

Founded in 1607, the Justus Liebig University Giessen (JLU) is a research university rich in tradition. Inspired by curiosity about the unknown, we enable around 25,000 students and 5,800 employees to advance science for society. Join us in breaking new ground and writing success stories - your own and those of our university.

Support us from 01.01.2027 in part-time (60 %) as one of two

Research Associates (m/f/d)

Images of Migration and Human Rights

The **two positions** are part of the externally funded project “Images of Migration as Sites of Contested Humanrightization in Germany, Italy, and the United States” and it is to be filled on a fixed term basis in accordance with § 2 WissZeitVG and § 72 HHG with the opportunity for own academic qualification at the Centre for Media, Diversity and Law (DiML). The salary is in accordance with the collective labor agreement of the State of Hessen (E 13 TV-H).

As long as the maximum permissible duration of a fixed-term contract is not exceeded, you will be employed for a period of 4 years.

The project is part of the DFG-funded research group “Human Rights Discourse in Migration Societies (MeDiMi)” (FOR 5321). The subject of this interdisciplinary research project is the scope, forms and consequences of the advance of human rights discourses in migration societies. The legal, social, and cultural analyses in the subprojects form the empirical basis for a theory of migration-society discourse practice that contributes to a new understanding of the role of human rights in contemporary societies. The subprojects are located at the Universities of Giessen, Marburg, and Amsterdam.

Position 1

Your tasks at a glance

- Completing a PhD with a focus on social media studies and their representation of migration, specifically focussing on the United States in Germany
- Writing an academic monograph on an aspect of the project
- Further independent research
- Participation in academic conferences and MeDiMi’s annual meetings

The provision of academic services (including the processing of a research project financed by third party funds on a temporary basis) also serves the purpose of academic qualification.

Your qualifications and competences

- Completed Master’s or equivalent university degree in American Studies, Anglophone/English Studies or Comparative Literary/Cultural/Media Studies
- Excellent knowledge of English and German (C2)
- Independent workstyle, quick comprehension skills
- Strong affinity for media
- Knowledge of dominant migration discourse in the U.S. and Germany
- Basic knowledge of social media platforms and VPNs
- Basic knowledge of Visual AI assistants (e.g. Napkin AI, Manus, Canva AI) (desired)
- Experience working in discourse analysis, image analysis, and empirical analysis (desired)
- Experience in literary/cultural studies case study analysis, preferably transmedial (desired)
- Knowledge of Law/Human Rights, Migration, Narratology, Affect Theory (desired)

Position 2

Your tasks at a glance

- Completing a PhD with a focus on visual representations of migration the United States and Italy
- Writing an academic monograph on an aspect of the project
- Further independent research
- Participation in academic conferences and MeDiMi's annual meetings

The provision of academic services (including the processing of a research project financed by third party funds on a temporary basis) also serves the purpose of academic qualification.

Your qualifications and competences

- Completed Master's or equivalent university degree in American Studies, Anglophone/English Studies or Comparative Literary/Cultural/Media Studies
- Excellent knowledge of English and Italian (C2)
- Independent workstyle, quick comprehension skills
- Strong affinity for media
- Knowledge of dominant migration discourses in the U.S. and Italy
- Basic knowledge of social media platforms and VPNs
- Experience working in discourse analysis, image analysis, and empirical analysis (desired)
- Knowledge of Law/Human Rights, Migration, Narratology, Affect Theory (desired)

Our offer to you

- A varied job with flexible working hours
- Free use of local public transport (LandesTicket Hessen)
- More than 100 training seminars, workshops and e-learning opportunities per year for personal development, as well as a wide range of health and sports activities.
- Remuneration according to TV-H, company pension scheme, child allowance and special payments
- Good compatibility of family and career (certificate "audit familiengerechte hochschule")

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Maureen Schwarz, B.A. or Felix van Groningen, M.A. by e-mail (maureen.schwarz@anglistik.uni-giessen.de or felix.van-groningen@anglistik.uni-giessen.de).

JLU welcomes qualified applications regardless of biological and social gender, disability, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion, ideology, age as well as sexual orientation and identity. The JLU aims for a higher proportion of women in accordance with the women's promotion plan. We therefore particularly encourage qualified female candidates to apply. JLU is certified as a family-friendly university. Applications from disabled people of equal aptitude will be given preference.

You want to break new ground with us?

Apply by **October 15th, 2026** via our [careers website](#). We look forward to receiving your application.