



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

## One Doctoral Researcher Position in Japanese Literature

The “*Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguard and Non-Western Literary Modernities*” (NONWESTLIT) Project, funded by the European Research Council, will hire one **fully funded doctoral researcher with living allowance in 19<sup>th</sup> century Japanese literature and culture**. The fellowship duration is three years with a possibility of extension. The start date is November 2024.

The project is a comparative study of cultural reforms, linguistic renewal and literary renaissance movements in three imperial traditions, Russia, Turkey and Japan. The project is hosted by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (LILEC) at the University of Bologna (Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna).

### Doctoral Position

The financing body: the European Research Council for the project StG 950513 NONWESTLIT, “*Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguard and Non-Western Literary Modernities*”

#### The student profile:

- MA in Literary Studies, Japanese Studies or a related field in literary or cultural studies.
- Languages: excellent command of English and Japanese (preferably, native or near-native Japanese fluency) is required, familiarity with 19th century Japanese orthography a plus. The interview will be mainly in English, the level of knowledge of Japanese will also be assessed. Knowledge of Italian is not required for applying for the position, but the candidate is expected to develop their skills in Italian in the first year.
- Research Theme: The ERC project is a comparative study of cultural reforms, linguistic renewal and literary renaissance movements in three imperial traditions, Russia, Ottoman Turkey and Japan. The candidate is expected to work on the nineteenth century literature and culture in Japan in a comparative perspective within the scope of the research project. They will have co-responsibility in the collection of data and their analysis, and in research administration. For their applications, they will produce an original proposal that falls within the scope of the project. The proposal may focus on one of the following: 19<sup>th</sup> century Japanese periodicals and print culture, 19<sup>th</sup> century Japanese fiction, questions of translation in the same period in Japan.

Please see [the open call](#) and [the project website](#) for more details. The deadline for applications is June 17, 2024 at 11:59 PM. For enquiries, please contact the PI, Assoc. Prof. Dolcerocca via email: [ozen.dolcerocca@unibo.it](mailto:ozen.dolcerocca@unibo.it). Please follow the UniBo the doctoral call website for the dates of the admissions exams. You will not receive an email notification for the interview dates. Interviews will start on 03/07/2024 – 9.30 a.m. CEST. Candidates who will join online are required to indicate it at the bottom of the Personal Statement.




## PHD PROGRAMME TABLE 40TH CYCLE

PROGRAMME'S NAME	<b>MODERN LANGUAGES LITERATURES CULTURES: Diversity and Inclusion</b>
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2024 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	Curriculum 1: Italian, French, English Curriculum 2: Italian, English, Spanish Curriculum 3: Italian, French, Japanese, English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, German Curriculum 4: Italian, Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, English, Dutch, Spanish, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, German <i>For all the curricula, for non-Italian applicants, an Italian language proficiency level of at least CEFR B2 is required.</i>
COORDINATOR	Prof. Serena Baiesi ( <a href="mailto:serena.baiesi@unibo.it">serena.baiesi@unibo.it</a> )
CURRICULA	1. DESE – Les Littératures de l'Europe Unie / European Literatures / Letterature dell'Europa unita 2. EDGES – Women and Gender Studies 3. WORLT LITerature and Postcolonial Studies 4. LINGMOD - Modern Languages Studies
PhD POSITIONS	8
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination

### Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Curriculum	Positions linked to research topics
1	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	DESE	
2	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	EDGES	
3	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	LINGMOD	
4	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	WORLDLIT	
5	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	EDGES	
6	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by Regione Emilia-Romagna in the framework of the research training projects "Territorio: Transizione tecnologica, culturale, economica e sociale verso la	LINGMOD	Cultural and natural heritage between local and global: texts, contexts, and discourses. New strategies for

