



NTNU

Kunnskap for en bedre verden

Jobbnorge ID: 281822
Deadline: 6/29/2025
Website: <http://www.ntnu.no>
Scope: Fulltime
Duration: Fixed Term

The Department of Social Work has a vacancy for a

PhD Candidate in Social Work

This is NTNU

NTNU is a broad-based university with a technical-scientific profile and a focus in professional education. The university is located in three cities with headquarters in Trondheim.

At NTNU, 9,000 employees and 43,000 students work to create knowledge for a better world.

You will find more information about working at NTNU and the application process [here](#).

Video: <https://youtu.be/Xt-yHCN5QS0>

About the position

We are looking for a PhD candidate with a focus on social work, international migration and refugee studies.

This three-years position is a part of the **ANCHOR: Advancing Neighborhood, Community, and HOusing for the integration of Refugee families**, an inter-disciplinary project funded under the NTNU's strategic research area: [Community](#). ANCHOR focuses on how housing and neighborhood environments can support refugee families' wellbeing, social integration, and sense of belonging. This position will focus on Norwegian municipal contexts, examining how physical and social aspects of housing intersect with the everyday lives of refugee families with children.

Your immediate leader will be the Head of Department.

About the project

ANCHOR investigates how entangled social, political, and environmental processes shape the housing experiences, wellbeing, and sense of belonging among refugee families in Norway. By focusing on non-linear and sometimes unexpected outcomes of policy, planning, and community design, the project aims to reveal how conventional approaches can inadvertently deepen uncertainties or, conversely, foster more inclusive forms of community life.

Challenging the traditional separation of social from material and environmental factors, ANCHOR takes a holistic and interdisciplinary approach, drawing on social and architectural anthropology, urban planning, social work, childhood studies, and public health. Central to this endeavor is an emphasis on intersectionality, which recognizes that factors such as age, gender, cultural background, and generational dynamics can shape different layers of vulnerability or resilience within refugee families. Methodologically, the project combines creative, participatory methods with established qualitative techniques. This multi-method strategy seeks to co-create knowledge with refugee families, local communities, NGOs, and municipal authorities.

This project is a collaboration among the Departments of Architecture and Planning, Social Work and Public Health and Nursing, and it includes two PhD positions. The successful PhD candidate will work closely with their counterpart in the Department of Architecture and Planning. Norwegian and English are the main languages in use at the Department.

Contact [Associate Professor Samita Wilson](#) for a description of the project.

Duties of the position

- Complete doctoral education until obtaining a doctorate.
- Carry out research of good quality within the framework described above.
- Academic publications and popular science dissemination.
- Participate in international activities such as conferences and/or research stays at foreign educational institutions.
- Contribute to other tasks related to ANCHOR project.

Be prepared for changes to your work duties after employment.

Required selection criteria

- You must have an academically relevant background within social sciences, preferably social work, child welfare, social anthropology, childhood studies or public health.
- You must have a Master's degree (or equivalent). Your course of study must correspond to a five-year Norwegian course, where 120 credits have been obtained at master's level. Master's students can apply, but the master's degree must be obtained and documented before starting the position (latest 01.12.2025).
- You must have a strong academic background from your previous studies and have an average grade from your Master's degree study, or equivalent education, which is equal to B or better compared to [NTNU's grading scale](#). If you do not have letter grades from previous studies, you must have an equally good academic foundation. If you have a weaker grade background, you may be considered if you can document that you are particularly suitable for a PhD education.
- You must meet the requirements for admission to the [faculty's Doctoral Programme](#)
- Excellent oral and written presentation skills in English.
- Your proposed project should be closely connected to the ANCHOR's aims.

PLEASE NOTE: For detailed information about what the application must contain, see paragraph "About the application".

If you cannot document skills in Norwegian, Swedish or Danish at [level A2](#) upon employment NTNU will facilitate so that you can complete relevant [Norwegian courses](#).

The appointment is to be made in accordance with [Regulations for the Universities and Colleges Act \(university and colleges regulations\) and Regulations for the degrees philosophiae doctor \(ph.d.\) and philosophiae doctor \(ph.d.\) in artistic development work at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology \(NTNU\)](#) for general criteria for the position.

Preferred selection criteria

- A professional background in social work or child welfare (or related fields) and relevant professional experience (paid and unpaid work) in international migration, working with refugee families, and promoting social inclusion.
- Methodological skills in one or more of the following:
 - Qualitative methods in social sciences including participatory, anti-colonial and feminist methods.
 - Interdisciplinary conceptual and methodological frameworks.
- Adequate proficiency in Norwegian (level A2 or higher)

Personal characteristics

To complete a doctoral degree (PhD), it is important that you are able to:

- Work in a structured way, set goals and make plans to achieve them.
- Work constructively under pressure or in the face of adversity.
- Engage respectfully with diverse communities and individuals, understanding and valuing their unique perspectives.
- Demonstrate the ability to work independently as well as collaboratively within a diverse, interdisciplinary team.

Emphasis will be placed on personal and interpersonal qualities.

We offer

- An exciting job with an important [mission](#) in society
- Developing tasks in a strong and international professional environment
- Career guidance and [follow-up during the PhD period](#)
- Open and inclusive working environment with committed colleagues
- [Working capital](#) that can be used to implement the project
- [Mentor programme](#) as a [new employee at NTNU](#)
- As a public employee, you have favourable benefits as a member of the [Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund \(SPK\)](#)

You will be employed as a PhD Candidate at NTNU and will have access to [employee benefits and discounts](#).

