



At the Institute of Social Science in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf a post as a

Scientific Employee (m/f/d)

(75,00 %, pay grade 13 TV-L)

is to be occupied with the aim of pursuing a doctoral degree in the DFG-funded project „The Interplay of Social Contexts and Genetic Potentials: Cognitive and Educational Development in the Early Life Course“. The employment is initially limited until 30.09.2027. In accordance with § 2 Abs. 2 of the Act of Academic Fixed-Term Contract (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz – Wiss-ZeitVG), the position is limited to the exercise of a third-party funded project.

As part of the project, you will carry out extensive research on its main research questions for a PhD dissertation. The project seeks to study the intertwined influences of social and genetic characteristics of the family of origin across various contexts of development in the early life course. The premise of this project is that the family of origin constitutes children's launching pad which shapes experiences in various contexts in the early life course; the various social and genetic influences interact, creating both opportunities for children and hurdles for development. Genetically sensitive designs allow a better understanding of the heterogeneity of environmental factors, as well as genetic factors and their interactions. We study children's and adolescents' development across three contexts: (1) remote learning during the COVID crisis; (2) inequality in educational attainment in rural and urban areas and (3) extracurricular activities. The research associate position will focus on questions (1) and (2) whereas (3) will be tackled by a postdoctoral researcher and the co-PI (Prof. Dr. Wiebke Schulz) at the University of Bremen.

Our requirements:

- Outstanding degree in sociology (M.Sc. / M.A. / Diploma / Magister) or related disciplines (e.g., psychology, demography, economics) ideally with a focus on social inequality in education
- Familiarity with social and educational inequality research
- Substantive interest in the analysis of genetically sensitive research questions
- Intention to pursue a doctorate degree
- Advanced methodological skills
- Advanced skills and extensive experience with statistical software (R and/or Stata)

- Familiarity with genetically sensitive methodology is not a necessary requirement. Openness to learning twin methods and interest in behavior genetics are more important to us.
- Experience in analyzing longitudinal and cross-sectional data
- Excellent English language skills
- Ability to work in a team as well as independently

The pay scale grouping will be, depending on the personal qualification of the applicant, up to pay grade 13 TV-L.

Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf aims at increasing the percentage of employed women. Applications from women will therefore be given preference in cases of equal aptitude, ability and professional achievements unless there are exceptional reasons for choosing another applicant. Applications from suitably qualified severely disabled persons or disabled persons regarded as being of equal status according to Book IX of the German Social Code (SGB – Soziales Gesetzbuch) are encouraged.

Your contact person in case of questions is Prof. Dr. Christoph Spörlein ; email: spoerlei@hhu.de

Please submit your application documents (Cover letter, CV, copies of secondary degree and university certificates) citing reference no. 113.24 – 3.1 until 07.07.2024

preferably by email to:
spoerlei@hhu.de

or in writing to:
Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Institute of Social Science
Attn. Prof. Dr. Christoph Spörlein
Universitätsstr. 1
40225 Düsseldorf



Please do not submit application materials in folders and be sure to send copies only, as documents will not be returned (they will be destroyed after the selection procedure has been completed).