		sostenibilità” (PR. FSE + 2021/2027 – DGR n. 225 del 12/02/2024) - CUP J33C24000280006 		the valorization of regional artistic and cultural heritage
7	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures with funds made available by the project ERC Horizon -2020 - “Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguard and Non-Western Literary Modernities” - NONWESTLIT Grant Agreement Number 950513 – Ref. Prof. Dolcerocca - CUP J35F21000820006 ( <u>more information on this PhD position’s specific requirements is to be found in the “Research Fields” section, at the end of this document</u> )	WORLDLIT	Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguard and Non-Western Literary Modernities: Russian Literature of the Nineteenth Century
8	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures with funds made available by the project ERC Horizon -2020 - “Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguard and Non-Western Literary Modernities” - NONWESTLIT Grant Agreement Number 950513 – Ref. Prof. Dolcerocca - CUP J35F21000820006 ( <u>more information on this PhD position’s specific requirements is to be found in the “Research Fields” section, at the end of this document</u> )	WORLDLIT	Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguard and Non-Western Literary Modernities: Japanese Literature of the Nineteenth Century

The number of positions and scholarships may be incremented in case additional funding becomes available, notwithstanding the terms of the application process in the Call. Any amendment, update or integration of the Programme Table will be published on the University website, even after the Call for applications has expired. Any further PhD positions shall be integrated in the PhD Programme Table within ten days before the oral examination.

All PhD positions winners shall fulfill the learning and research obligations decided by the Academic Board and the obligations foreseen in the relevant regulations, funding schemes and eventual agreements, and in the Call for Applications.

## Admission Exams

	DATE AND TIME	RESULTS
<b>Qualifications and research proposal evaluation</b>	Applicants’ participation is not required	Available from <b>26/06/2024</b>
<b>Oral examination</b>	<b>Date:</b> starting from <b>03/07/2024 – 9.30 a.m. CEST</b> <b>Place:</b> In presence, Sala Giunta, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, Via Cartoleria 5, Bologna. Remotely, using Microsoft Teams. <b>Candidates who need to take the oral examination remotely are required to indicate it at the bottom of the Personal Statement.</b>	Available from <b>12/07/2024</b>

The results of the qualifications and research proposal evaluation shall be available on the webpage [Studenti Online](#) (select “summary of the requests in progress” > “see detail” and open the .pdf file at the bottom of the page) together with the oral examination detailed schedule. **No personal written communication will be sent to applicants concerning the examinations results.**

During the oral examination, applicants may express their interest in one or more positions linked to specific research topics.

## Required and Supporting Documents to be attached to the application

All the documents listed below **shall be drawn up in English or in Italian**. In case of documents originally issued in any other language (e.g. identity document, qualifications), an official translation is required.

Only qualifications obtained **during the last 5 calendar years** shall be taken into consideration, except for the University Degree. The Admission Board will assess the relevance of the supporting documents to the PhD Programme.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	
<b>Identity document</b>	Valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)
<b>Curriculum Vitae</b>	No specific CV format is required
<b>Degrees</b>	Documents attesting the awarding of the first and second cycle degrees, the exams taken and the marks obtained (see Art. 3 of the Call for Applications)
<b>Research proposal</b>	<p>Multi-annual research proposal, with special emphasis on the <b>activities to be completed during the first-year course</b>. The proposal must meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- it must mention <b>on the cover page the Curriculum and/or the topic-specific position</b> the applicant is interested in and that the research proposal encompasses (<u>if the applicant does not mention the preferred Curriculum on the research proposal's cover page or in the admission form on Studenti Online, her/him research proposal will not be evaluated</u>). The main research topics as well as the language requirements specific to each Curriculum can be found in the 'Overview' tab on <a href="#">the page of the University website dedicated to the PhD programme</a>: all candidates are invited to read it in order to submit a research project in line with these topics;</li> <li>- <b>it cannot exceed 20,000 characters</b>, including spaces and formula possibly used. This figure does not include: the title of proposal, the outline, references and images (such as graphs, diagrams, tables, etc. - if present);</li> <li>- <b>it must include</b>: the state of the art; description of the proposal; expected results; articulation of the proposal and implementation times; outlining of the criteria meant to be used to assess the research results; references.</li> </ul>
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
<b>Reference letter/s</b>	<b>No more than 2 reference letters</b> signed by Italian or international academics and professionals in the research field, which do not form part of the Admission Board, attesting the suitability of the applicant and his/her interest in the scientific research. Letters shall be uploaded following the procedure detailed in the Call for Applications (Art. 3.2)
<b>Personal Statement</b>	The statement shall include the reasons prompting the applicant to attend the PhD Programme and <b>those relevant experiences and research interests</b> , that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD Programme (3,000 characters maximum, including spaces).
<b>Publications</b>	Lists of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals), minor publications (conference papers, etc.), abstracts and posters presented during national and international conferences, etc.
<b>Other documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Postgraduate vocational training programmes relevant to the PhD Programme main research topics</li> <li>- Teaching activities carried out at university level</li> <li>- Research activity of any kind - whether basic, applied, translational, etc. - carried out in any capacity, including when covered by research grants, and as a staff member of research projects</li> <li>- Work activity</li> <li>- Curricular or non-curricular professional internships</li> <li>- Documents attesting the applicant's foreign languages proficiency</li> <li>- Periods of study abroad, completed by applicants outside their countries of origin (e.g. Erasmus programme or other similar mobility programmes)</li> <li>- Other qualifications attesting the suitability of the applicants (scholarships, prizes, etc.)</li> </ul>

