



FACULTAD DE HISTORIA, GEOGRAFÍA Y CIENCIA POLÍTICA
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE

UC POSTDOCTORAL INTERNAL COMPETITION 2024

July 2024

BACKGROUND

Within the framework of the UC Postdoctoral Competition 2024, starting Monday, July 15, the Faculty of History, Geography, and Political Science UC opens a public competition for a postdoctoral researcher position in the themes of “Connected Worlds” (Institute of History), “Climate Change” (Institute of Geography), and “Crisis and Challenges of Democracy” (Institute of Political Science).

Objective of the Competition

Strengthen academic productivity in research in Academic Units through the incorporation of individuals with a doctoral degree, national or foreign, with a clearly defined 2-year research project. It is expected that postdoctoral researchers who are awarded this competition will apply for alternative funds before the second year, according to the national call calendar of ANID or other national or international funding sources. UC funds for the second year will be approved in any case if there is an application, and no external funds are awarded (Fondecyt-ANID or others).

Research Topics

A. Connected Worlds - Institute of History UC - Sponsoring Researcher Manuel Gárate.

The Connected Worlds research line at the Institute of History is composed of historiographical discussions and methodological forms of Global and Transnational History; History of International Relations and Connected and Circulating Histories. Over the last decade, it has become a relevant line by uncovering the simultaneity of historical phenomena and connections beyond explanations centered on simple north/south influence. In this sense, historiography has become increasingly interested in these links and networks of people, goods, and ideas that have traveled the world and are now analyzed from a less centralized perspective. In our continent, the Connected Worlds line has recently been influenced by the gradual opening of official archives, the development of Present Time History, and the contributions of global history.

B. Climate Change - Institute of Geography UC - Sponsoring Researcher Fabrice Lambert.

The effects of past, present, and future Climate Change are of paramount importance for South America because of the alteration of hydrological cycles, monsoons, changes in the cryosphere, deepening water scarcity, ecosystem changes, and various socio-natural risks. Present and future climate change poses a great danger to key ecosystems such as the Amazon, as well as to biodiversity, food, and water security on the continent. Simultaneously, the study of paleoclimatic changes on the continent is key to a better understanding of present and future changes. Earth System Models are key to interpreting empirical paleoclimatic reconstructions as well as studying climate change and its effects and feedbacks in various components of the critical zone. However,



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standard configuration Earth System Models have insufficient spatial resolution to study paleoclimatic processes and feedbacks in detail.

The “Community Earth System Model” CESM 2.1.3 is installed at the National High Performance Computing Laboratory (www.nlhpc.cl) in Santiago, Chile. This model allows for a variable-resolution VR-CESM configuration in which a region of the world can be simulated at a high spatial resolution, while the rest of the world is simulated at standard resolution. We are looking for a postdoctoral researcher with experience in computational clusters and climate models, ideally the CESM. The initial task is to install and validate the VR-CESM at the NLHPC. The region to be simulated at high resolution is the South American continent. The scientific study can be in the paleoclimatic, modern, or future realm, depending on the candidate’s specialization and interests.

C. Crisis and Challenges of Democracy - Institute of Political Science UC - Sponsoring Researcher Nicole Jenne.

Democratic systems are increasingly challenged by both exogenous and endogenous forces, as recent research demonstrates. On one hand, a growing number of actors seek to win elections and political power, looking to impose ideas that directly or indirectly erode liberal democracy from within. On the other hand, global forces promoting doctrines and practices that undermine the liberal international order have proliferated, making it more difficult than ever to address transnational issues such as climate change, world peace, and migration through multilateral cooperation.

We are seeking postdoctoral researchers interested in addressing the national and international causes and consequences of the crisis and challenges facing democracy. We are open to a plurality of empirical, methodological, and theoretical perspectives, and to expertise on any country or region of the world.

REQUIREMENTS

Formal Requirements

- Postdoctoral researchers must have doctoral degrees. The Doctorate must not be older than 3 years from the start date of the UC competition (from September 2nd 2021 until September 2nd 2024). For female applicants who had children in the last three years, an additional year may be counted for each child.
- The Specific Project Requirements are detailed below.

Application Documents and Procedures

All documents must be sent no later than August 15. Please complete the following [form](#).

The documents to be submitted for the application are:

- Updated CV
- Degree certificate
- Letter of intent including at least these three points: a) why you are interested in applying for a postdoctoral competition at the Institute, b) how you will develop research that contributes to the proposed theme, and c) what you will contribute to the Institute beyond the execution of the research (2,000 words maximum)



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- Description of the research proposal (maximum of 3,000 words) including:
 - Description of theoretical-conceptual foundations
 - State of the art
 - Research question/hypothesis
 - Objectives
 - Methodology
 - Work plan or Gantt chart
 - Scientific novelty of the proposal
- Justification of requested resources: Equipment, Operating Expenses (travel, conferences), and Furniture: maximum amount to request \$4.5MM; Installation Expenses: maximum amount to request MM \$2.5.

BENEFITS

- Postdoctoral Researcher Honorarium: 26MM\$ annually for a maximum period of two years.
- Installation funding: MM\$2.5 (1st year)
- Equipment and Investment: MM\$4.5 (once at the start of the project).
- Academic appointment generated by the Institute

DATES

- Application deadline: August 15, 2024
- Interviews with pre-selected applicants: August 16-26, 2024
- Decision: September 12, 2024
- Project start: October 2024

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More información [here](#)