



THE CARLOS III-JUAN MARCH INSTITUTE INVITES EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

PhD Researcher in ERC project EFFORT (3 ½ years)

The research project "Effort and Social Inequality – Advancing Measurement and Understanding Parental Origin Effects" (EFFORT), funded by the European Research Council (ERC), is recruiting one pre-doctoral researcher. The project is located at the Carlos III Juan March Institute (IC3JM) and affiliated to the Department of Social Sciences of Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M). The researcher will enroll in UC3M's PhD program in the Social Sciences and write a doctoral thesis related to the project. The position is offered for three and a half years, starting in September 2018.

The Project

The EFFORT project aims to understand the role of effort in the reproduction of social inequality. Specifically, the project addresses three research questions:

- 1) To what extent do children's effort levels differ by parental socioeconomic background?
- 2) Can existing disparities in effort by social background be explained by (a) the intergenerational transmission of effort from parents to children and (b) varying motivations and differential susceptibility to incentives?
- 3) What are the best techniques to measure cognitive effort and what are the strengths and weaknesses of measures routinely used in different scientific disciplines?

The 5-year project will develop and exploit cutting-edge methods of effort measurement, including laboratory experiments. Effort dispositions will be further analyzed using existing (inter)national surveys. The project builds on collaborations with the Department of Economics of UC3M, the Department of Basic Psychology II of Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), and the WZB Berlin Social Science Center. Two Postdoctoral Researchers, one other PhD student, and an administrative assistant will also be part of the team.

Doctoral degree

The PhD researcher is expected to pursue a doctoral degree within the Ph.D. program in Social Sciences at Carlos III University of Madrid (further information including admission requirements [available here](#)). The call is also open to students who are currently enrolled in a PhD program at other Spanish or international universities and are willing to relocate to the UC3M's PhD program in Social Sciences.

Requirements

- Excellent academic credentials (Master degree or equivalent) in sociology or another social science (education, psychology, economics). Applicants who have not completed their Master degree by the time of the application should include a statement from their supervisor confirming the expected date of the degree.
- Strong interest in the topic and willingness to write a project-related dissertation



- Good knowledge of quantitative research methods, including techniques of data processing and statistical data analysis (Stata and/or R); experience with longitudinal or cross-national data is an advantage.
- Familiarity with experimental methods in the social sciences is helpful
- Willingness to work in interdisciplinary and international contexts
- Excellent English language skills (written and spoken)
- Very good Spanish language skills (written and spoken)

Why apply? What is offered?

- The opportunity to work in an innovative research project funded within the prestigious ERC framework, the European Commission's flagship program for excellent science
- Becoming a member of a new international and interdisciplinary research group
- Entering a young and growing research environment in state-of-the-art facilities (further information on the [IC3JM](#) and the [Department of Social Sciences](#))
- Access to novel data offering a range of applications
- Quality supervision. The candidate will develop his/her own PhD project within the lines of the project and guided by the project leader.
- No teaching obligation
- Remuneration is competitive. Funds for research and conference travel as well as for further methodological training are also available.

Application Materials:

- Letter of motivation (maximum 2 pages)
- Curriculum vitae (maximum 3 pages)
- Copies of university certificates, including transcripts of records
- References: one letter of recommendation (referees should email the letter of reference directly), job reference, or name and contact details of referee.
- Work sample: copy of master thesis (or equivalent final thesis), article, seminar paper, or manuscript, in Spanish or English
- Outline of a study design for a PhD Thesis (which may be only loosely related to the project) (in English, 2-3 pages)

Please submit your application electronically until April 15, 2018 to: effort@clio.uc3m.es.

Enquiries about the vacancy and the project may be directed to Principal Investigator Jonas Radl (jradl@clio.uc3m.es)

Equally well-qualified disabled persons will be given priority. Women are strongly encouraged to apply.