



Jobbnoze ID: 280999
Deadline: 9/15/2025
Website: <https://uit.no/startside>
Scope: Fulltime
Duration: Fixed Term

Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education

PhD Fellow in Visual and Multimodal Anthropology for Ethnographic Action

The position

A PhD position is available at the [Department of Social Sciences \(ISV\), Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education](#) (HSL), with a thematic focus on Visual and Multimodal Anthropology for Ethnographic Action. This position integrates the grounded methodology of anthropological fieldwork with a collaborative, dialogical, and multimodal perspective using audio-visual tools throughout the research process. The position is affiliated with the Research Group "[EA:RTH: Ethnographic Action: Researching Transformations of Humans and Environment on a Disrupted Planet](#)".

The objective of the position is to complete research training to the level of a doctoral degree. Admission to the PhD programme is a prerequisite for employment, and the programme period starts on commencement of the position.

The PhD fellow position is for a period of three years and full time studies with the possibility of an extension of the appointment period. If the doctoral dissertation is submitted for appraisal within 3 years or within 3.5 years, the PhD candidate is qualified for a completion grant for either 12 or 6 months. The completion grant should be used to further qualification measures such as courses in teaching in higher education, lecturing and other relevant work at the faculty. More information about the completion grant scheme can be found [here](#).

The workplace is at UiT in Tromsø. You must be able to start in the position within a reasonable time after receiving the offer.

The position's field of research

We seek candidates whose project aligns with the broad framework of EA:RTH and demonstrates a strong collaborative approach to fieldwork. The PhD topic should centre around the theme of Environmental Tension - broadly defined as conflicts or contestations with an environmental focus. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Mining, infrastructure, and resource extraction
- Human-animal relations
- Cosmopolitics and perceptions of the environment
- Biodiversity and zoonotic diseases
- Cultural and environmental heritage management
- Ecological and cultural extinction
- Displacement and relocation

A crucial aspect of this PhD position is to develop alternative methodologies within the so-called multimodal turn, including collaborative and reciprocal research, experimentation with storytelling, expansion of methods beyond traditional text-based ethnography, and evolving public roles of anthropologists.

This entails using fieldwork-based methods—such as ethnographic film, photography, and digital media—to illuminate the social reverberations of environmental disruptions. We encourage candidates to consider how these multimodal methods might be used in overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers, facilitating engagement with diverse interlocutors, including non-human actors.

Storytelling is central to the project. We search for candidates that experiment with storytelling, either within anthropological filmmaking or other multimodal storytelling practises.

The regional focus of the project is open but should ideally relate to the ethnographic expertise of the Anthropology group.

The applicant must present a description outlining the academic basis of the PhD project. The project description shall not exceed **5** pages. It must include a description of the topic, research question(s) and reasoning of the choices. It should also indicate the methodologies to be used, how the potential of multimodal approaches can be used, and what actors outside academia to be involved. The final project description will be developed in cooperation with the supervisor. Template for project description can be found [here](#).

Contact

For further information about the position, please contact Associate Professor Richard Fraser:

- email: richard.a.fraser@uit.no

or Head of Department Tor Ivar Hanstad:

- email: tor.ivar.hanstad@uit.no

or Senior Advisor Rita Johansen:

- email: rita.johansen@uit.no

Qualifications

Required qualifications:

- A Master's degree in Visual Anthropology, Anthropology, or related fields with ethnographic based collaborative fieldwork and multimodal methods. Qualification with a master's degree is required before commencement in the position. You may still apply if you are in the final stages of the master's degree, but the master's thesis must be submitted for evaluation within the application deadline. You must submit the thesis and transcript of grades for the master's degree with your application.
- Documented fluency in English. Nordic applicants can document their English capabilities by attaching their high school diploma.

Desired qualifications:

- Ethnographic experience and language competence related to the field. Experience in Visual and Multimodal Anthropological methods and output.

In the assessment, the emphasis is on the applicant's potential to complete a research education based on the master's thesis or equivalent, and any other scientific work. The project description will also be considered. In addition, other experience of significance for the completion of the doctoral programme may be given consideration.

We will also emphasize motivation and personal suitability for the position. We are looking for candidates who:

- Have good collaboration skills
- Have good communication and interaction with colleagues and students
- Wants to contribute to a good working environment

As many people as possible should have the opportunity to undertake organized research training. If you already hold a PhD or have equivalent competence, we will not appoint you to this position.

If the candidate does not document proficiency in Norwegian, Swedish or Danish at [level A2](#), then the doctoral fellow must complete a language course equal to 15 ECTS before the end of the fixed-term period. UiT will facilitate this. *

***As of August 1, 2025, it is no longer a requirement for applicants to complete a Norwegian language course at the A2 level during their employment. However, UiT still offers Norwegian courses to applicants who do not have proficiency at this level.**

Admission to the PhD programme

For employment in the PhD position, you must be qualified for admission to the PhD programme at the [Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education](#) and participate in organized doctoral studies within the employment period.

Admission normally requires:

- A bachelor's degree of 180 ECTS and a master's degree of 120 ECTS, or an integrated master's degree of 300 ECTS.
- A master's thesis with a scope corresponding to at least 30 ECTS for a master's degree of 120 ECTS.
- A master's thesis with a scope corresponding to at least 20 ECTS for an integrated master's degree of 300 ECTS.

All applicants should have a grade point average of B (or equivalent) on their master's degree in order to be admitted to the PhD programme. The grade point average also applies to 300 ECTS points integrated five-year master's degrees, in which all courses are to be included in the grade point average. A more detailed description of admission requirements can be found [here](#).

