The EU-funded transnational network CoHaB comprises acknowledged Diaspora Studies experts from the universities of Münster, Oxford, SOAS, Stockholm, Mumbai and Northampton, as well as several non-academic partners. Committed to excellence in facilitating research for scholars in the early phases of their careers, the network is united in the conviction that interdisciplinary and transnational training as well as international and inter-sectoral co-operation are key to any productive study of diaspora. Applicants must document research interests and expertise in relevant fields, especially literary studies, post-colonial studies, film studies and diaspora studies and be willing to network across academic and non-academic institutions and environments as part of their research.

Research training within a variety of disciplinary environments, both academic and extramural, is central to the CoHaB network. Secondments to associated non-academic partners will help Marie Curie Research Fellows in Diaspora Studies to gain insight into specific diaspora-related, extramural fields of work, and also integrate the findings arising from their work experience with their academic work. Close co-operation within the network will allow researchers from various disciplinary backgrounds to join forces and develop their projects on a shared platform.

Applicants will be expected to engage in a continuing dialogue about the methodology, theory, and terminology of diaspora studies as a transdiscipline. In the context of the specific project, this entails film studies, sociology and cultural/literary studies.

The project **Visual, Literary and Theoretical Imaginings of Home and Homeland in Post-Colonial Novels and Cinema** is a comparison of the differences in representation in the media of film and literature (i.e. oral versus written/visual versus literary). It will deal with constructions of home and belonging in selected post-colonial texts and films using a framework from diaspora theory, critical theory and film studies. In particular, this project

focuses on the 'diasporic' space between home/host nations, the renegotiation and redefinition of relationships in this space, an 'aesthetics of diaspora' in post-colonial literary texts and films. Other significant concepts include motives for migration, the idea of return, ethnic and cultural identities, 'liberation', dislocation and relocation in the host community.

We invite applications that will consider a range of texts in relation to at least two geographical regions.

### **Benefits**

The researcher will be employed by The University of Northampton on a full-time basis as a researcher, with a gross salary of € 45.714,00 per annum. The position also includes a monthly mobility allowance as well as ample funds to participate in training activities of the CoHaB network and in international conferences.

### **Requirements**

Applicants must:

- have a first class Master's degree (or equivalent) in one of the following areas: postcolonial studies, diaspora literature and film, postcolonial and diaspora theory, (and with reference to film studies, cultural studies, sociology)
- have less than four years of research experience and must not yet have been awarded a doctoral degree
- not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the UK for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their recruitment
- have previous experience (academic and/or extra-mural) in the field of diaspora studies, especially in literature, film and critical theory
- have an excellent command of English (spoken and written)
- satisfy the eligibility criteria for fellowships in Marie Curie Initial Training Networks

### **Applications must include:**

- a curriculum vitae (including information on nationality and place of residence for the past three years),
- academic record (including transcripts),
- letter of motivation,
- two written references,
- a short proposal (2,000 words) for a research project

Submit applications electronically, in a single PDF file, to: [Janet.Wilson@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:Janet.Wilson@northampton.ac.uk)

Deadline for the application is 23 March 2012. Interviews are provisionally scheduled for 16 April 2012. The successful candidate is expected to join CoHaB in Northampton by 1 September 2012.

The CoHaB website can be found at [www.itn-cohab.eu](http://www.itn-cohab.eu).

**CoHaB is committed to equal opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the international community worldwide.**

For more information about this position, please contact [Janet.Wilson@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:Janet.Wilson@northampton.ac.uk)