

Further information

Résumé of main information

Position: 1 Early Stage Researcher PhD position in the field of Classical or Ancient Studies

Start of employment: September 1, 2021

End of employment: August 31, 2024

Location: Dijon

Applications: to be sent to carmen-itn@uni-mainz.de

Deadline: June 30, 2021

Required documents (in a single pdf file):

- 1) CV in English (including explicit details of country/countries of residence for the past 36 months), Europass format obligatory
- 2) Letter of motivation in English (max. 400 words)
- 3) Documentary evidence of:
 - University degrees in the field of Classical or Ancient Studies (candidates that will not yet have got their master's degree by the deadline of this call may hand in their certificate later)
 - Transcript of records
 - Language certificates
- 4) Contact details of two referees, no reference letters are required at this point
- 5) Writing sample of 2000–3000 words in one of the 5 official languages of the Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine (English, French, German, Italian, Spanish); the writing sample may be a chapter of your master thesis.

Qualifications/Skills: Master's degree in the field of Classical or Ancient Studies
English: very good command, both oral and written

Qualifications/Skills for applications in the fields of Epigraphy/Ancient History and Classical Philology:
Latin: very good command
Greek: good command

Date of online interview: July 6, 2021

To get informed: July 2, 2021

Detailed information

Recruitment strategy

CARMEN's recruitment strategy will strictly follow the European Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researchers and will be open, transparent, impartial, equitable and merit-based. The main merit-criteria will be the excellence and quality of the scientific training, previous experience, performance, and achievements of the candidates.

Eligibility criteria

Candidates may be of any nationality.

The Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions ITN eligibility criteria require that:

- 1) Candidates must not have resided or carried out their main activity (i.e. work, studies) in the host country for more than 12 months during the past 3 years immediately prior to the start of their CARMEN appointment. Time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention, compulsory national service and/or short stays such as holidays are not taken into account.
- 2) Candidates have to be within the first 4 years of their research careers at the start of their CARMEN appointment and must not have been awarded a doctoral degree. The full-time equivalent research experience is measured from the date when a researcher obtained the degree entitling him or her to embark on a doctorate, either in the country in which the degree was obtained or in the country in which he or she is recruited, even if a doctorate was never started or envisaged.

Application

Candidates apply electronically via Email with an attached single PDF file that includes all required documents. Applications that do not conform to the formal or eligibility criteria will not be considered.

Candidates have to submit a letter of motivation (max. 400 words). The CV (Europass format obligatory) has to include explicit details of country/countries of residence for the past 36 months (cf. eligibility criteria above).

Bachelor and master certificates must be provided. Candidates that will not yet have got their master's degree by the deadline of this call may hand in their certificate later. At the time of application, candidates have to proof that they passed their final examinations. They have to document their final grade (master thesis and master examinations) 24 hours before their recruitment interview by means of a written confirmation issued by their supervisor or examiner. Master certificates have to be provided by July 29, 2021, 12 a.m. at the latest.

Candidates have to indicate the contact details of two referees. No reference letters are required at this point.

Candidates must provide a writing sample of 2000–3000 words in one of the 5 official languages of the Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine (English, French, German, Italian or Spanish). The writing sample may be a chapter of their master thesis and may deal with a different topic than the chosen project(s).

Recruitment interview

The CARMEN recruitment board invites the most suitable candidates to the recruitment interview that will take place digitally on July 6, 2021. The chosen candidates will be informed by July 2, 2021.

Each candidate will be asked a standard set of questions set out in an interview protocol. Additionally, the potential supervisor will have an individual conversation with the matching candidate(s) for about 10 min.

Detailed description of ESR 4

Staging Death: Making a Difference

Roman funerary inscriptions are more than (normally) short texts that happen to be preserved on awkward stationery: they are complex forms of material communication, embedded in archaeological micro- and macro-contexts. Even a rough and ready survey shows a spectrum of monuments from the mundane to the extraordinary, and while many Roman funerary inscriptions are plain and straightforward with a view to their overall design and written content, there were several ways in which monuments sought to stand out within their settings in funerary spaces. Placement, material quality, and size of funerary monuments, quality and quantity of inscribed texts, sculpture – all of these aspects and features were important factors in the way in which communicative strategies were pursued. Arguably, inscribed verse was also an important, yet comparatively inexpensive decorative feature (in addition to being an attractive vessel for verbal communications), and as decorative elements the so-called *carmina epigraphica* ought to be studied both in isolation and in interaction with other forms of monumental and archaeological design.

Based on evidence from Roman North Africa, but also from the Iberian Peninsula and Gaul, this project will investigate the materiality and material interactions of Roman inscribed verse with their supports (and additional decorative elements), monumental landscapes, and cultural settings in a broader perspective, from the perspectives of both the creators and the consumers of verbal art. In particular, this research will examine two types of poetic landscapes:

- (i) the necropoleis that lined the busy roads leading away from, and towards, Roman cities: here verbal decoration in the form of poetic compositions were – at least in theory – easily visible to passers-by (although previous research may well have overemphasized the general visibility, without taking into account the exact location of these texts relative to their actual placement in relation to the roads and their traffic), and
- (ii) isolated settings in more remote, rural areas, in which these offerings were primarily reserved for consumption and appreciation of relatives, cohabitants, and fellow villagers.

Depending on the location, impact of such composition would have been very varied, and the question arises as to how this communicative scenario was taken into account within their respective communal settings and social spaces, also with a view to the relative status of the deceased and their heirs. What is more, one also must consider the relation between such poetic offerings and prose inscriptions on the same monument or in the same micro- and macro-contexts.

Ultimately, the aim of this research is to contextualise the *carmina epigraphica* on funerary monuments in cultural, social, family-related, civic, public, and private spatial settings. It is hoped that this will contribute to a significantly enhanced understanding of the impact and influence of such texts in their original context, identifying motives behind the choice of specific forms of commemoration through verbal art, staging death and representations of lives and ideas at large through poetic monuments.