

Research Internships with the project

The Northern Low Countries in the Tenth and Eleventh Centuries

Research Internships of 15 ECTS are available in Medieval History, from 2020-21 block 4 until 2022-23 block 3, for Research MA students, at Utrecht University.

What is the project?

In the Summer of 2023, the Dutch National Museum of Antiquities (Rijksmuseum van Oudheden – RMO) in Leiden will organise an exhibition about the northern Low Countries in the tenth and eleventh centuries. Exhibits from the present-day Netherlands, the Rhineland, and the region of Liège will be on show for the general public.

As part of the preparations, the organisers have asked Marco Mostert for assistance with a survey of the written sources of this area. A provisional list of sources either written in the area under consideration or providing information on the (extended) northern Low Countries between 900 and 1100 has been drawn up. The list includes historiographical and hagiographical texts and charters. Lists of inscriptions and coins will be added at a later stage, as will be a list of manuscripts that were kept in the region in 900-1100.

The exhibition will be mainly concerned with archaeological remains and objects from church treasuries. The written sources may provide extra information about material culture, the built environment, clothing and jewellery, natural phenomena, climate and the weather, and land reclamation. Information on how the inhabitants of the regions thought about themselves and others will also be interesting.

The aim of the research internships is to make an inventory of the information to be found in the written sources about the topics mentioned above and make translations into Dutch or English.

Daily supervisor

You will work under the supervision of Marco Mostert (m.mostert@uu.nl). There will be regular meetings of the supervisor with the students currently working on the project. We will also keep in touch with Annemarieke Willemsen, curator of medieval collections at the RMO.

Number of internships

The number of internships is not set in advance. The edited written sources could be dealt with by three to six students. In addition, there will be up to three internships dedicated to the study of manuscripts, (if possible) coins, and place names respectively. In addition, there will be further internships on offer at the RMO; these will be advertised separately.

What does the research entail?

You will produce extracts from a selection of written sources on the topics mentioned. To this end, you will mainly make use of editions, all of which can be found in university libraries. If you will undertake research on manuscripts, you will need to inspect them in the libraries where they are now kept. Coins will be studied using the collection in the Nationale Numismatische Collectie (De Nederlandse Bank). If you will be dealing with named settlements, you will be asked to make maps (using GIS). In addition, you will write a final report on the research you have done.

Requirements

A number of written sources is available in translation. Most of them, however, are available in Latin only. This means that for most of the internships solid knowledge of Latin is required. The scholarly literature on the sources is written in Dutch, German, French and English. Some working knowledge of German and French is therefore required. In case you will be working with place names, you must be willing to acquire some experience with GIS as part of your internship.

When Can I Start?

You can start from block 4 of 2020-21 onwards. The project ends at the end of block 3 of 2022-23. To earn 15 ECTS, you will need to put in approximately 420 hours. Working hours are flexible; your presence at the project meetings, however, is required.

Information

For further information, contact Marco Mostert (m.mostert@uu.nl).