



Research Fellow - "Teachers' Effects on Student Outcomes"

Job description

Applications are invited for a full-time position as a PhD Research fellow (SKO 1017) at the Department of Teacher Education and School Research (ILS) at the University of Oslo.

The position involves collecting and analyzing data from the project "Teachers' Effects on Student Outcomes" [TESO](#) funded by the FINNUT-program of the Research Council of Norway. The objective of this project is to examine the effect of teacher quality and their instruction on student motivation, well-being, and learning gains in mathematics and science.

The project TESO is a Norwegian longitudinal extension of the international large-scale survey Trends in Mathematics and Science Study [TIMSS](#).

TESO is to collect quantitative data through contextual questionnaires to students, teachers, and principals, and tests in mathematics and science at two time-points (Spring 2019 and Spring 2020) of a representative sample at the national level. In addition, TESO is also to collect data through video-observations of classrooms in a representative sample in Oslo (autumn 2019).

Seeing how the nature of the data is both quantitative and qualitative, the successful candidate may choose between quantitative, qualitative, or a mixed methods approach.

The successful candidate is expected to contribute especially to the area of teacher effectiveness, including relations between teacher quality, their instruction and student outcomes. Furthermore, the candidate is expected to take part in the project through data collection and analyses, and in reporting the results in international scientific journals together with senior researchers.

More about the position

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 employment is admission to the Faculty's doctoral degree programme, and applicants' formal and other qualifications for admission will therefore also be assessed. Research fellowship positions are defined as recruitment posts and represent an important instrument in the sector's work to generate qualified applicants for other academic posts at universities and university colleges in long-term perspective. The doctoral candidate is expected to participate actively in the organized research training and in the Faculty's research community.

The fellowship period is up to 4 years, with 3 years devoted to research education. The position entails a compulsory workload of 25% that consists of teaching and supervision duties and research assistance.

The appointment can have a more limited scope within the framework of the applicable guidelines on account of any previous employment in academic positions.

The Department of Teacher Education and School Research organizes four research groups. It is expected that the applicant is affiliated with the research group [Large-scale Educational Assessment](#) (LEA)

Qualification requirements

- A Master's degree or equivalent in education (e.g. pedagogy or mathematics education) or other social and behavioral sciences (e.g., educational psychology) or in a related field. A topic of the master thesis related to teachers' competence and/or instruction is considered as an advantage.
- The master's degree (120 ECTS) must have a minimum grade B (ECTS grading scale) or equivalent. The Master's degree must include a thesis of at least 30 ECTS
- Fluent oral and written communication skills in Norwegian and English
- Suitability and motivation for the position

In assessing the applications, special emphasis will be placed on:

- Knowledge about assessment in general, and especially about international large-scale assessment
- Experience with the assessment of teachers and/or students competences
- Experience with analyzing data with statistical software such as SPSS, Mplus or R or software to analyze videos such as NVivo
- Plans for high-quality research within the project, as evidenced by a required project description (8-10 pages)
- Experience with working in schools and/or with teachers
- Good collaboration skills and ability to join interdisciplinary communities
- academic qualifications and aptitude for completing the PhD program
- Other qualifications that meet the objectives of this position

When evaluating the application, emphasis will be given to the applicant's academic and personal prerequisites, and to the project description.

We offer

- Salary NOK 449 400 - 497 000 per annum depending on qualifications in a position as PhD Research fellow, (position code 1017) Research fellows are normally allocated pay grade 51 (449 400) on appointment.
- A stimulating and attractive working environment
- Professional support through the research group LEA
- Collaboration with researchers within Norway and internationally
- Attractive welfare benefits and a generous pension agreement, in addition to Oslo's family-friendly environment with its rich opportunities for culture and outdoor activities

How to apply

The application must include

- Master's thesis and any other academic works that may be of relevance to the application
- Application letter describing the applicants qualifications and motivation for the position
- A project description (8-10 pages) containing an outline of potential research questions the applicant is interested in investigating within the aims of the project; the theoretical background (with key references) behind these choices; and potential methods to be applied, and information about the applicant's experience with these methods
- CV (summarizing education, positions Teaching Experience, administrative experience and other qualifying activities, including a list of publications
- copies of educational certificates (academic transcripts only)
- list of reference persons: 2-3 references (e.g. Master's thesis supervisor) (name, relation to candidate, e-mail and phone number)

Incomplete applications will under normal circumstances not be assessed.

The application with attachments must be delivered in our electronic recruiting system, please follow the link "apply for this job". Foreign applicants are advised to attach an explanation of their University's grading system. Please note that all documents should be in English (or a Scandinavian language).

When evaluating the application, emphasis will be given to the enclosed "project description" and the applicant's academic and personal prerequisites to carry out the project. Applicants may be called in for an interview.

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 appointment may be shortened/given a more limited scope within the framework of the applicable guidelines on account of any previous employment in academic positions.

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

Contact information

Researcher [Trude Nilsen](#), mobil number + 47 40413360

About the University of 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 Department of Teacher Education and School Research (ILS) is one of three departments at the Faculty of Education at the University of Oslo.

ILS is a leading institution in the fields of subject didactics, school leadership and practice-relevant school research. It hosts Norway's first Center of Excellence in Education, ProTed - a joint project between the University of Oslo and the University of Tromsø. EKVA (Unit for quantitative analysis in education) is also part of the department, as well as four interfaculty research groups (CLEG, TEPEC, SISCO and LEA).

The department enrolls 400 students in the Teacher Education Programme (PPU) and administers the university's Graduate Teacher Education Programme (Lektorprogrammet) with about 300 new students each year. About 200 students follow the Master Programme in Educational Leadership. ILS also manages the study programme Teach First Norway in cooperation with the City of Oslo Education Agency and Statoil.

The Department of Teacher Education and School Research has approximately 40 administrative and 100 academic staff.

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