Institute of Media and Journalism

PostDoc position at the Institute of Media and Journalism, 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 Institute of Media and Journalism (IMeG) carries out research in the areas of media economics, media history, media culture and society and journalism studies. IMeG undertakes research and teaching into mediated communication in contemporary societies. The Institutes host two observatories: the European Journalism Observatory and the China Media Observatory. Furthermore, the Institute offers a Master in Media Management and has recently led the overhaul of the Bachelor program in Communication Sciences.

The Institute invites applications for a 75% per annum pro rata research and teaching PostDoc position (available for two years, subject to a positive evaluation at the end of year one).

The PostDoc Position

The PostDoc candidate will work under the scientific supervision of Prof. Gabriele Balbi (http://usi.to/cyi). 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 assist in the development of the Institute’s research agenda.

The job description encompass both research and teaching responsibilities. The successful candidate will have shared responsibilities in the design and implementation of research projects in the fields of media and journalism studies. The Institute plans to submit research projects to funding institutions in one or more of the following areas: media history, digital journalism, digital cultures and climate change communications. Therefore, expertise in one or more of these fields is important as well as qualitative and/or quantitative methods experience.

The successful candidate will prepare and teach courses at both the Bachelor and Master level, including supervising dissertation students. Specifically, the candidate will teach a Bachelor-level course of 6 ECTS (56 hours of lectures) in the field of Sociology of Communications (in Italian) from Spring 2023.
The successful PostDoc candidate is expected to present papers at scientific conferences and produce publications in high-impact journals.

Candidates’ profile
Ideal candidates should satisfy the following requirements:

• A PhD in media or communication studies, or related disciplines.
• High personal interest in collaborative work in both teaching and research.
• Expertise in the field of media and journalism studies. The Institute particularly welcomes candidates in one or more of the following areas: media history, digital journalism, digital cultures and climate change communications.
• Skills in qualitative and/or quantitative methods are desirable.
• Excellent command of English and Italian, both written and spoken.
• A strong desire for research and publishing at high-level conferences.
• Ability to work independently and to plan and direct one’s own work.
• Ability to work in a 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.

General terms
The workplace is USI Università della Svizzera italiana, located in Lugano, Switzerland. Availability to travel to other parts of Switzerland and abroad (for purposes of research work) is required.

The starting date for this position is from September 1st 2022. 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) two reference letters, (6) the candidate’s three strongest publications, (7) a short description of no more than 300 words for a course entitled “Sociology of Communication” to be taught in Italian from Spring 2023.

Please send your application in electronic form or requests for further information to Prof. Gabriele Balbi (gabriele.balbi@usi.ch)

Applications received before April 25th 2022, will be given priority. However, applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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

Lugano, March 9th 2022