



Postdoctoral Researcher in Literary Studies (75%)

1 - Position description

The **Centre for Literary and Intermedial Crossings (CLIC)** is looking for **a postdoctoral researcher in literary studies (0.75 FTE)**.

As a Large Research Group (LRG) in the Faculty of Languages and Humanities of Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), CLIC is hiring a postdoctoral researcher in literary studies to conduct innovative research in the field of literary studies and to cooperate in larger (European) research initiatives (e.g. ERC). Ideal candidates are high-achieving scholars with a collaborative mindset who demonstrate willingness to be actively involved in the activities organized by the research group.

About the Centre for Literary and Intermedial Crossings (CLIC)

CLIC is a dynamic interdisciplinary research group that gathers over 60 researchers in the fields of literary studies, literary translation studies, theatre studies and narrative journalism studies. CLIC researchers engage with the study of literary, cultural, and linguistic crossings along three key conceptual axes: media, genres, and spaces. The group integrates different linguistic and cultural backgrounds and draws on a variety of methodologies ranging from intermediality research to cultural and postcolonial studies. Research within CLIC focusses, for instance, on image-text relations, documentary prose, transmedial narration and cross-cultural exchange in urban, multilingual, or transnational spaces.

More on CLIC: <https://clic.research.vub.be>.

Your tasks:

As a postdoctoral researcher, you will collaborate closely with the researchers of the Large Research Group (under the guidance of the co-chairs of CLIC). Your primary activity will be to apply for international research grants (including ERC Starting/Consolidator Grant) and publish your research findings in high-impact international research journals. Your applications and publications are to advance the state-of-the-art in literary studies.

Your responsibilities:

- You develop your own research agenda within one of CLIC's research streams (media, genres, spaces);
- You commit to developing an individual research project in the broader field of literary studies for external funding on national and European level (ERC Starting/Consolidator Grant), ideally in the second year of appointment. We particularly welcome comparative and cross-border perspectives on the spatial, medial and cultural foundations of literature;
- You conduct original, state-of-the-art research and publish in the broader field of literary studies;
- You assist in project acquisition in line with CLIC's research agenda;
- You are willing and able to contribute to research projects with various colleagues in the research group and to collaborate in consortium-based proposals in national and European networks;
- You will actively participate in the development of CLIC's research agenda through publications in high-impact journals and book publications (co-authored with colleagues from CLIC or single authorship) as well as through other research activities;
- You communicate and disseminate research findings to academic and non-academic stakeholders.

2 - Profile

What do we expect from you?

Requirements:

- You have a PhD in a relevant field (or will have handed in your PhD by the start of the position at the latest);
- You have a solid academic track record (as demonstrated through peer-reviewed publications, international conference presentations, prizes, fellowships, travel grants, external funding, international research stays, etc.);
- Your previous research experience clearly relates to at least one of the research streams within CLIC;
- You have a well-developed international research network and are willing to expand existing research networks within CLIC;
- You have the ability and willingness to steer and conduct novel research in a team (experience in setting up and managing interdisciplinary research projects is a plus);
- You are proficient at writing scientific papers, and grant writing skills are fundamental for this position;
- You are highly communicative in academic English (proficiency in Dutch is a plus).

For this function, our Brussels Humanities, Sciences & Engineering Campus (Etterbeek) will serve as your home base.

3 - Working at VUB

For more than 50 years, **Vrije Universiteit Brussel** has stood for freedom, equality and solidarity. Its principle of **free research** is based on self-reflection, a critical attitude, and an open, creative mind around scientific and social issues. With some **4,000 employees**, VUB is **the largest Dutch-speaking employer, in the private sector, in Brussels**; an international city with which we are only too happy to connect and where (around) our 4 campuses are located. Moreover, VUB is a member of **EUTOPIA**, an alliance of like-minded European universities, all ready to reinvent themselves.

4 - Offer

We offer employment as a 0.75 FTE postdoctoral researcher for 1 year, to be extended for two additional years after a positive evaluation. The position is immediately available and **to be filled as soon as possible**. The exact starting date is negotiable.

At VUB, you will also enjoy various other **benefits**:

- Extensive homeworking options, a telework allowance of 50 euros per month OR an internet fee of 20 euros per month;
- An open and informal working environment where attention is paid to work-life balance, and exceptional holiday arrangements with 35 days of leave (based on a full-time contract), closure between Christmas and New Year and 3 extra leave days;
- Cost-free hospitalisation insurance;
- Full reimbursement of your home-to-work commute with public transport according to VUB policy, and/or compensation if you come by bike;
- A wide selection of meals in our campus restaurants at attractive prices;
- Excellent and affordable facilities for sport and exercise, a range of discounts via Benefits@Work (in all kinds of shops, on flights, in petrol stations, amusement parks...) and Ecocheques;
- Nursery near campus, discount on holiday camps;
- The space to form your job content and to continuously learn through our VUB learning platforms and training courses;
- And finally: great colleagues with a healthy drive.

5 - Interested?

Then apply, **at the latest on 08/03/2024**, by sending the following documents in 1 PDF document via email to the CLIC co-chairs (arvi.sepp@vub.be & janine.hauthal@vub.be):

- your CV (including academic portfolio) with 2 references
- a 1-page personal statement reflecting on your academic trajectory so far and your future aims
- a three-year research proposal draft (max. 3 pages), delineating a topic to be developed for an ERC Starting/Consolidator Grant and elaborating on how your intended research would fit with that of CLIC

- your diplomas and transcripts (not applicable to VUB alumni)

Selection Procedure

- Step 1: Internal screening of all candidates (notification of pre-selection by 18 March 2024)
- Step 2: An **interview** scheduled in the week of 25 March 2024 (although we reserve the right to change the date)

Do you have questions about the job content? Contact Arvi Sepp at arvi.sepp@vub.be and Janine Hauthal at janine.hauthal@vub.be.