**Offre de thèse avec contrat doctoral. Université de Caen Normandie**

***The Goyons of Matignon: Nobility and Power in Normandy, between War, Peace and Monarchical Order (16th-17th centuries)***

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| **Job information** |  |  |
|  | Organisation / Entreprise | Université de Caen Normandie |
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|  | Research Field | Humanities and social sciences |
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|  | Researcher Profile | First Stage Researcher (R1) |
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|  | Country | France |
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|  | Application Deadline | 22/05/2025 |
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|  | Type of Contract | Temporary (3 years), from october 2025 |
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|  | Job Status | Full time |
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|  | Is the Job funded through the UE Research Framework Programme ? | NO |
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|  | Is the Job related to staff position within a Research Infrastructure ? | NO |
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| **Offer description** |  |  |
|  | Doctoral project description | The aim of this project is to **study the history of a family of high nobility, the Goyons of Matignon, in the 16th-17th centuries**, which has not yet been the subject of a monograph.  This noble house was well established in Normandy through its patrimonial and seigniorial assets, and its network of relatives, allies and protégés. Its power was based on the exercise of high royal offices. It stemmed from the position of Lieutenant General in the Government, held in Lower Normandy by Joachim de Matignon in the first half of the 16th century, then by his nephew, Jacques II de Matignon in the 1560*s* and 1570*s*. Some of their heirs assumed this eminent position in the 17th century. The line added other functions, including ecclesiastical ones, taking charge of Norman bishoprics and acting for the Catholic Reformation.  This project seeks to analyse **how a family of high nobility built its power, prestige and wealth in Normandy by siding with the King**. Renewing the interpretations that have long insisted on the dominance of revolt in the upper nobility, the aim is to **examine the involvement of these nobles in mediating conflicts and building peace through their participation in provincial administration**. The action taken by Jacques II de Matignon to prevent Saint Bartholomew's Day in Alençon and Saint-Lô in 1572 is an example of the prevalence of these pacification practices, combined with loyalty to the State and a moderate Catholicism.  The research will be based on a substantial documentary corpus, including the Matignon collection from the Archives of the Palace of Monaco, which contains more than 6,500 letters and documents, for which HisTeMé has a partial but digitized version. Candidates should have good technical skills in handling old collections and in palaeography (this project involves using original sources, many of which are manuscripts, from the 16th and 17th centuries). This project also requires a solid initial training in history, particularly in the history of the Early Modern period. |
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|  | Salary placement | 2100-2300 € / month |
| **Requirements** |  |  |
|  | Admission requirements | Holding a Master’s Degree |
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|  | Eligibility | Subject to the acceptance of the head of the institution, on the proposal of the ED director after consultation with the director of the research team and the thesis supervisor |
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| **Application** |  |  |
|  |  | A complete application must contain :   1. A **personal letter** with a brief description of your research interests and motivation 2. A ***curriculum vitae*** (CV) 3. ***Certified copies of grades, diplomas, and documentation of completed academic courses*** 4. Contact information for two references |
| **Work location** |  | Université de Caen (Normandy, France) |
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| **Where to apply** |  | Ed558.nh@unicaen.fr |
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| **Contact** | Ariane BOLTANSKI*,* Professor of Modern History, HisTeMé (UR 7455), Université de Caen | [ariane.boltanski@unicaen.fr](mailto:ariane.boltanski@unicaen.fr) |