If you are employed in the position, you will be provisionally admitted to the PhD programme. Application for final admission must be submitted no later than two months after taking up the position.

Applicants with a foreign education will be subjected to an evaluation of whether the educational background is equal to Norwegian higher education, following national guidelines from [Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills](#). Depending on which country the education is from, one or two additional years of university education may be required to fulfil admission requirements, e.g. a 4-year bachelor's degree and a 2-year master's degree. UiT normally accepts higher education from countries that are part of the Lisbon Recognition Convention.

Inclusion and diversity

UiT The Arctic University of Norway is working actively to promote equality, gender balance and diversity among employees and students, and to create an inclusive and safe working environment. We believe that inclusion and diversity are a strength, and we want employees with different competencies, professional experience, life experience and perspectives.

If you have a disability, a gap in your CV or immigrant background, we encourage you to tick the box for this in your application. If there are qualified applicants, we invite at least one in each group for an interview. If you get the job, we will adapt the working conditions if you need it.

Apart from selecting the right candidates, we will only use the information for anonymous statistics.

We offer

- Involvement in an interesting research project
- Good career opportunities
- A good academic environment with dedicated colleagues
- Flexible working hours and a state collective pay agreement
- Pension scheme through the state pension fund
- PhD Fellows are normally given a salary of 550 800 NOK/year with a 3% yearly increase

Norwegian health policy aims to ensure that everyone, irrespective of their personal finances and where they live, has access to good health and care services of equal standard. As an employee you will become member of the [National Insurance Scheme](#) which also include [health care services](#).

More practical information about working and living in Norway can be found here: <https://uit.no/staffmobility>

Application

Your application must include:

- Cover letter explaining your motivation and research interests
- CV
- Diploma for bachelor's and master's degree
- Official transcripts of grades/academic record for bachelor's and master's degree
- Explanation of the grading system for foreign education (Diploma Supplement if available)
- Documentation of [English proficiency](#)
- Documentation of proficiency in Norwegian, Swedish, or Danish at a minimum of [level A2](#) (if available)
- References with contact information
- Master's thesis, and any other academic works
- Project description (mx 5 pages)

Qualification with a master's degree is required before commencement in the position. You may still apply if you are in the final stages of the master's degree, but the master's thesis must be submitted for evaluation within the application deadline. You must submit the thesis and transcript of grades for the master's degree with your application.

All documentation to be considered **must** be in a Scandinavian language or English. Diplomas and transcripts must also be submitted in the original language, if not in English or Scandinavian. If English proficiency is not documented in the application, it must be documented before starting in the position. We only accept applications and documentation sent via Jobbnorge within the application deadline.

Assessment

The applicants will be assessed by an expert committee. The committee's mandate is to undertake an assessment of the applicants' qualifications based on the written material presented by the applicants, and the detailed description draw up for the position. A copy of the assessment report will be sent to all applicants.

The applicants who are assessed as best qualified will be called to an interview. The interview should among other things, aim to clarify the applicant's motivation and personal suitability for the position.

General information

The appointment is made in accordance with State regulations and guidelines at UiT. At our website, you will find more [information for applicants](#).

Remuneration for the position of PhD Fellow is in accordance with the State salary scale code 1017. A compulsory contribution of 2 % to the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund will be deducted. You will become a member of the Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund, which gives you many benefits in addition to a lifelong pension: You may be entitled to financial support if you become ill or disabled, your family may be entitled to financial support when you die, you become insured against occupational injury or occupational disease, and you can get good terms on a mortgage. Read more about your employee benefits at: spk.no.

A shorter period of appointment may be decided when the PhD Fellow has already completed parts of their research training programme or when the appointment is based on a previous qualifying position PhD Fellow, research assistant, or the like in such a way that the total time used for research training amounts to three years.

We process personal data given in an application or CV in accordance with the Personal Data Act (Offentleglova). According to the Personal Data Act information about the applicant may be included in the public applicant list, also in cases where the applicant has requested non-disclosure. You will receive advance notification in the event of such publication, if you have requested non-disclosure.

Eallju - Developing the High North

UiT The Arctic University of Norway is a multi-campus comprehensive university at the international forefront. Our vision is to be a driving force for developing the High North. The Northern Sami notion eallju, which means eagerness to work, sets the tone for this motive power at UiT. Along with students, staff and the wider community, we aim to utilise our location in Northern Norway and Sápmi, our broad and diverse research and study portfolio and interdisciplinary advantage to shape the future.

Our social mission is to provide research-based education of high quality, perform artistic development and carry out research of the highest international quality standards in the entire range from basic to applied. We will convey knowledge about disciplines and contribute to innovation. Our social mission unites UiT across various studies, research fields and large geographical distances. This demands good cooperation with trade and industry and civil society as well as with international partners. We will strengthen knowledge-based and sustainable development at a regional, national and international level.

Academic freedom and scientific and ethical principles form the basis for all UiT's activities. Participation, co-determination, transparency and good processes will provide the decision-making basis we need to make wise and far-sighted priorities. Our students and staff will have the opportunity to develop their abilities and potential. Founded on academic integrity, we will be courageous, committed and generous in close contact with disciplines, people and contemporary developments.

We will demonstrate adaptability and seek good and purposeful utilisation of resources, so we are ready to meet the expectations and opportunities of the future. We will strengthen the quality and impact of our disciplines and core tasks through the following three strategic priority areas.

Additional information

Place of service:

Hansine Hansens veg 18 9019 Tromsø (Tromsø - Romsa Municipality)