



We are looking to fill a **fully funded 4-year PhD position** on “**the social and health outcomes of emotional acculturation**” (advisor: **Professor Batja Mesquita**). The PhD-student will be part of a research team working on the ERC-Project *Emotion Acculturation* (consisting of a full-time project manager, 2 postdocs, and several PhD-students), which started in March 2020.

*EmotionAcculturation* examines when and how immigrant minorities’ emotions acculturate to fit the emotions of the majority, and when and how this removes the obstacles to integration. It addresses the question of **emotional acculturation**. *EmotionAcculturation* adopts a novel approach to psychological acculturation that challenges the tacit assumption in much existing acculturation research that minority individuals’ cultural affiliation and identity change, but that the ‘psyche itself’ remains untouched.

As a PhD-student, you will investigate the consequences of emotional acculturation for psychological, physical, and social outcomes; including outcomes in the relationships between minority and majority individuals.

You will be working on the data of a 3-wave longitudinal study with newcomers (immigrants who have just arrived), and will conduct Dyadic Interaction Studies in the lab to test the role of emotional fit in social interactions between white Belgian and Turkish-Belgian individuals.

**Environment:** The successful candidate will work in the larger environment of the Center for Social and Cultural Psychology (<http://ppw.kuleuven.be/home/english/research/cscp>) at the University of Leuven. The center includes 6 professors, and approx. 20 post docs and PhD students, all working on related themes. Research facilities are excellent, and the Center has an outstanding international reputation and extensive research collaborations with social and cultural psychology groups nationally and abroad. The current ERC-project is a collaboration with UC Santa Barbara (Professor Heejung Kim). The University of Leuven is a research-oriented institution and is consistently ranked among the top research universities in Europe. Leuven is one of the oldest university towns in Europe, about 30 km from Brussels. It has a rich history and culture, and a unique and friendly atmosphere.

**Profile:** Candidates preferably have completed a Research Master in psychology, and have experience with advanced statistics. They should also have a deep interest in emotion theory, have affinity with culture and acculturation, excellent English reporting skills, and good organizational and social skills. Knowledge of Dutch or Turkish is an asset. Previous experience with lab studies is also a plus.

**Offer:** We offer a competitive salary with various additional benefits (in terms of holidays, health insurance, transport costs, ... See our [jobsite](#) for more information), excellent research facilities, and conference and travel budget. Appointment for 1 year, with expected extensions up to 4. The preferred starting date is October 1, 2021.

**Interested?** For more information, please contact the project manager, Dr. Tom Verthé ([tom.verthe@kuleuven.be](mailto:tom.verthe@kuleuven.be)).

Applications can be e-mailed to Tom Verthé **by May 19, 2021**, and should include a letter of motivation, a full CV (including a transcript of university study results), and the names and contact information of 2 professional references. Subject header: "PhD application - The consequences of emotional acculturation". Job interviews are expected to take place during the first week of June (31 May – 4 June).