

Job Announcement: Researcher (Liberal Arts Communicator/National Museum of Japanese History), Center for Innovative Research, National Institutes for the Humanities

January 31 , 2025
National Institutes for the Humanities

The National Institutes for the Humanities (hereafter “NIHU”) is promoting the training of Liberal Arts Communicators at its Center for Innovative Research. A “Liberal Arts Communicator” is someone who not only pursues research but is also aware of the importance of promoting the understanding and enhancing the presence of human cultural research within society and is able to communicate with the public. The opening announced here is part of NIHU’s effort to nurture such personnel.

NIHU is calling for applications for a Liberal Arts Communicator to be posted to an institution under NIHU as Project Researcher (project assistant professor) and oversee dissemination of information on academic resources, publicity, and engagement with the public in collaborative activities as described below.

Position title: Researcher, Center for Innovative Research (Project Assistant Professor, Liberal Arts Communicator)

Note: This is a full-time, fixed-term staff position as defined in NIHU’s employment regulations for fixed-term staff.

Number of positions to be filled:

One

Location of work: National Museum of Japanese History
117 Jōnai-chō, Sakura-shi, Chiba Prefecture 285-8502, Japan

Duration of contract: July 1, 2025–March 31, 2028

Trial period: None

Job description: The successful candidate shall be responsible for the following duties at the National Museum of Japanese History (hereinafter “Rekihaku”) under the Director of the Center for Innovative Research.

1. Collect information on Rekihaku’s research activities and plan and implement initiatives to benefit the public through the effective dissemination, publicity, and publication of information, including outreach to non-Japanese audiences.
2. Through interactive communication with the public, cooperate with efforts aimed at the visible presentation of research results in the form of exhibitions.
3. Participate in study and research activities conducted by Rekihaku while making use of his/her own specialty.
4. Collect information on research activities at the entire group of NIHU institutes and cooperate with efforts to benefit the public through the dissemination, publicity, and publication of interdisciplinary information.
5. Disseminate the results of human cultural research via diverse media including mass communication outlets and collaborative initiatives with the public, such as symposia.
6. Participate in work related to dissemination of information by the Center for Innovative Research.

Qualifications for applicants:

Applicants must meet one of the following qualifications as of July 1, 2025:

1. Hold a doctoral degree
2. Expect to earn a doctoral degree
3. In the field humanities or social sciences, by the day before the date of employment, have been enrolled in a doctoral course at a graduate school for at least the standard length of time for the course of study, have left graduate school after earning the required number of credits, and have capabilities equivalent to a person who has earned a doctoral degree
4. Have previously held the position of assistant professor or research associate or an equivalent position at NIHU or a university and are deemed to possess research capabilities
5. Possess excellent knowledge and experience in the field of study of the research institute to which they are assigned and are deemed to have the qualities and capabilities required of a researcher in that field

Conditions for appointment:

The successful candidate will:

1. Possess a strong desire to acquire the skills needed by a Liberal Arts Communicator to disseminate and utilize the results of human cultural research by communication with the public.
2. Have a record of research achievements in a field of the humanities (preferably history, archaeology, folklore, informatics, or the like) as well as an interest in Integrated Studies of Cultural Research Resources.*
3. Following appointment, participate in training programs and internships within NIHU or those offered by outside institutions that are deemed necessary for a Liberal Arts Communicator (travel expenses, etc., to be provided as needed).
4. Preferably, be a native user of English or possess equivalent English language skills.

Note: Individuals of all nationalities may apply. However, if Japanese is not the applicant's first language, Japanese language skills sufficient for smooth performance of work duties are required. Non-Japanese applicants must either already have a residency status that does not restrict their activities within Japan or expect to obtain such status before the starting date of employment.

* Integrated Studies of Cultural Research Resources (*sōgō shiryō gaku*):

A new field of study being promoted by Rekihaku to analyze and study in varied formats the materials held by universities and history museums. By classifying the variety of material "objects" by historical period, region, and category and integrating the results gained from diverse perspectives, Integrated Studies of Cultural and Research Resources can lead to more significant levels of joint utilization and joint research. The aim is to construct a new vision of Japanese history and create a new academic field that goes beyond the disciplines of humanities, natural sciences, and informatics through the effective utilization of historical materials from Japan.

Employment conditions:

- The Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work will apply.
- Work days: Monday–Friday
- Basic work hours: 8:30–17:15
- Basic break time: 12:00–13:00
- Days off: Saturday and Sunday; legally designated national holidays; December 29–January 3; other days designated by NIHU
- Annual paid leave: provided annually based on NIHU regulations
- Smoking on the premises is prohibited

Note: Other items related to employment conditions are as noted in the NIHU staff regulations regarding work hours and annual paid leave.

