



Call for Applications: PhD Scholarships
Memory, History, and the Production of National Culture in Africa
Application Deadlines: 26th September 2026

Scholarship Title

PhD in African and Diaspora Studies

Scholarship Overview

- Funder: Cluster of Excellence EXC 2052 Africa Multiple
- Number of scholarships available: 1(one), as one of 3 (three) scholarships tenable at the Institute of African and Diaspora Studies, University of Lagos, Nigeria; Department of Literature, Linguistics, Foreign Languages and Film Studies, Moi University, Kenya; and the Centro de Estudos Afro-Orientais, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil.
- Duration of funding: 48 months.
- Expected commencement date: 2025/2026 Academic Session

About the Project

The Africa Multiple Research Centre of Excellence invites application for three fully funded doctoral scholarships within the project: *Memory, History, and the Production of National Culture in Africa* funded by the Cluster of Excellence EXC 2052 Africa Multiple. The three scholarships are domiciled at the Lagos AMRC, Institute of African and Diaspora Studies, University of Lagos; MU AMRC at Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya, and Centro de Estudos Afro-Orientais [Center for Afro-Oriental Studies] at Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA), Salvador, Brazil. This call is for the PhD scholarship in Lagos AMRC, University of Lagos. The project critically examines the practices, institutions, sites, and processes through which memories are produced, circulated, and institutionalized, and how these memory formations contribute to the consolidation or disruption of national, subnational and transnational narratives and identities. The sites of empirical research are Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Ghana, with transnationality as the main entry point.

The Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence is a major collaborative and transcontinental research institution in the field of African Studies. It is comprised of five Africa Multiple Research Centres (AMRCs), based at the University of Bayreuth, Germany; Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya; Rhodes University, Makhanda, South Africa; Joseph Ki-Zerbo University, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; University of Lagos, Nigeria.

This project, co-led by Abisoye Eleshin of University of Lagos, Tom Mboya of Moi University, and Fábio Baqueiro Figueiredo of Universidade Federal da Bahia, investigates the mobilization of memory in the construction, negotiation, and contestation of the nation in Africa. It conceives the nation as a contradictory, constantly in-the-making product of several conflicting agencies, stressing the net of relationships that conform national cultural institutions and practices, and the way citizens and non-citizens relate to them.

Research Areas

The successful applicant will research aspects of, or subjects very closely related to, *Memory, history, and the production of national culture in Africa*. They will also be required to actively participate in the activities of the project and of the Africa Multiple Research Centre at the IADS, University of Lagos.

Scholarship Coverage

The scholarship covers:

- Full tuition fees
- Monthly stipend
- Fieldwork and Research expenses
- Support for conference and workshop attendance
- A month stay at the BIGSAS, University of Bayreuth

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be **female** and should possess:

- A completed master's degree in African Studies, History, Anthropology, Sociology, African Languages and Linguistics, and other relevant fields.
- Excellent written and spoken English
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively within an international interdisciplinary research team
- Willingness to undertake extended fieldwork

Application Requirements

- Application letter
- A motivation letter explaining the candidate's interest in the broad areas that the research project is interested in (max. 1 page)
- PhD proposal (1,500 – 2,000 words)
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) including academic qualifications and publications (if any)
- Certified copies of academic transcripts and certificates
- Two academic referees with contact details

Application Procedure

- Send application documents, compiled into one pdf, to Abisoye Ademola Eleshin, aeleshin@unilag.edu.ng and copy Tom Michael Mboya, tommichaelmboya@gmail.com and Fábio Baqueiro Figueiredo, fbaqueiro@ufba.br
- Email Subject: PhD Scholarship