

**Jobbnorge ID:** 181943  
**Deadline:** 3/8/2020  
**Website:** <http://www.uis.no/>  
**Scope:** Fulltime  
**Duration:** Fixed Term

## Postdoctoral Fellow in Religion, Culture and Society

### Job description

The University of Stavanger invites applications for a 2-year position as Postdoctoral Fellow in Religion, Culture, and Society at the Department of Cultural Studies and Languages. The position is vacant from August 1, 2020.

The position is part of the project «Back to Blood: Pursuing a Future from the Norse Past» (BTB), funded by the Research Council of Norway FRIPRO and led by Professor Anne Kalvig. The project includes team members from the University of Stavanger, the University of Oslo and Linköping University, Sweden. The project is based in the division of Religion, Culture, and Society and in The Greenhouse, a program area in environmental humanities at the University of Stavanger.

The objective of the position is to produce research for the externally funded project, strengthen research within the department, and to give a researcher/scholar holding a doctoral degree within the relevant academic field(s) the opportunity for further qualification toward top academic positions.

### About the project

The project BTB as a whole seeks to map how and explain why current concerns with sustainability, identity and citizenship lead to increasing cultural and spiritual demand for Vikings and the Norse past, and the consequences of various cultural actors supplying that demand.

Within the larger project, this postdoctoral fellow will focus, through fieldwork, on Viking related martial arts and explore how this relates to topics like embodiment, gender, dignity and belonging, spirituality, sacred space/place, landscape and nature, and its borders towards nationalist agendas. In the project proposal for BTB this task was presented like this (excerpt):

Combat as a fight for dignity and belonging.

A substantial part of the field of Viking reenactment and living history, as well as the popular interest in Nordic Heathenism, focuses on combat, martial arts and weaponry. In this study, we investigate how the martial arts within mediations of the Norse past relate to ideas of embodiment, gender, dignity and belonging, and to political nationalist agendas. The task maps the backgrounds of Norse fighting and combat enthusiasts and participants, and analyzes 1. How specific notions of body, gender, dignity and belonging are related to fighting and combat, 2. How and why the Norse fighting milieus and Viking reenactment and/or Norse Pagan groups are related, 3. Whether the combat milieus are characterized by inclusiveness and diversity, or represent more closed, streamlined groups, and 4. How combat is related to notions of (sacred) place, landscape and nature.

The postdoctoral fellow is expected to produce three peer-reviewed international journal articles. Candidates are encouraged to design projects building on prior experiences, language competencies, and interests.

The research project will be carried out at the University of Stavanger. It is assumed that the appointee will work full time on the project and that she/he will participate in the academic community at the faculty and university.

### Competencies

The applicant must submit a description of and a plan for the completion of the research project. In the plan, the applicant should identify what topics they wish to focus on and potential actors/groups and places/sites they will research. The plan should also contain a preliminary time schedule and a publication plan. It must be clear from the application in what way the project will add to the applicant's competence.

Qualification requirements:

- PhD within subject(s) relevant to the project, like religious studies, cultural studies, anthropology
- The PhD must be completed no later than date of application
- Good command of both written and oral English

In the assessment of applicants, the following criteria will be emphasized:

- Relevance, quality and feasibility of the project plan
- Quality of prior scientific work
- Good teamwork and communication skills, and ability to participate in research communities across organisational units
- Personal skills and motivation for the position

Qualifications within the areas of creativity, innovation and commercialization of research will be given emphasis in appointments to academic positions at the university.

## We offer

- interesting work in a large, exciting and socially important organisation
- an ambitious work community which is developing rapidly. We strive to include employees at all levels in strategic decisions and promote an informal atmosphere with a flat organisational structure
- salary in accordance with the State Salary Scale, l.pl 17.510, code 1352, NOK 500.000-600.000 gross per year with salary development according to seniority in the position.
- automatic membership in the [Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund](#), which provides favourable insurance- and retirement benefits
- favourable membership terms in a gym and at the company sports club
- employment with an Inclusive Workplace organisation which is committed to reducing sick leave, increasing the proportion of employees with reduced working capacity, and increasing the number of professionally active seniors
- [Home-work-home](#), discounted public transport to and from work
- as an employee in Norway, you will have access to an optimal health service, as well as good pensions, generous maternity/paternity leave, and a competitive salary. Nursery places are guaranteed and reasonably priced
- [relocation programme](#) in the event of moving to Norway, including support and language courses for spouses

## General information

See "[Regulations](#)" concerning terms and conditions of employment for the posts of post-doctoral research fellow and research fellow, research assistant and resident" at the University of Stavanger.

In addition to an evaluation of their submitted project plan and scientific work, potential candidates will be invited to an interview.

UiS has an Acquisition of Rights Agreement for the purpose of securing rights to intellectual property created by its employees, including research results.

The position has been announced in both Norwegian and English. In the case of differences of meaning between the texts, the Norwegian text takes precedence.

## Contact information

Further information about the project and the position can be obtained from Professor Anne Kalvig, tel: +47 51 83 13 49, e-mail: [anne.kalvig@uis.no](mailto:anne.kalvig@uis.no).

Information about the appointment procedure can be obtained from HR-advisor, tel: .+47 +47 51 83 31 49, e-mail: [camelia.danaei@uis.no](mailto:camelia.danaei@uis.no).

## Application

To apply for this position please follow the link "Apply for this job". Register your application and CV including relevant education and work experience.

The following additional documents must be uploaded as attachments to your application in separate files:

- research proposal (max 3 pages)
- certificates/diplomas
- list of all publications
- up to 4 publications
- any other documentation that you consider relevant

The documentation must be available in either a Scandinavian language or in English. If the total size of the attachments exceeds 30 MB, they must be compressed before upload. Information and documentation to be taken into account in the assessment must be submitted within the application deadline. Contact details for three references must be provided in the application or upon request.

Please note that information on applicants may be published even if the applicant has requested not to be included in the official list of applicants - see [Section 25 of the Freedom of Information Act](#).

UiS only considers applications and attachments registered in JobbNorge.

## UiS - challenge the well-known and explore the unknown

The University of Stavanger (UiS) has about 12,000 students and 1,800 employees. We are the only Norwegian member of the European Consortium of Innovative Universities (ECIU). The university has high ambitions. We will have an innovative and international profile, and will be a driving force in knowledge development and in the process of societal change. Together with our staff and students, we will challenge the well-known and explore the unknown.

The Department of Cultural Studies and Languages, which is part of the Faculty of Arts and Education, is responsible for the University's new teacher MA programme "Advanced teacher education for levels 8-13" and practical pedagogical education. The Institute also offers programmes in Nordic, English, Religion, History, Norwegian for international students as well as Master's programmes in History and History Didactics, Nordic with Literacy Studies, English Literacy Studies and Religion, Culture and Society. In cooperation with other departments of the faculty, the Department of Cultural Studies are currently 60 employees and 1100 students at the department.

## Additional information

### Place of service:

