

University Lectureship in Assyriology

The Faculty of Humanities at Leiden University, vacancy number: 16-185

The Faculty of Humanities at Leiden University invites applications for an:

University Lectureship in Assyriology (1,0 fte)

Vacancy number: 16-185

#### Key responsibilities

- Original research and regular dissemination of the results through appropriate channels;
- Teaching at undergraduate and graduate levels in the BA program Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World, the MA program Classics and Ancient Civilizations, and other programs and courses as appropriate; supervision of BA and MA theses; contributions to curriculum development. Courses may include Cultural History of Mesopotamia, Religion and Society in Ancient Mesopotamia, Reading literary texts (Standard Babylonian), Advanced Seminar in Akkadian, Cuneiform Epigraphy, History of Mesopotamia, Cultural Contacts in the Hellenistic World; MA Thesis Tutorial;
- Acquisition of project funding (NWO, ERC, etc);
- Administrative duties;
- Representation of the field to external audiences and media.

It is a fixed-term replacement position for the period from January 2017 through December 2021.

#### Selection Criteria

- A PhD degree in Assyriology. Candidates near completion of the degree will be considered;
- A research and publication record that is commensurate with career stage;
- Commitment to high-quality teaching practice, and wide teaching scope in terms of content.
- Specialist knowledge of the languages and history of Mesopotamia;
- Advanced proficiency in Akkadian and cuneiform writing, including of the periods after 1500 BCE;
- An excellent command of English. The MA in Classics and Ancient Civilizations is offered in English, and English may be used in the BA in Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World as well;
- If the successful applicant does not speak Dutch, the possibility of University-funded language training may be considered;
- Upon appointment, depending on experience and formal qualifications to date, the successful applicant may be required to enter a nationally standardized tertiary teaching skills certification trajectory (BKO or Basis Kwalificatie Onderwijs (on Dutch)).

#### The Faculty of Humanities and the LIAS

Since its founding in 1575, Leiden University has built an internationally recognized record of excellence in teaching and research. The Faculty of Humanities is an international center for the study of languages, cultures, arts, and societies worldwide, in their historical contexts from prehistory to the present. We take culture broadly to include religions, philosophies, and worldviews as well as literature art, and technology. In research and teaching, we focus on Dynamics of Diversity, meaning the mobility of people, language, culture, ideas, art, and institutions in a globalizing world, and their interconnectivity through the ages. The Faculty is home to well over 5000 students and 900 staff. It offers some 30 BA programs and 45 MA programs. The Graduate School annually awards about 70 PhD degrees.

The lecturer will hold a position in the Leiden University Institute for Area Studies (LIAS:

<http://www.hum.leiden.edu/lias/>). LIAS is comprised of a School of Asian Studies and a School of Middle-Eastern Studies, with international staff and student populations. The institute is committed to a present-day

vision of area studies, integrating disciplinary and regional-historical perspectives on a solid foundation of excellent language skills. The Lecturer will teach in the School of Middle-Eastern Studies. For the BA in Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World see here: <http://www.hum.leidenuniv.nl/ocmw> (in Dutch); for the MA in Classics and Ancient Civilizations, see here: <http://hum.leiden.edu/classics-and-ancient-civilizations>.

Current staff in Assyriology have expertise in Sumerian language and culture, Hittite language and culture, the Akkadian language, and the history of Mesopotamia from the early second to the late first millennium BCE. The local research environment includes the Netherlands Institute of the Near East with its excellent research library and the National Museum of Antiquities.

#### Terms of employment

Appointment will be fixed-term for the period from January 2017 through December 2021. Salary range from € 3,400.- to € 4,654.- gross per month (pay scale 11), commensurate with qualifications, with substantial holiday and end-of-year bonuses. Depending on qualifications, the lecturer may start at the appropriate step in scale 10 until she/he fully meets the requirements for scale 11 as specified by the Faculty of Humanities, particularly with regard to teaching skills certification and the number of years of relevant work experience. Candidates from outside the Netherlands may be eligible for a substantial tax break.

#### Diversity

Leiden University is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from members of underrepresented groups.

#### Information

Queries may be sent to Caroline Waerzeggers ([c.waerzeggers@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:c.waerzeggers@hum.leidenuniv.nl)), with cc to Frank Pieke ([f.n.pieke@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:f.n.pieke@hum.leidenuniv.nl)).

#### Applications

Applications period runs up to and including August 14, 2016. Campus interviews are tentatively scheduled for mid- or late September 2016. Applications should be in English, and be submitted to the Assyriology Search Committee at [vacatureslias@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:vacatureslias@hum.leidenuniv.nl), with the items listed below included in this order in a single PDF document named 'FAMILY NAME – Given name – 16-185':

- a cv including education and employment history, publications, courses taught, and languages and proficiency levels;
- a letter of motivation;
- a research agenda with clear potential for applications to funding bodies such as NWO and ERC (max 2 pages);
- a teaching statement (max 1 page); • Two course descriptions (intro + outline of 12 two-hour weekly sessions) with clear relevance to the position profile;
- names, positions, and email addresses of three referees (no reference letters at this stage).