

**PANGeA**

PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S NEXT GENERATION OF ACADEMICS

LISA MASKELL / PANGeA CALL FOR DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2027

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Stellenbosch University, in partnership with the Gerda Henkel Foundation, is pleased to announce a limited number of full-time scholarships for PhD studies.

Doctoral scholarships are available for **research projects** in primarily the *historical humanities*, in particular to support research projects in the following fields:

- History
- Historical Islamic Studies
- Art History
- History of Law
- Prehistory and Early History
- History of Science

Research topics from areas such as cultural studies, political science, and social sciences that explore current issues in a larger historical context or intentionally focus on topics of relevance to the present or the future, such as forced migration, or democracy, are also eligible for support.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applicants from African countries. Priority will be given to qualifying candidates from PANGeA partner institutions. (<https://www.su.ac.za/en/faculties/arts/graduate-school/pangea/governance-board>).
- Applicants should have obtained **70%** in the final year of their previously completed degree.
- Applicants are expected to provide a sample of their writing with their application:
 - MA thesis for PhD applicants (extract).
 - Any published academic articles related to your application.
- At the date of application, applicants must not be older than **40** to apply for a PhD scholarship.
- Applicants must be able to commence **studies in February 2027**.
- Applicants must **apply** to study at Stellenbosch University in addition to this scholarship application. Apply to the university at this link: [Signup](#).
- Applicants are required to contact the department in which they intend to study, and to obtain a letter of support indicating that there is supervisory capacity for their research project. This letter of recommendation must be submitted as part of this application. [Our departments and centres | Stellenbosch University](#).
- Applicants from institutions within the PANGeA network, must obtain a nomination letter from their institution and submit the letter as part of this application.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

- An existing record of publications;
- Awards or grants received;
- Relevant professional or artistic experience;
- The ability to use any language(s) in addition to English for academic purposes.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS

- Official **application form**;
- A **motivation letter** (not longer than **500 words**);
- A **pre-proposal (or research idea)** of no more than **1 000 words** describing your proposed research question and conceptualization. You should discuss the unique contribution your research will make to the existing body of knowledge in this field of study, the problem statement, the methodology / theoretical framework / philosophical underpinnings you intend to use, and the feasibility of your study.
- **Certified copies** of your **full academic transcripts**;
- A **certified copy** of your **MA degree certificate** – or **foreign equivalent** (if you have completed the qualification but have not yet obtained the certificate, official proof from the institution concerned that the degree will be delivered before March 2027).
- A **certified copy** of your **South African ID, or passport** (for international students).

*** Please note: You will be required to participate in a short online interview as part of the selection process.**

VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIPS

- PhD scholarships: **R662 025.00**, over **three years**, **inclusive** of research support costs (fieldwork/conference attendance), to be managed by the scholarship holder.

ENQUIRIES

Please direct any enquiries about the scholarships to Dr Candice Steele at graduateschool@sun.ac.za.

Download the application form: <https://files.su.ac.za/public/division-research-development/documents/2026-06/gerda-henkel-stiftung-foundation-lisa-maskell-scholarships-2027.pdf>