

Position: Director of EKO-Haus der Japanischen Kultur

Location: Düsseldorf, Germany

Position Overview

We are seeking a qualified and experienced academic professional to serve as **Director of EKO-Haus der Japanischen Kultur e.V. (EKO Center of Japanese Culture in Düsseldorf, Germany)**.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the overall administration and management of EKO-Haus, as well as academic leadership in its cultural and Buddhist studies programs. The position also includes serving as Director of EKO-Kindergarten.

Responsibilities

The successful candidate will be responsible for the following:

1. **Administration and Management of EKO-Haus**
 - Oversee the operation and administration of the EKO-Haus office, which currently has a total staff of nine.
 - Provide academic leadership and supervision for research and educational activities in the field of Japanese culture.
2. **Director of EKO-Kindergarten**
 - Serve as the Director of EKO-Kindergarten, which currently has approximately 60 children and 13 staff members.
 - Oversee the overall management and administration of the kindergarten.
3. **Academic Leadership in Buddhist Studies**
 - Provide academic guidance and supervision to the Buddhist Studies division, which currently has two researchers.
 - Support and guide the division's research activities.

Qualifications and Required Competencies

Applicants should meet the following requirements:

1. **Extensive knowledge of Japanese culture**
 - A broad and substantial knowledge of Japanese culture, including traditional arts and practices such as tea ceremony, ikebana, martial arts, calligraphy, and other traditional and contemporary forms of Japanese culture.
2. **Expertise in Buddhism**
 - Expertise in Buddhism and philosophical thought, with particular knowledge of Japanese Buddhism, Japanese religions, or related fields.
3. **Doctoral degree**
 - A **doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent)** is required. The field of specialization is not restricted.
4. **University teaching experience**

- Previous experience as a **university professor**, including positions equivalent to Associate Professor or Assistant Professor, is required.
- 5. **Leadership and management skills**
 - Ability to communicate and work harmoniously with staff and to provide effective leadership, guidance, and management.

Language Requirements

Applicants must meet **all three** of the following language requirements:

1. **Japanese**
 - Japanese Language Proficiency Test (**JLPT**) N2 or higher, **or**
 - Japanese as a native language.
2. **German**
 - **Goethe-Institut Certificate C1 or higher, or**
 - **TestDaF TDN 4 or higher, or**
 - German as a native language.
3. **English**
 - Sufficient proficiency to participate in and engage in academic discussion at **international academic conferences**.

All three language requirements (1, 2, and 3) must be satisfied.

Application and Selection Process

Application deadline: **January 31, 2027**

Only applicants who pass the **document screening stage** will be invited to an interview.

Applicants will be notified of the results of the document screening **by February 28, 2027**.

The salary will be presented and discussed with the candidate during the interview, with the aim of reaching a mutually agreed compensation package.

Contact

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