

Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society

Post-Doc position for the Future of Cinema and the Audiovisual Arts, Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society at USI Università della Svizzera italiana

Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) is a young and lively university, a hub of opportunity open to the world where students are offered a quality interdisciplinary education in which they can be fully engaged and take center stage, and where our researchers can count on having the space to freely pursue their initiative.

Established in 1996, USI is in constant evolution, always taking on new challenges while remaining true to its three guiding principles: quality, openness and responsibility.

The Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society is among the few to offer an all-round education in communication, with a fully interdisciplinary approach. It aims to promote communication expertise in five major professional contexts: media, business, public institutions, education, and information technology. A remarkable array of research is conducted by the Faculty through its institutes and research laboratories, in areas pertaining to linguistics, education, media, health communication, psychology, information technologies and corporate communication.

The Faculty invites applications for a full-time research and teaching Postdoc position linked to the Chair entitled The Future of Cinema and the Audiovisual Arts.

The project

The project initiates the research and curricular development for the future of cinema and the audiovisual arts at USI, in partnership with the Locarno Film Festival. The scope of the project includes the formulation of keystone research propositions and curricular offerings at USI and participation in the programme initiatives of the Locarno Film Festival.

The Postdoc Position

The Postdoc candidate will work under the scientific supervision of Prof. Kevin B. Lee ([link](#)). The successful candidate will be offered the possibility to work in a dynamic research team and in a multidisciplinary and international scientific environment.

The Postdoc candidate will contribute to the development of the Faculty research agenda.

Tasks encompass both research and teaching responsibilities. The successful candidate will have shared responsibilities in the design and conduct of research projects in the field of film festivals and the future of the cinema.

On the teaching side, he/she will teach in courses at bachelor and/or master level, and provide assistance to Prof. Lee in his duties at the USI Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society and the Locarno Film Festival.

The Postdoc candidate is expected to present papers at scientific conferences and produce publications in high-ranked journals. Publishing in multi-modal formats such as video essays, podcasts or other forms of audiovisual media is encouraged.

Candidates' profile

Ideal candidates should satisfy the following requirements:

- A PhD in the area of film studies, or related disciplines.
- High personal interest in film and media, especially with regards to film festivals, cinema culture and industry, as well as emerging film aesthetics and technology.
- Technical proficiency in, or ability to support, audiovisual media production and post-production.
- Excellent command of English, both written and spoken.
- Good oral and writing skills in one (or more) national Swiss languages (German, French, Italian, Romansh). Fluency in Italian is initially a plus, but required within the third year.
- A strong desire for research and publishing at top venues, especially in multimodal formats such as audiovisual media.
- Ability to work independently and to plan and direct own work.
- Ability to work in team and autonomy in scheduling research steps. Interest for teaching and tutoring students and availability to collaborate with colleagues (engage in scientific dialogue, listen and think critically) are required.

Residence and general terms

The workplace is USI - Università della Svizzera italiana, located in Lugano, Switzerland. The postdoc should take residence in Ticino (Italian-speaking part of Switzerland). Availability to travel to other parts of Switzerland and abroad (for purposes of collaboration and research) is required.

Starting date is 1 January 2022 (*at the earliest*). However, the position will be kept open until a suitable candidate has been found.

The Application

Applications should contain: (1) a letter in which the applicants describe their research interests and the motivation to apply, (2) a complete CV, (3) copies of relevant diplomas, certificates as well as the full transcript of records, (4) a complete list of publications with details on the candidate's contributions, (5) minimum 2 and up to 4 reference letters.

Please send your application in electronic form or requests for further information to kevin.b.lee@usi.ch.

Applications received before November 30, 2021, will be given priority. However, applications will be received until the position is filled.

As an institution that values diversity, USI particularly encourages applications from women and from all individuals from underrepresented groups.

Lugano, October 21, 2021