



UiO : Universitetet i Oslo

The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest and highest ranked educational and research institution, with 28 000 students and 7000 employees. With its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally recognised research communities, UiO is an important contributor to society.

The Centre for Educational Measurement at the University of Oslo (CEMO) provides a stimulating research environment by bringing internationally renowned substantive and methodological experts together. Research at CEMO combines basic research and applications of advanced measurement techniques to solve core educational problems. CEMO also contributes to the development of measurement competence through teaching and outreach. The centre is part of a broad international network and manages several externally funded research grants.



PhD candidate

The PhD position is attached to the research project "Latent Variable Factor Mixture models to track Longitudinal Differentiation Patterns" that is funded by the Norwegian Research Council. This is a fully-funded (100%), three-year position with a possible extension to four years (including 25% duty work, f. ex. teaching).

Job description

The project is on measurement issues surrounding the common practice where a person's development is tracked across time using one and the same measurement instrument (i.e., psychological test, educational assessment, survey). The goal is to both evaluate existing data analysis techniques as well as develop new methods to verify whether valid comparisons can be made across time, and if so, how these comparisons should look like (e.g., from less to more on a growth scale versus from novice to expert on a differential scale). For more information please contact the project leader associate professor Johan Braeken (johan.braeken@cemo.uio.no).

Selected responsibilities of the PhD candidate:

- Conduct self-contained research targeted at receiving a PhD in education (cumulative dissertation based on scientific peer-reviewed publications)
- Data analysis, documentation, and publication of results in international peer-reviewed journals and at scientific conferences
- Development of data analysis tools in the open-source free statistical software R
- Work on these tasks in collaboration with international partners in Germany and the Netherlands from education and clinical/medical psychology

Positions as research fellows are fixed-term educational posts where the aim is that the research fellow completes a doctoral degree (PhD) during the period of employment. A prerequisite for the employment is admission to the Faculty's PhD program, and applicants' formal and other qualifications for admission will therefore also be assessed. The PhD candidate is expected to participate actively in the organized research training and in the Faculty's research community.

The fellowship period may be reduced within the framework of pertaining regulations based on previously held research fellowship positions.

Qualification requirements

Candidates' profile:

- Interested in quantitative research methods and measurement problems in education and psychology
- Avid reader with a conscientious personality and openness to learning new tools and computer skills
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively with a strong personal commitment
- Prior knowledge of factor analysis (or other latent variable techniques), documented for example through course records, in particular if the Master thesis has not yet been delivered

Requirement for admission to the Faculty's PhD program:

- Completion of a Master degree by the time of employment with a minimum grade B or equivalent (ECTS grading scale) in a relevant field (e.g., Social or Behavioral Sciences, Statistics, Psychometrics) or a similar higher education program (normally equivalent to two years /ECTS 120 credits), including a Master thesis or equivalent scientific records

Further information on admission requirements can be found here: <http://www.uv.uio.no/english/research/phd/>

We offer

- Salary NOK 432 700-489 300 per annum (pay grade 50-57), PhD candidates are normally allocated pay grade 50 on appointment.
- Pension arrangements in the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund

- Attractive welfare arrangements: <http://www.uio.no/english/for-employees/employment/welfare/>

How to apply

The application must be submitted electronically and must normally include the following:

- Letter of application
- A curriculum vitae with special attention to statistical software and computer skills
- A 2-page summary of the key points in the following paper: Widaman, K. F., Ferrer, E., & Conger, R. D. (2010). Factorial Invariance within Longitudinal Structural Equation Models: Measuring the Same Construct across Time. *Child Development Perspectives*, 4(1), 10-18. <http://doi.org/10.1111/j.1750-8606.2009.00110.x>
- Master thesis and/or other academic work of relevance to the application
- 1-2 references with contact information (e.g., Master thesis supervisor);
- Documentation of the earlier education (diplomas, grade transcripts, descriptions of the course of study)

Applicants from countries outside the Nordic countries where English is not the official language must document their proficiency in English. For more information see <http://www.uio.no/english/studies/admission/master/english-proficiency-master.html>.

Incomplete applications will under normal circumstances not be assessed. As a rule, interviews will be conducted as part of the appointment process. Original diplomas and grade transcripts from previous courses of study need to be presented or sent to us from the universities from which the PhD candidate obtained the degrees.

The application with attachments must be delivered in our electronic recruiting system, please follow the link "apply for this job".

Further information on the application process can be obtained from Senior Adviser Anne-Catherine Lehre (a.c.w.g.lehre@cemo.uio.no). Further information about CEMO can be found here: <http://www.uv.uio.no/cemo/english/>

Formal regulations

Please see the [guidelines](#) and [regulations](#) for appointments to Research Fellowships at the University of Oslo.

According to the Norwegian Freedom and Information Act (Offentleglova) information about the applicant may be included in the public applicant list, also in cases where the applicant has requested non-disclosure.

The University of Oslo has an [agreement for all employees](#), aiming to secure rights to research results a.o.

The University of Oslo aims to achieve a balanced gender composition in the workforce and to recruit people with ethnic minority backgrounds.

Contact persons:

- Senior Adviser Anne-Catherine Lehre (a.c.w.g.lehre@cemo.uio.no)
- Associate Professor Johan Braeken (johan.braeken@cemo.uio.no).

Jobbnorge ID: 136979, Deadline: Closed