



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Social Networks of the Past. Mapping Hispanic and Lusophone Literary Modernity (1898-1959)

ERC Starting Grant Project 2018 led by Diana Roig Sanz

Post title: PhD candidate

Purpose: 1 application for a four-year fully funded doctoral fellowship.

Supervisor: Diana Roig Sanz

Faculty: Arts and Humanities

Location: UOC- Barcelona (Av. Tibidabo 47, 08035).

Hours of work: Full time

As part of an innovative **ERC Starting Grant Project**, funded by the European Research Council and led by **Diana Roig Sanz**, Ramón y Cajal senior fellow researcher at UOC (Barcelona), the *Social Networks of the Past Project* announces that **1 application** for a **four-year fully funded fellowship** is being accepted for students wishing to pursue doctoral studies within a **digital humanities perspective** in 1) the role of Iberoamerican women in the cultural field between 1898 and 1959.

Social Networks of the Past brings together an **international and interdisciplinary team of seven researchers** (the PI, 2 postdocs in DH and Latin American Studies, 3 PhD students and 1 data scientist) who complement one another's skills and expertise in two main ways: all the team members possess complementary language skills (at least Spanish and/or Portuguese and English; Catalan, French and German will be a plus), and areas of expertise (literary studies, cultural history, translation, periodical studies, gender studies, media studies, sociology, and computer sciences).

In that respect, I would be very grateful if you could forward details around your networks.

Short summary of the project:

Data mining and big data approaches are changing the ways in which we create knowledge, access information and preserve our cultural heritage. This research applies cutting-edge technology to analyse a neglected aspect of European and non-European social and cultural life of the 20th century: the impact of Hispanic and Lusophone literary networks and cultural mediators in international modernity between 1898 and 1959. The project pursues three central goals: 1) to retrieve the lost history of Iberoamerican mediators in modernist intercultural and multilingual networks and reappraise their role; 2) to narrow the knowledge divide in terms of access and production in the Iberoamerican field by generating and making freely available new and reliable data that addresses the lack of documented cultural heritage, and 3) to offer an innovative and reproducible model that can be applied across periods, languages, and disciplines to analyse cross border phenomena, under-examined mediators and networks and overshadowed geographical scales in their relations to the wider world. These goals will be achieved by a twofold methodology: i) an open and collaborative research tool providing a data source for quantitative and qualitative analysis on Iberoamerican mediators, and ii) four subprojects on key cultural transformation processes distinctive of modern societies (the institutionalization of Iberoamerican cultures, the rise of translated literature in key Iberoamerican modernist journals, the role of Iberoamerican mediators in new forms of mass media and the position of Iberoamerican women in the cultural field). By combining computational methods, cultural, literary history, translation, sociology, gender and media studies, Diana Roig Sanz will lead an interdisciplinary team of 6 researchers that will fill the gap in modernist studies and will offer an original, reproducible and empirically tested method for studying social human interaction within a global, cultural and decentred approach.

Description:

The successful PhD candidate will be involved in the scholarly study of the following PhD project on key cultural transformation processes distinctive of modern societies.

The position of Iberoamerican women in the cultural field. Women writers, filmmakers, critics and feminist periodicals gave voice to a **wide range of concerns, also shared by middle- and upper-class Iberoamerican women.** However, literary histories ignore women in Iberoamerican modernisms, and even major figures are rarely included. Research on these topics still focus on Iberoamerican women as consumers and we lack a clear understanding of their **public and mediating role beyond their national boundaries.** This PhD project will explore how these women joined forces on a global scale, contributed to the building of Iberoamerican modernity, but also to a modern treatment of gender issues and women's shifting role in the modern world through their professional and personal networks, their travels and stays abroad, and their work as diplomats, editors, literary critics, translators, cultural animators, or radio speakers.

Required background and skills: Master in Arts and the Humanities, Gender Studies, Literary or Cultural History. Proficiency in English and Spanish or Portuguese is a must and a good working knowledge of Catalan, French and/or German will be a plus. Experience or interest in digital approaches, visualization techniques and the intersections between the Humanities and Computer Science will be also a plus.

Period of time: 4 years. The PhD candidate will join the team in Autumn 2019 (Autumn time Barcelona).

The **PhD** candidate will carry out the thematic subproject mentioned above, though she/he will closely work with the other team members and benefit from their data and results.

The Social Networks of the Past project provides:

- 1 application for a four-year fully funded fellowship, including wages and travel budget for research visits to libraries and archives, conferences or international workshops.
- The support from a software development firm such as Lab1100 (<https://lab1100.com/>), a subcontracted data scientist and an advisory board.
- Scientific and technical training in the different aspects of the project, as well as formation in grant capture.
- Periods of research at different institutions and worldwide universities. A codirection with professors of other universities may be also possible.
- World-leading and internationally excellent research, networks and collaborations, and national and international activities.
- Training to disseminate conceptual and complex ideas to a wide variety of audiences using appropriate media and methods.
- A young, international, collaborative and dynamic research environment.

To apply, please send your c.v., academic transcript, a copy of your Master thesis or a chapter or scientific paper published in a peer-reviewed journal, a letter of motivation, a short bibliography of your choice (up to 10 references) on the topic of the research, and the name of 3 professors who could potentially give a reference on your work to: **dsanzr@uoc.edu**. You may also e-mail Diana Roig Sanz at this address for further information regarding the fellowship. **Deadline:** August 1, 2019.

In the **letter of motivation**, applicants should explain their background and reasons to apply for the specific PhD project. They should also indicate their area of expertise and the contribution they would expect to make to the team's research from both scientific and personal point of view. Candidates will be expected to provide high-quality research and to engage in internationally excellent research activities, including publication and dissemination of the research in conferences and other scientific events, as well as the organization of workshops or the project's conference. They will be expected to develop new connections and collaborations with other academics and young scholars in their field (Spain, Catalonia, Latin America and beyond). They will also contribute to the life and reputation of the *Social Networks of the Past* project being enthusiastic, dynamic and proactive scholars.