



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing

Type: Postdoctoral research fellowship linked to the research niche area of Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing. The fellowship is a two-year fixed contract subject to satisfactory annual performance. The tax-free stipend is R300 000 per annum.

Introduction:

The Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities, invites applications for a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. This fellowship is linked to ongoing projects on Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) as foundations for promoting mental health and wellbeing. The successful candidate will contribute to a flagship study on African masculinities and mental health, which foregrounds African men's voices in exploring lived experiences, preferred and utilised care pathways, and the role of indigenous systems in shaping wellbeing in contemporary South Africa. This research initiative strives to contribute towards the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly "SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being" by promoting equitable access to gender-sensitive mental health care services, and "SDG 5: Gender Equality" by challenging restrictive masculinities and fostering inclusive, gender-responsive approaches.

Minimum Requirements:

Applicants must have:

- PhD in Psychology (NQF Level 10) or a closely related discipline (awarded within the last five years).
- Demonstrated expertise in qualitative research methods and/or community-based participatory approaches.
- Evidence of scholarly engagement with Indigenous Knowledge Systems, gender studies, or mental health research.
- Strong publication record in peer-reviewed journals.
- Ability to work independently while contributing to collaborative, interdisciplinary teams.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Conduct advanced research on African masculinities and mental health, with emphasis on indigenous epistemologies and care pathways.
- Support grant proposal development and national and international collaborations.

- Support the integration of IKS frameworks into psychological theory and practice.
- Publish high-quality outputs in accredited journals and present findings at national and international conferences.
- Mentor postgraduate students working on related themes.
- Contribute to departmental seminars, workshops, and community engagement initiatives.
- Comply with research ethics, governance, and data management requirements.

Expected outputs:

During the fellowship, the successful candidate will be expected to produce:

- At least 4 accredited journal publications over the two-year fellowship.
- Several conference presentations at national and international scientific meetings.
- At least one competitive external research grant application.
- Policy briefs supporting evidence-informed health policy.
- Research reports for government and other stakeholders.
- Contributions to postgraduate student supervision and capacity development.
- Collaborative publications with the host supervisor and research team.
- Participation in multidisciplinary research projects within the Faculty and University.

CLOSING DATE: 23RD OCTOBER 2026

Please submit motivation letter clearly outlining your suitability and proposed research agenda, a detailed CV with all your names, addresses, contact details and e-mail address and include contact numbers of three (3) referees, certified copies of all qualifications including Matric / Grade 12 Certificate, academic transcripts, copies of selected recent peer-reviewed publications and a South African ID/Passport should be forwarded to Human Resources Officer, e-mail applications recruitment15@ul.ac.za

Telephonic enquiries regarding conditions of service: **Ms NA Mbatsane (Tel 015 268 2800)**

It is the applicant's responsibility to have foreign obtained qualifications evaluated by the South African qualifications Authority. Please note that failure to submit the requested documents/information will result in your application not being considered.

The University of Limpopo is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All appointments will be made in accordance with University's Employment Equity Policy. Preference: **Postdoctoral Fellowship**, will be given to Males (African & Indian) and Female (African)

Correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only. Applicants who have not been contacted within 30 days of the closing date must consider their applicants as unsuccessful.

The University reserves the right not to make an appointment.