Diversity

Diversity is a strength, and at NTNU we aim to be an employer that reflects the diversity in society and that makes use of the potential of the population's collective skills. Our vision is [Knowledge for a better world](#) and [our values are creative, critical, constructive and respectful](#). We believe that an organization that is equal, diverse and gender-balanced is essential for us to achieve our goals.

We strive to attract employees with different skills, life experiences and perspectives to contribute to even better problem solving of our societal mission in research and education.

If you think this position is relevant and interesting, we encourage you to apply, regardless of gender, functional ability and cultural background, or whether you have been out of work for a period of time.

Salary and conditions

In the position of PhD Candidate, code 1017, your gross salary will normally be NOK 541 800,- per annum depending on qualifications and seniority. A 2% statutory contribution to the State Pension Fund is deducted from the salary.

The employment period is three years (without teaching duties).

For employment as a PhD Candidate, it is a prerequisite that you gain admission to the PhD programme in Social Sciences within three months of your employment contract start date, and that you participate in an organized doctoral programme throughout the period of employment.

As an employee at NTNU, it is important that you keep yourself up to date with academic and organizational changes and adapt to them.

For the necessary academic and social interaction, it is a prerequisite that you are physically present and available to the institution on a daily basis.

The appointment is carried out in accordance with the principles of the [State Employees Act](#), and [Export control](#) (legislation that regulates the export of knowledge, technology and services). Candidates who, after assessment of the application and attachments, are considered to be in conflict with the criteria in the latter act, will not be able to be employed.

About the application

The attachments (including a description of your scientific work) must accompany the application as these documents form the basis of the application assessment. The documents must be in Norwegian/a Scandinavian language or English.

Please note: the application will only be assessed on the basis of the information we have received by the application deadline. Therefore, make sure that your application clearly shows how your skills and experience meet the criteria described above. In addition, it should be stated whether and how AI has been used in connection with the design of the application, including the project proposal. The application and all attachments must be sent electronically via [Jobbnorge.no](#). If you are invited to an interview, you must bring certified copies of certificates and diplomas upon request.

The application should be written in English and must include:

- A cover letter (1-2 pages) with a statement of motivation, and explaining how your background, research and experience are relevant to the ANCHOR research project. Indicate which of the qualification requirements you meet.
- Independent research project proposal (maximum 5 pages, excluding the reference list), demonstrating your ability to plan a three-years research study with clear motivation, objectives, research questions, theoretical perspectives, methodological design, a dissemination plan and a detailed progress plan.
- CV
- If you have any publications or other relevant research work, please include up to five items.
- Transcripts and diplomas for Bachelor's and Master's degrees.
- Copy of Master's thesis. If you have recently submitted your Master's thesis, you can attach a draft of the thesis. Documentation of a completed Master's degree must be presented before taking up the position (latest 01.12.2025).
- List of 2 references (name, relation to candidate, e-mail and phone number). Please note that references will only be contacted for candidates invited to an interview.

If all, or parts, of your education has been taken abroad, we also ask you to attach documentation of the scope and quality of your entire education, both Bachelor's and Master's education, in addition to other higher education. If your institution uses "diploma supplement" (normal for most European institutions), you must attach this. A description of the documentation required can also be found [here](#). If you already have a statement from [Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills \(HK-dir\)](#), please attach this as well.

Joint works will be considered. If it is difficult to identify your contribution to joint work, you must attach a brief description of your participation.

When assessing the best qualified, we emphasize necessary qualifications such as education, experience and personal suitability. Motivation for the position, ambitions and potential for research will also count when assessing the candidates.

NTNU recognizes a wide range of academic contributions and has committed itself to [The San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment](#) and [CoARA](#) (responsible assessment of research and recognition of a greater breadth of academic contributions in accordance with NTNU's social mission).

General information

A public list of applicants with name, age, job title and municipality of residence is prepared after the application deadline. If you wish to be exempt from entry on the public applicant list, this must be justified. Assessment will be made in accordance with [current legislation](#). You will be notified if the exemption is not granted.

If you think this position looks interesting and in line with your qualifications, you are welcome to apply.

If you have any questions about the position, please contact Associate Professor Samita Wilson on email: samita.wilson@ntnu.no or Head of Department, Kristin Viggen on email: Kristin.viggen@ntnu.no. If you have any questions about the recruitment process, please contact HR Terese Brå on e-mail: terese.bra@ntnu.no

Application deadline: 29.06.2025

For practical information about [working at NTNU](#), please visit [this webpage](#).

[The city of Trondheim](#) is a modern European city with a rich cultural scene. [Trondheim is the tech capital of Norway](#) with a population of 200,000. The Norwegian welfare state, including healthcare, schools, kindergartens and overall equality, is probably the best of its kind in the world. Professional subsidized day-care for children is easily available. Furthermore, Trondheim offers great opportunities for education (including international schools) and possibilities to enjoy nature, culture and family life and has low crime rates and clean air quality.

NTNU - knowledge for a better world

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The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) creates knowledge for a better world and solutions that can change everyday life.

Department of Social Workhall

We are one of Norway's largest academic communities in social work, and our study programmes have many applicants. The Department works with issues related to welfare, inclusion, integration, living conditions, child welfare, social services, disability, diversity and marginalization - and we are committed to improving the situation of those who become isolated from society. [The Department of Social Work](#) is one of seven departments in the [Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences](#).

Additional information

Contact persons:

- Samita Wilson, Førsteamanuensis
Phone: | E-mail: samita.wilson@ntnu.no
- Kristin Viggen, Instituttleder
Phone: | E-mail: kristin.viggen@ntnu.no

Place of service:

Vangslundsgate 2 7030 Trondheim (Trondheim Municipality)