



Huygens ING researches texts and sources from the past with the aid of new methods and techniques. The Institute champions innovation in research methodology, as well as a better comprehension of Dutch culture and history among a broad public.

At Huygens ING, the main focus is on giving access to historical sources and on the development of digital tools to do so: new technology to give access to history. Huygens ING has researcher groups in the field of history, history of science, literary history and digital tool development.

In the framework of the NWO-Free Competition project *The Art of Reasoning: Techniques of Scientific Argumentation in the Medieval Latin West (400-1400)*, Huygens ING has a vacancy for

a Postdoctoral Researcher ‘Techniques of Scientific Argumentation in the Period of the Universities (c 1150 – c 1400)’

38 hours a week (1.0 fte)

The Project

The Project *The Art of Reasoning* focuses on understanding medieval intellectual life through the lens of marginal annotations in manuscripts. It aims to reflect on practices of critical reflection on texts and a dialectical engagement with them over the entire length of the Middle Ages, in order to reassess supposed innovations of the twelfth century and the milieu of the first universities. It seeks to research practices of annotating books, a material which is now slowly coming into view because of the digitization of large numbers of manuscripts. The Project is linked to two subprojects:

- Science before the Universities (c 400 – c 1150), Dr. I. van Renswoude (Postdoctoral Researcher).
- Towards a New History of Scientific Reasoning, Prof.dr. M.J. Teeuwen (Senior Researcher).

The full text of the proposal can be found at: <https://www.huygens.knaw.nl/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/ArtofReasoningJune2016.pdf>

Aim- and Job description

The Subproject ‘Techniques of Scientific Argumentation in the Period of the Universities’ aims to map and analyze techniques of argumentation in the margins of a core body of authoritative texts on rhetoric and dialectic by Aristotle, Cicero, Boethius, Augustine: the state of the art on reasoning and arguing. Furthermore, it will follow the footsteps of influential individual scholars of the period (c. 1150 – c. 1400) in order to assess how these scholars were, on the one hand, rooted in older scientific practices, and, on the other, how they may have changed it or left their imprint. The postdoctoral researcher will thus:

- bring together a corpus of annotated manuscripts of rhetorical and dialectical texts from the relevant period;
- carefully describe and reconstruct working processes of influential scholars of the relevant period;
- participate in expert meetings and conferences
- produce at least three articles for A-rated journals;
- co-organize and contribute to the international concluding conference of the research team, and assist in preparing its proceedings;
- assist in teaching activities;
- create an online manuscript exhibition to ensure the public outreach of the project.

The research team consists of Prof. dr. M.J. Teeuwen, Dr. I. van Renswoude and IT specialists of Huygens ING, who will support the setting up of a database system and the online exhibitions.





Position requirements

We are looking for a candidate who is both knowledgeable and passionate about the world of the medieval manuscript and intellectual history of the period. Our requirements are:

- a PhD in Medieval Studies, Medieval Latin, Manuscript Studies or a related field of research;
- expertise in the field of medieval Latin, manuscript studies, palaeography and codicology of the relevant period;
- excellent skills in English (both writing and speaking);
- good (reading) skills in German and French;
- a record of international publications and lectures in the relevant field;
- an interest in creating digital tools for research;
- an interest in reaching out to a wider public;
- the willingness to participate in teaching activities of the Medieval Studies program of the University of Utrecht and the National Research School in Medieval Studies;
- the capacity to work creatively and independently;
- the ability to work in a team, to share results and collaborate.

Location

The project is housed at Huygens ING, a research institute of the Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences (Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen, KNAW). At present, the Institute is housed in The Hague in the building of the Royal Library and the National Archive, but in September 2016, it will move to Amsterdam, where it will be housed at the 'Spinhuis', Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185, right in the centre of Amsterdam.

Appointment and Salary

We offer a fixed-term position as Postdoctoral Researcher for a period of 36 months full time (with an evaluation after 6 months), starting between 1 October 2016 and 1 January 2017, and ending between 30 September 2019 and 31 December 2019. Salary ranges from € 3,400 (first year) to € 3,642 (last year) gross per month (scale 11, Collective Agreement for Dutch Universities). Huygens ING offers an attractive benefits package with additional holiday (8%) and end-of-year bonuses (8.3%), training and career development. Our individual choices model gives you some freedom to assemble your own set of terms and conditions.

Applicants must have the right to work in the Netherlands for the duration of the contract.

Information

For further specific information about the position you can contact Prof. dr. M.J. Teeuwen, Mariken.Teeuwen@huygens.knaw.nl, or Dr. I. van Renswoude, irene.van.Renswoude@huygens.knaw.nl. For general information about the position of Postdoctoral researcher, you may contact the HR department, sollicitaties@huygens.knaw.nl.





Applications

Please send us your application before **13 August 2016** directed to Huygens ING at sollicitaties@huygens.knaw.nl, attn. Pamela Langerak, HR.

Your application should include:

1. a cover letter explaining why you are interested in the position;
2. a full curriculum vitae;
3. the names and email addresses of two referees;
4. your dissertation and/or relevant publications*;
5. a 1000-1500 word essay, in which you reflect on the project and deliberate how you would proceed.

* The publication(s) are to be sent by regular mail to Mariken Teeuwen, Huygens ING, P.O. Box 90754, 2509 LT Den Haag, Netherlands.

Interviews are scheduled on **25 and 26 August 2016**.

Any acquisition further to this advertisement will not be appreciated.