## Evaluation criteria\*

Scores will be expressed in points out of 100, as follows.

### 1. Qualifications and research proposal evaluation

Minimum score for admission to the oral examination: 30 points, Maximum score: 50 points

<b>Qualifications evaluation</b>	Second cycle (Master's) degree final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated according to the Weighted Average Mark (WAM) and the First cycle (Bachelor's) degree final mark	10 points max
	Publications	5 points max
	Personal statement	3 points max
	Reference letter/s	3 points max
	Other evaluable documents	5 points max
<b>Research proposal evaluation</b>	Scientific value and ground-breaking nature of the proposal	12 points max
	Structure of the proposal	6 points max
	Proposal feasibility	6 points max

### 2. Oral examination

Minimum score for eligibility: 30 points, Maximum score 50 points

Foreign language proficiency	10 points max
Research proposal presentation	10 points max
Theoretic and methodological knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions, suitability of the applicant for scientific research	30 points max

Oral examination aims to assess the suitability of the applicant for scientific research as well as the general knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions.

**During the oral examination the Admission Board shall assess the applicants' language proficiency in the chosen languages and/or in the languages required by each Curriculum. The oral examination is carried out in Italian and in the language/s peculiar to each Curriculum.**

**More information on the specific topics and on the language requirements linked to each Curriculum is to be found in the tab "Overview" on the [PhD programme's Unibo webpage](#).**

\* Possible further evaluation criteria will be available on the [University website](#), selecting the relevant PhD Programme > "More information".

## Research Fields

**PhD positions n. 7 and n. 8 – PhD scholarship funded by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures with funds made available by the project ERC Horizon -2020 - "Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguards and Non-Western Literary Modernities" - NONWESTLIT Grant Agreement Number 950513 – Ref. Prof. Dolcerocca - CUP J35F21000820006**

The ERC project is a comparative study of cultural reforms, linguistic renewal and literary renaissance movements in three imperial traditions, Russia, Ottoman Turkey and Japan. The candidate is expected to work on the nineteenth century literature and culture in Russia for scholarship 7 and in Japan for scholarship 8 in a comparative perspective within the scope of the research project. They will have co-responsibility in the data acquisition, data analysis and research management.

The ideal applicant for scholarship 7 holds an MA degree in Literary Studies, Russian or Slavic Studies or a related field. The ideal applicant for scholarship 8 holds an MA degree in Literary Studies, Japanese Literature and Culture or a related field.

NB: Applicants interested in these positions must explicitly indicate on the cover page of the submitted research proposal "ERC project NONWESTLIT" - within the curriculum 3 World Literature - and the relevant research topic as indicated in the table "Available Positions and Scholarships".

### Language requirements

For scholarship 7, excellent command of English and Russian (preferably, native or near-native Russian fluency) is required. The interview will be mainly in English, the level of knowledge of Russian will also be assessed.

For scholarship 8, excellent command of English and Japanese (preferably, native or near-native Japanese fluency) is required, familiarity with Meiji Kanbun is a plus. The interview will be mainly in English, the level of knowledge of Japanese will also be assessed. Knowledge of Italian is a plus. Accepted students who do not know Italian should get a certificate of level B2 by the end of their first year.