PhD-plus positions
starting as soon as possible

(E13 TV-L, non-permanent position)

Your Tasks
We are looking forward to filling two PhD-plus positions under a research project led by Minh Nguyen, Professor of Social Anthropology at Bielefeld University’s Sociology Faculty. Welfare for Migrant Factory Workers is a long-term research project funded by the European Research Council’s Starting Grant Scheme. It comparatively investigates the moral dynamics of welfare provision between China and Vietnam through the case of welfare for migrant workers in global factories. Focusing on how the workers and their families negotiate available forms of provision across the city and the countryside, the project aims to understand the politics around how these market socialist countries are taking care of their work force and link these to global dynamics of welfare transformation. The project includes one comparative social policy analysis at post-doctoral level and two PhD studies, one in Vietnam and one in China, using ethnography as research approach. Upon successful completion of the PhD study, an ongoing full-time employment as post-doctoral researchers to January 31st, 2024 is possible. The field work is expected to last one year. Enrolment in the Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology and participation in the structured research training of the school are also expected. The place of work is Bielefeld.

Your Tasks:
• carry out ethnographic research on the welfare of migrant factory workers and their families for one year (one person working in Vietnam and one working in China) (70 %)
• contribute to the events and publications of the project in the form of presentations, book chapters and articles in edited volumes (20 %)
• participate in project activities and work together with the research team on the common goals of the project (10 %)

Your Profile
We expect
• Master’s Degree or equivalent in anthropology, sociology or related disciplines from an internationally recognised university (Master’s thesis should be in English or German)
• ability to conceptualise and design empirical research
• genuine interest in and readiness to undertake ethnographic field research with migrant workers
• familiarity with the political economic contexts of Vietnam and China and ability to navigate the their social and cultural settings
• excellent command of Chinese (for candidate working in China) and Vietnamese (for candidate working in Vietnam)
• excellent spoken and written English
• ability to work independently and as part of a team
• good organisational and communication skills
• strong interest in completing a PhD thesis in the above mentioned research field

Preferable qualifications
• experiences with ethnographic research
• awareness or experiences with ethical matters of social research
• experiences in working with migrant factory workers

Remuneration
Salary will be paid according to Remuneration level 13 of the Wage Agreement for Public Service in the Federal States (TV-L). As stipulated in § 2 (1) sentence 1 of the WissZeitVG (fixed-term employment), the contract will end after four years. Upon successful completion of the PhD study, an ongoing full-time employment until the end of the project (January 31st, 2024) is possible. In accordance with the provisions of the WissZeitVG and the Agreement on Satisfactory Conditions of Employment, the length of contract may differ in individual cases. The employment is designed to encourage further academic qualification. The positions are advertised as 65 % part-time jobs. In individual cases, this percentage may be reduced on request, as long as this does not conflict with official needs.

Application Procedure
For full consideration, your application should be received via either post or email (a single PDF) document sent to sekretariat.nguyen@uni-bielefeld.de by the 2nd of May 2019. Your application should include the following documents: cover letter explaining why you are interested in the post and what makes you suitable for it; short research proposal of 3-5 pages spelling out how you are going to proceed with the study if selected; CV, degree certificates, summary of Master thesis; one writing sample (thesis chapter, working paper, journal article, etc.). Please mark your application with the identification code wiss19047. Please do not use application portfolios and send only photocopies of original documents because all application materials will be destroyed at the end of the selection procedure. Further information on Bielefeld University can be found on our homepage at www.uni-bielefeld.de.

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Bielefeld University has received a number of awards for its achievements as an equal-opportunity employer and has been recognized as a family-friendly university. The university welcomes applications from women. This is particularly true with regard both to academic and technical posts as well as positions in Information technology as well as the skilled crafts and trades. Applications are handled according to the provisions of the state statutes on equal opportunity. Applications from suitably qualified handicapped and severely handicapped persons are explicitly encouraged.