



Call for MA Scholarship Applications

With a recently awarded NIHSS grant, the research project “Currencies, Colonial Economies, and the Making of South African State: Studying Economic History in South Africa” (CRP22/1090) has opened a call for two fully funded MA scholarships at the **Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WiSER) and Wits History Department**, offering R130 000 per year for two years.

MA research projects supported by this scholarship should align with the overarching theme of the grant-funded project, which aims to examine an aspect of South Africa’s economic past that has received scant attention at best: the history and origins of the South African colonial monetary system. As such, there is very little analysis of the relationship between currency, colonialism, and the making of the South African state – a set of mutually constitutive processes that need full exploration to understand the significance of colonial conquest and the reconfiguration of local African systems of value and exchange that underpinned centuries of long-distance trade within and beyond Africa’s borders.

Students will register in the Wits History Department for a Masters of Arts – Research, and will be based between the Department and WiSER. Students will receive joint supervision from the project leader and team members.

Eligibility requirements:

- Honours in History or cognate discipline
- Minimum of 65% for Honours
- Interest in Economic History

Applicants should submit the following documents:

- A cover letter (1-2 pages) outlining your research interests and why you are well suited to the grant-funded project. Applicants may want to read and respond to the following article to understand the significance of the project: G. Krozewski and T Nyamunda, ‘Money for Africa and Money in Africa: Colonial Currencies and the Making of Economies and States, 1860s–1960s,’ *Africa Studies Review*, Vol. 66, Issue 3, September 2023, pp. 587 – 594.)
- Up-to-date detailed CV including the names and contact details of two referees
- Academic transcripts and certificates of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees

Questions about the application and scholarship can be sent to laura.phillips@wits.ac.za

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: 30 November 2023

SUBMIT by emailing: laura.phillips@wits.ac.za