



PHD CANDIDATE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR AN INPHINIT RETAINING FELLOWSHIP IN NEUROSCIENCES

Intervention in Clinical and Health Psychology

The doctoral fellowship programme INPHINIT "la Caixa" is devoted to attracting talented Early-Stage Researchers—of any nationality—who wish to pursue doctoral studies.

Universitat de Barcelona- a leading European University- allows you to work in a first-class research environment while benefitting from an attractive salary to cover living, travel and family costs.

Group and project information

Applicants will be integrated into the research group "Intervention in Clinical and Health Psychology" (P.I. Guillem Feixas).

Our [group](#) is aimed at advancing the knowledge and increasing the quality of psychological interventions in the areas of mental and physical health. We pay particular attention to the study of identity processes, cognitive conflicts, and their role in the process of change. To this aim, personal construct and self-regulation theories (both based on constructivist epistemology) have been important sources of inspiration for implementation, both in research and practice. Our work is conducted using methods derived from these approaches, such as the Repertory Grid Technique (RGT), a technique with which we can identify conflicts in the cognitive structure of interviewees. These conflicts (or dilemmas) often become a hindrance for personal development or progress either in life or in psychotherapy.

With these methods, we have studied the cognitive structures of people of different conditions (e.g., depression, psychosis, eating disorders, fibromyalgia, victims of partner violence) and compared them to community and student samples.

We have also created therapy manuals for constructivist interventions comparing them (in terms of their efficacy and utility) with others like cognitive behavioural therapy in randomized clinical trials. Our interventions include technical innovations such as the use of Virtual Reality for the exploration of personal identity and potential change.

We have recently incorporated a line of research consisting in the analysis of strategies to raise awareness among mental health service users and professionals to improve communication between them, enhancing participation in the services of the former and critical reflection and self-care of the latter.

Candidates might join any of the above-mentioned research lines.

Functions and tasks

Although an alternative topic can be discussed and negotiated, we expect the Ph.D. candidate will carry on a study on the topic of construing of self and others in people with drug abuse problems. For the administration of the RGT, we will use our newly developed technological platform (EYME-Explore Your Meanings) both for the interview with which grid data is collected and for the immersive visualization of results using 3D/VR. The candidate will oversee recruitment and will conduct all the assessment to a sufficient sample of people with drug abuse problems in care centers. Also, we expect the candidate could participate in other more secondary projects and in the submission of proposals to the European funding scheme.

Offer Requirements

- **Experience:** At the call deadline (February 2021), applicants must be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and not yet have been awarded a doctoral degree.
- **Studies pursued:** At the time of recruitment (Nov 2021), candidates must comply with one of the following options:





- To have completed the studies that lead to an official university degree adapted to the European Higher Education Area awarding 300 ECTS credits, of which at least 60 ECTS credits must correspond to master level.
- To have completed a degree in a university not adapted to the European Higher Education Area that gives access to doctoral studies. The verification of an equivalent level of studies to the ones mentioned above will be made by the university when the admission procedure starts.
- **Geographic mobility:** Candidates must have resided or have carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Spain for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline. Short stays, such as holidays, done in a country other than their country of usual residence (where they carried out their main activity), will be considered as time spent in their country of usual residence. **Candidates who obtain a fellowship must carry out their PhD at a university or research center where they have not studied their bachelor's degree.**
- **Level of English:** Candidates must have a demonstrable level of English (B2 or higher).
- **Other skills:** Good knowledge of both statistical analysis (R is preferred) and repertory grid analysis (and its theoretical bases) will be appreciated. Also, a good level of competence in writing scientific articles and reports at least in English (other languages are also appreciated).

Working conditions

- Duration: 3-year contract under the Spanish or Portuguese labour legislation in force, respecting health and safety, and social security provisions in a stimulating research training environment, with access to appropriate equipment, facilities, and opportunities.
- Budget: The maximum total payment amount will be €122,592 + Optional prize of €7,500

Submission

Please submit your application (CV and letter of interest) to: Guillem Feixas (gfeixas@ub.edu)

Support for applicants

The [Institute of Neurosciences](#) offers support to applicants (eligibility check, info sessions, feedback on the draft proposal) and has recently launched a Mentoring programme (subject to availability).

Further information [Call](#)

Deadline: 4 December 2020

