

The University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) is committed to meeting the objectives of Employment Equity to improve representivity within the Institution. Preference will be given to applicants from designated groups in accordance with our Employment Equity Plan.

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

**RESEARCH ASSISTANTS (3 POSTS)
DSI-NRF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS
WESTVILLE CAMPUS**

REFERENCE NO.: CIKS_CA1

Duration: 6 Month Fixed Term Contract (with possibility of renewal)

Research Assistant opportunities are available to support a research project on: African Indigenous Astronomy, Health and Wellness, managed by the DSI - NRF Centre of Excellence in Indigenous Knowledge Systems, at UKZN. The project involves mapping the symbiotic relationship between health and wellness, indigenous astronomy including spirituality and the natural environment. It involves investigating, from local communities' perspectives, the impact of colonization including apartheid, on this symbiotic relationship, and how indigenous astronomy and spirituality could be mobilized to mitigate the destruction of this relationship. This is a continental IKS pilot project, located in KwaZulu-Natal Province.

This is a multi-and transdisciplinary and culturally sensitive project requiring knowledge and skills in qualitative research including fluency in the indigenous language (IsiZulu).

Minimum Requirements:

- Masters Degree in Social Sciences ((Anthropology and Ethnography) or cultural astronomy;
- Fluency in both English & IsiZulu (Research project is located in rural communities in KwaZulu-Natal Province);
- Competency in Information Technology skills, including
 - Proficiency in Ms Word & Excel;
 - Content management systems;
 - Data analysis and visualisation (including SPSS and other statistical packages). Any other software package competency will be an advantage;
- A driving licence, competency in software and hardware related to digital technologies and PhD will be advantageous.

Enquiries and details regarding the post may be directed to Dr. Mayashree Chinsamy, email: Chinsamym@ukzn.ac.za.

**The remuneration will be at UKZN standard rates for research assistance.
The closing date for receipt of applications is 6th May 2022.**

Applicants are required to submit:

- (i) a detailed CV;**
- (ii) covering letter highlighting their experience in meeting the minimum requirements as listed above,**
- (iii) graduation certificate / proof of submission / degree complete; proof of competency in Information Technology skills**
- (iv) contact details of two individuals which can be contacted for a reference.**
- (v) Application form, clearly indicating the reference number applied for, must be emailed to Chinsamym@ukzn.ac.za before the closing date. Late applications will not be considered. Successful individuals can expect to be contacted on or before 20th May 2022. An online interview will take place.**

The University reserves the right not to make an appointment to this advertisement.

Kindly note that the University of KwaZulu-Natal ("the University") is required to process any Personal Information (as defined by the Protection of Personal Act, 2013 "POPIA") submitted by candidates when applying for positions at the University. The University will endeavor to ensure that the appropriate security measures are in place and implemented for both electronic and paper-based formats that are used for processing of the personal information recorded through this recruitment and selection process. We refer you to the University's relevant Section 18 notice at <http://vacancies.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/General Documents/Section 18 Notice - Employees and Potential Employees.sflb.ashx>