



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

ERA Unit
Department of Educational Psychology Faculty of
Education, University of Pretoria

Available research position¹: Call for PhD or Post-Doctoral students

The ERA Unit is located within the University of Pretoria's Department of Educational Psychology, Faculty of Education. Working research-based within the education system researchers aligned with ERA seek to understand how individuals and systems address and transform in the presence of the HIV&AIDS pandemic in order to inform knowledge bases such as policy issues, resilience, teacher roles, as well as curriculum matters. Inquiries range from small scale qualitative case studies with teachers, children and caregivers to participatory action research and longitudinal randomised control trials.

Name of position and duration:

PhD or Postdoctoral Position
2-3 years (24-36 months)

Required qualification:

- A doctoral degree or at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience after obtaining the university diploma/degree that formally gives access to doctoral studies in a relevant scientific field (see preferred experience).
- Prior work experience or voluntary experience in research environment.
- Motivated self starter who is proactive, has an energetic approach to work, is able to adapt to new circumstances and undertake work on his/her own initiative.
- Written and spoken proficiency in English.
- Good skills in Microsoft Word and MSExcel

Preferred experience:

Research / training experience (a doctoral degree or at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience after obtaining the university diploma/degree that formally gives access to doctoral studies) in one of the following knowledge fields: education, psychology, public health, psychosocial support, and sociology in terms of supporting sustainable coping (resilience) in the realm of a pandemic such as HIV&AIDS.

Job/position description:

Advanced research training opportunities for PhD students or Postdoctoral students to capitalise on life-long learning, as well as facilitate professional maturity and independence by means of participation in existing and forthcoming ERA Unit research projects.

The position at the ERA Unit will grant candidates exposure to acquire scientific competencies through research experiences in South Africa/Africa. These scientific competencies include, amongst others: inter/multi-disciplinary research, research management skills, inter-sectoral mobility, and establishing a contact-network.

Work collaboratively and liaise with ERA Unit Directors and project leader(-s).

Input into the annual report of the ERA Unit indicating activities during specific relevant periods.

Contribute significantly to publication and dissemination of research results.

¹ Candidates will not be paid by the University of Pretoria and must make their own arrangements for living expenses, transport, accommodation and other living costs. Candidates are not considered employees and are responsible for their own health insurance cover, they do not accrue annual leave and do not qualify for staff benefits. Candidates are expected to work full-time and carry out the duties assigned to them. The necessary office space, equipment, email access and other services needed by the Candidates will be arranged prior to their arrival.

Name and contact details of person to contact in case people need further clarity on the position:

Prof Liesel Ebersöhn

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Director: ERA Unit

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Department of Educational Psychology

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Faculty of Education

University of Pretoria

Pretoria 0002

South Africa

Due date for applications:

First deadline for applications is 31 October 2009.

Application should include:

- An account of your interest in research related ERA and why you should be selected for the position.
- Curriculum vitae.
- Certified copy of Masters or Doctoral Degree (whichever is applicable).
- Summary of own doctoral or previous degree/diploma research (dissertation work).
- Letter of reference from the Head of Department and/or supervisor where last degree was completed.