

PhD position at the University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway

“Indigenous peoples, missionaries and literature in colonial Latin America”

Application deadline: 23. October 2014

Ref. no.: 2014/3801

The Department of Culture and Literature has a position vacant for applicants who wish to obtain the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Spanish Culture and Literature.

The appointment is for a period of four years and comes with full time salary.

The PhD position is ascribed to the Department of Culture and Literature.

The Department of Culture and Literature conducts research, teaching and outreach activities in the subjects of General Literature, English, Finnish, French, Nordic, Russian, Spanish, German, Art History and Documentation and Media Science. The academic staff in Spanish literature and culture develops teaching and research activities in Spanish and Latin American literature and culture through a close cooperation with studies in language, religion, history and indigenous studies.

The PhD position is attached to the research group Encounters and Cultural Transfers in Colonial Hispanic Literature.

The study of cultural transferences is the principal perspective of this research group and will serve as a methodological guideline for studying the discursive and cultural practices manifested in different kinds of texts and documents produced in the Latin American colonial period (16th to 18th centuries). Rather than considering these texts only from a historical and traditional perspective, the project aims to analyze them as dynamic instances or discursive strategies used by colonial subjects in a complex and changing society.

Within this perspective the PhD research project Indigenous peoples, missionaries and literature in colonial Latin America aims to study the important role that missionaries, who traveled with the Spanish conquerors to America, played as intermediaries in the cultural encounter between the “Old” and “The New World”. Even though their main mission was the evangelization of the native peoples, sometimes in violent ways, the work of some of the missionaries became decisive not only in defending the indigenous peoples and criticizing their mistreatment by the conquerors, but also in preserving and understanding the native cultures.

The subject for this PhD research position will be to analyze different kinds of discourses that involve missionaries, such as in literary texts, catechisms and oratory, hearing documents and official reports, historiographical and anthropological documents (crónicas de Indias), and texts written by indigenous people.

For the complete posting, see <http://www.jobbnorge.no/en/available-jobs/job/105353/phd-candidate-in-spanish-in-the-subject-area-indigenous-peoples-missionaries-and-literature-in-colonial-latin-america-at-the-department-of-cultur>

In Spanish: <http://hispanismo.cervantes.es/empleo.asp?DOCN=1865>

Further information about the position is available by contacting Associate Professor Carlos Cabanillas, phone (+47) 776 45661, e-mail: [carlos.cabanillas@uit.no](mailto:carlos.cabanillas@uit.no) and Department Chair Ketil Zachariassen, (+47) 776 44258, e-post: [ketil.zachariassen@uit.no](mailto:ketil.zachariassen@uit.no)