

PhD Position in Earth-abundant Metal Photocatalysis and Organic Synthesis

The group of [Dr. Francisco Juliá-Hernández](#) is seeking candidates for an open PhD position to work on the development of unprecedented organic synthetic methodologies using Earth-abundant metal photocatalysts.

OUR GROUP

Our research group is located at the University of Murcia (UMU) in the southeast of Spain, close to the Mediterranean coast. We are currently based in brand new laboratories in the Pleiades-Vitalys UMU Excellence Research building. The labs are equipped with all the necessary facilities to carry out research on synthetic organic chemistry including several fume cupboards, a glovebox, GCMS and GC-FID, among others.

OUR MOTIVATION

Our group's main motivation is driven by the discovery of more sustainable synthetic transformations. We are interested in doing catalysis with Earth-abundant metals with the use of visible light as a renewable energy to trigger the derivatization of complex molecules and the valorization of chemical feedstocks using innate functional groups. We aim to uncover the real potential of Earth-abundant metal photocatalysis beyond traditional photoredox strategies.

REPRESENTATIVE WORKS

- [Direct decarboxylation of trifluoroacetates enabled by iron photocatalysis.](#)
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2024**, *63*, e202311984.

REQUIREMENTS

We seek motivated candidates with creativity, team-working skills, and with a MSc in Organic Chemistry, Synthesis or Catalysis. Experience in photocatalysis, radical chemistry, organometallic chemistry and/or homogeneous catalysis will be highly considered. *We will only consider applicants within the EU due to the urgency of fulfilling this position.*

POSITION

Starting date from September-October 2024, although this can be flexible.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should be sent to Dr. Francisco Juliá-Hernández (francisco.julia@um.es) as a **single PDF** indicating "PhD position 2024" as the subject. Applications must contain: 1) A **one-page cover letter** motivating the interest in the position including a short summary of research experience; 2) a brief **CV** (3 pages max.); 3) transcript of **university records**; and 4) the name and contact details of at least 2 **academic referees**.

Deadline: 30 June 2024 or until a convenient candidate is found. Applications will be considered upon arrival. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