Salary and benefits:

- The base annual salary is 6,000,000 yen, with one-twelfth of the base annual salary to be paid out each month as base salary.
- Allowances and other payments in addition to the base annual salary are allowances for overtime, work on holidays, and late night work (each of which are only paid when work is performed in accordance with official orders).
- Details including salary are set forth in Article 6 of the Fixed-Term Employee Regulations. (<https://www.nihu.jp/sites/default/files/regulation/kh-13.pdf>)

Insurance, etc.: Enrollment in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Mutual Aid Association (short-term, long-term (pension)), employment insurance. Workers' compensation insurance applies.

Note: Premium contributions and insurance payments will be deducted from the monthly salary.

Application documents:**1. Application**

- Application cover letter (document 1)
- Resume (with photo attached) (document 2)
- Work history (format unspecified)
- Motivation for applying (document 3)
- Aspirations as a Liberal Arts Communicator (document 4)
- Experience related to education and research at university, etc. (document 5)
- Summary of research achievements (document 6)
- List of research achievements (document 7)* (format unspecified)

Note: For documents 1 through 6, the stipulated forms must be used with the information presented on a single page for each form.

2. Principal research achievement (1 item)

Note: The item submitted should be underlined in document 7 above, "list of research achievements."

Note: Use of personal information

- Please understand that the *1. Application* cannot be returned.
- Application documents will not be used for purposes other than the selection process, and after the selection process is completed, NIHU will dispose of the documents in a responsible way.
- However, the personal information of the candidate selected will be retained for purposes of human resources management.

Application method:

Please send all application documents to the following postal or e-mail address.

Note: Changes or supplements to applications will not be accepted after the application documents have been received.

Research Planning Division,

National Institutes for the Humanities Headquarters, Huli Kamiya-cho Building 2F

Toranomon 4-3-13 Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0001 JAPAN

E-mail: kenkyu@nihu.jp

Contact person: Noda or Muraki (Tel: 03-6402-9236 or 03-6402-9230)

[For postal applications]

- Use double-sided printing for all application documents.
- For the application documents under 1. *Application* above, please submit the original and three copies (A4 format).

The original forms should be fastened with a binder clip at the upper left side. The copies should be fastened with a staple at the upper left side.

- For the application documents under 2. *Principle research achievement* above, please submit one original or one copy of each.

If not separately bound, should be fastened at the upper left with a binder clip.

- Please note in red on the envelope “Researcher, Center for Innovative Research (Liberal Arts Communicator/National Museum of Japanese History) application materials” in red on the envelope and send it by a method allowing the sender to confirm receipt (*kan'i kakitome*, etc.).

* Wherever possible please submit copies of research achievements. If you wish to have research achievements returned, please enclose a return envelope (with the necessary stamps and other information affixed).

[For e-mail applications]

- Save the application documents as PDF files organized by document number and send them as e-mail attachments. If the documents cannot be attached to an e-mail due to the file size, use an uploader service or similar means to send the files.
- Please write “[*Your Full Name*] Researcher, Center for Innovative Research (Liberal Arts Communicator/National Museum of Japanese History) Application” in the subject field of the e-mail.
- After receipt of the application documents, we will send you an e-mail confirming receipt within three to four days (excluding Saturdays and Sundays). If you do not receive the e-mail confirmation, please be sure to check with the Research Planning Division.

Deadline for application:

Must arrive no later than 1:00 p.m. (JST), March 24 (Mon.), 2025

Selection method and notification of selection result:

- Selection method:
 - First stage selection: Review of submitted documents
 - Second stage selection: Interviews (of those who have been passed the first stage selection)
 - Date and time: Late April to mid-May, 2025
 - Format: online (according to a method designated by NIHU, such as Zoom)
 - * Travel expenses to attend interviews and various other expenses associated with online communications will not be paid.
- Notification of selection result:
 - First stage selection result: Notification to applicant around mid-April, 2025
 - Second stage selection result: Notification to applicant around early June, 2025

Other:

- For information on the National Institutes for the Humanities, please refer to <https://www.nihu.jp> or <https://www.nihu.jp/en>.
- Individual queries about selection results cannot be accommodated.
- Should there be falsifications in the application documents, or should there have been conduct that is deemed unbecoming of a researcher at the Center for Innovative Research, the offer of employment may be withdrawn even after the decision to employ has been made.