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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The University of British Columbia  
Okanagan Campus  
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## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – MA and PhD positions “Rijeka in Flux: Borders and Urban Change after World War II”

The “Rijeka in Flux” project, hosted at the University of British Columbia Okanagan, and funded by a Social Science and Humanities Research Council Insight Grant, is seeking to recruit students for the two following positions:

- One M.A. (fully-funded for two years)
- One Ph.D. (fully-funded for three years)

Applications will be accepted starting October 15, 2018, and are due at the latest on January 15, 2019. Applications can be submitted here: <https://gradstudies.ok.ubc.ca/programs-applying/>

### The project

“Rijeka in Flux” is an interdisciplinary research project, combining history, geography, and digital humanities, that seeks to analyze urban change in Rijeka after the Second World War, when it changed sovereignty from Italy to Yugoslavia. The objective of the project is to better understand the impact of the caesura of 1945 on the city, which included border changes as well as the imposition of a new political, ideological and economic system. That knowledge will be projected onto an interactive online map (completed in phase I of the project) and mobile phone app (to be created as part of current phase).

Scholars involved in the project are pursuing inquiries into different aspects of urban life in Rijeka, including the relations between the Italian minority and the new authorities and population; the flows of goods, capital, people and information in and out of the city; and urban planning, architecture and memorialization. Scholars employ diverse methodologies, including archival research, oral history, and participant observation. Participating scholars will be sharing the results of their research on an interactive crowd-sourced map: <https://rijekafiume.geolive.ca/themap>.

Citizen-scientists also have the possibility of contributing their family stories and research to the map. This map makes it possible to visualize change in the city, and also enables network analysis of the map data, revealing relationships that are not visible to the naked eye. The project is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada. More details on the project and the research team can be found at the following link: <https://rijekafiume.geolive.ca/project>

### The Project Leaders at UBC

**Brigitte Le Normand** is Assistant Professor in the department of History at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. She holds a PhD in History from the University of California, Los Angeles. Her publications on urban planning in socialist Yugoslavia include *Designing Tito’s Capital: Urban Planning,*

*Modernism, and Socialism in Belgrade* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2014.) She is currently completing a monograph on the relationship between Yugoslavia and its migrant workers in Europe during the Cold War. Her research fellowships include a Max Weber fellowship (2007), Georg Eckert fellowship (2016) and a Humboldt fellowship (2018). She is the principal investigator of the project Rijeka in Flux: Borders and Urban Change after World War II. Aside from managing the project as a whole, and coordinating the team of historians, she is carrying out research on the impact of the border and regime change in 1945 on the flow of people, goods, capital, and ideas in and out of the city. She is particularly interested in the ways in which these flows left their mark on the body of the city. This project is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (Insight Development Grant 2014, Connection Grant 2017, Insight Grant 2018.)

**Jon Corbett** is an Associate Professor at UBC Okanagan, the director of ICER (the institute for Community Engaged Research) and the director of the Spatial Information for Community Engagement (SpICE) Lab. Jon is an enduring map geek. The practice side of his research explores how digital multimedia technologies can be combined with maps and used by communities to document, store and communicate their spatial knowledge. The theoretical side examines how geographic representation of this knowledge using these technologies can strengthen the community internally, as well as externally through increasing their influence over decision-making and their ability to become active agents in the process of social change. All aspects of his research incorporate a core community element. Within the context of his research program this means that the research is of tangible benefit for the communities with whom he works; that those communities feel a strong sense of ownership over the research process; and that community members are engaged and engage in the research endeavor. In the *Rijeka in Flux* project Jon's role is to contribute to the design, deployment and evaluation of the technical components of proposed research, especially the programming required for the development of the augmented reality application.

## Who we are looking for

We are looking for self-motivated students who are interested in participating in an exciting collaborative, interdisciplinary project at the intersection of history, geography and the digital humanities, with participants from universities, research institutes, and NGOs located in Canada, Croatia, and Italy.

We will accept applications from students with backgrounds in history, geography, cultural studies, computer science, and related disciplines.

Students should conceptualize a thesis/dissertation project that will draw on and contribute to the overall project research agenda. Prospective applicants should read the project description above and contact project leaders at [Brigitte.lenormand@ubc.ca](mailto:Brigitte.lenormand@ubc.ca) and [jon.corbett@ubc.ca](mailto:jon.corbett@ubc.ca) for more information.

## The funding

The M.A. student will be offered \$35,456 over 21 months (Sep. 2019-May 2021), and the Ph.D. student will be offered \$73,807 over 33 months (Sep. 2019-May 2022). Renewal of fellowships every year are contingent on satisfactory progress. Students are expected to apply for SSHRC graduate scholarships, if eligible, in their first year.