

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Faculty of Arts and Humanities is seeking to fill a **four-year full-time (100%)** vacancy in the Department of Archaeology for a **Doctoral Grant in the area of Zooarchaeology**

The PhD project aims to study the Mesolithic people of Belgium. The researcher is expected to study the animal remains from the open air and burial sites to:

1. Reconstruct the animal protein component of the Mesolithic diet
2. Provide humanly modified animal material to obtain radiocarbon dates in the absence of human material;
3. Provide reference data for both the isotope and proteome library. These questions will be examined using human skeleton and dental evidence.

The faunal remains from the sites will be recorded for species, fragmentation, preservation, evidence for cooking, butchery evidence, pathology and sex. Species determination will be conducted by comparison with reference collections at the Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences, Scladina archaeological centre and Ramioul Prehistomuseum and supplemented with ZooMS for those remains that cannot be species-determined visually, such as small undiagnostic waste fragments and worked tools. Also, a selection of species-determined animal bones will be used for isotope analysis and reference library for proteomics and isotopes in order to reconstruct the animal diet and local environment.

Job description

- You prepare a doctoral thesis in the field of zooarchaeology.
- You publish scientific articles related to the research project of the assignment.
- You contribute to teaching and research in the Department of Archaeology.

Profile and requirements

- You hold a master's degree in Zooarchaeology or Osteoarchaeology, or a related field.
- You have excellent written and oral communication skills in English. Knowledge of French and/or Dutch recommended.
- You are an expert in skeletal and dental analysis of zooarchaeological remains and have a strong motivation to develop further quantitative skills in this field.
- You can submit outstanding academic results.
- Foreign candidates are encouraged to apply.
- You are able to work independently and take initiative, yet you are also a team player.
- Some experience with computational data analysis, statistics, and programming (e.g., R, SPSS) and strong motivation to acquire further skills in these fields.

We offer

- a doctoral scholarship for a period of four years.
- the start date of scholarship will be between January 1st and February 1st 2022;
- The scholarship varies according to the researcher's familial situation. The monthly allowance of a mandate holder at UGent amounts to €2,150 on average.
- a dynamic and stimulating work environment.
- More information about working at UGent: <https://www.ugent.be/en/work>

How to apply?

Applications may be sent to Isabelle.degroote@ugent.be until the closing date **20 October 2021**.

Application files

- **Cover Letter.** The cover letter should include your contact address and telephone number. It is an opportunity in not more than one page to introduce yourself and highlight the key reasons you should be considered for the role, taking into account the required skills.
- **Resume or Curriculum Vitae.** A resume is a brief history of no more than three pages of your employment and experience that covers the following areas:
 - Educational qualifications and professional affiliations that detail the full title of the qualification, the year awarded and the title of the institution attended;
 - Employment history in chronological order, starting with current position and specifying dates of employment, title of each position, name of employer, main duties or accountabilities and achievements;
 - Research fields and current interests, publications, research grants awarded.
 - The names and contact details (address, telephone, e-mail) of three referees, including if possible a senior person (preferably your supervisor, manager or head of organisational unit) closely associated with your current work. A referee must be able to comment on your work experience, skills and performance with respect to the selection criteria.
- **Selection Criteria.** A statement of no more than two pages addressing how each of the selection criteria has been met is required to assist the Selection Committee determine whether you have the relevant qualifications, knowledge/skills, experience and personal qualities.

The interviews of the candidates, preselected by a selection panel, will take place in early November either in person or online.

For further questions about the profile and the description of duties, please contact Prof Isabelle De Groote (Isabelle.degroote@ugent.be)