As a University of Excellence, Universität Hamburg is one of the strongest research universities in Germany. As a flagship university in the greater Hamburg region, it nurtures innovative, cooperative contacts to partners within and outside academia. It also provides and promotes sustainable education, knowledge, and knowledge exchange locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Cluster of Excellence “Understanding Written Artefacts: Material, Interaction and Transmission in Manuscript Cultures” invites applications for a

**RESEARCH ASSOCIATE FOR THE PROJECT “SCRIPT STYLES VERSUS DIALECTS AND LANGUAGES: A CASE OF SONGHAY IN ISLAMIC MANUSCRIPTS OF TIMBUKTU AND JENNE”**

- SALARY LEVEL 13 TV-L -

The position in accordance with Section 28 subsection 3 of the Hamburg higher education act (Hamburgisches Hochschulgesetz, HmbHG) commences on 1 October 2020.

This is a fixed-term contract in accordance with Section 2 of the academic fixed-term labor contract act (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz, WissZeitVG). The term is fixed for a period of 3 years. The position calls for 75% of standard work hours per week**.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Duties include academic services in the project named above. Research associates may also pursue independent research and further academic qualifications and project results may be used in the context of doctorate.

**SPECIFIC DUTIES:**

Research in the frame of the project “Script styles versus dialects and languages: a case of Songhay in Islamic manuscripts of Timbuktu and Jenne”. The successful candidate will document, transcribe and analyse Songhay annotations in Islamic manuscripts of Timbuktu and Jenne, Mali. The main objective of the research is to study correlations between dialectal variants of Songhay and different script styles used in the annotated manuscripts. The position includes the enrolment in the Cluster’s graduate school and requires participation in research colloquia, lecture series and workshops, as well as active engagement in the Cluster’s research activities.

* Full-time positions currently comprise 39 hours per week.
**REQUIREMENTS:**

A university degree in a relevant field. Preferred is a degree in linguistics with a focus on Songhay dialectology, a native-level knowledge of Songhay, excellent knowledge of Classical Arabic, experience in working with Islamic manuscripts of Mali and familiarity with the academic study of manuscripts. A good knowledge of French and English is necessary.

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg promotes equal opportunity. As men are currently underrepresented in this job category at Universität Hamburg according to the evaluation conducted under the Hamburg act on gender equality (Hamburgisches Gleichstellungsgesetz, HambGleiG), we encourage men to apply for this position. Equally qualified and suitable male applicants will receive preference.

Qualified disabled candidates or applicants with equivalent status receive preference in the application process.

For further information, please contact contact Dr. Dmitry Bondarev (dmitry.bondarev@uni-hamburg.de) or consult our website at www.written-artefacts.uni-hamburg.de.

Applications should include a cover letter, a tabular curriculum vitae, and copies of degree certificate(s). Please send applications in English language by 08 July 2020 to: applications.csmc@uni-hamburg.de.

Please do not submit original documents as we are not able to return them. Any documents submitted will be destroyed after the application process has concluded.