

2 PhD positions in Psychology, Human Biology, Neuroscience or related fields (each position 100%, 4 years)

Project description

The 24-hour variations of physiological and psychological functions such as sleep, mood and appetite depend on internal biological clocks, which are modulated by external time cues. The project aims to assess and optimize individual behaviours and light exposure patterns in older adults with regards to these biological clock functions by state-of-the-art methods in real life settings. The project is affiliated with the Centre for Chronobiology (Director: Prof. C. Cajochen), which is part of the University of Basel's Transfaculty Research Platform Molecular and Cognitive Neurosciences (MCN) at the Faculty of Psychology.

The PhD position is part of a larger project 'Environmental Circadian Lighting', led by Dr Mirjam Münch (Centre for Chronobiology), which belongs to the new integrative Human Circadian Daylight Platform (iHCDP). This international platform aims to foster the use of (day)light to improve overall health, quality of life and living conditions across the lifespan based on biological, psychological and societal needs.

The iHCDP, led by Prof. Christian Cajochen, Prof. Manuel Spitschan, Dr. Mirjam Münch and Dr. med. Corrado Garbazza, is based at the Centre for Chronobiology University Psychiatric Clinics Basel (Switzerland), the Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics in Tübingen (Germany) and the Technical University in Munich (Germany). The project is financially supported by the Velux Foundation Switzerland.

Your profile

- A Master's degree (or equivalent) in psychology, biology, medicine, nursing or a related field
- Highly motivated, diligently, and exact working person who can effectively organize and manage different aspects of a larger field study
- Motivation to collect physiological and behavioural data with elderly participants in a home setting
- Analytical skills and perseverance to solve multilayered research problems
- Experience with statistical methods and software (e.g., R, SPSS, SAS)
- Strong interest in research with human participants
- Very good German (level B2) and English language skills
- Very good interpersonal and communication skills
- Experience working with elderly participants in research or clinical would be an asset

We offer

- Participation in an interdisciplinary research project
- Joining a stimulating international research team and a new research platform
- A variety of professional development opportunities at the University of Basel
- A 100% contract with a starting salary (before taxes) of CHF 47'040, including a workplace at the Centre for Chronobiology, UPK Basel

Salary and employment conditions will be according to the terms of the University of Basel. Please note that the contract will initially be for one year and will then be renewed for an additional 3-year period. The earliest begin is February 1, 2022.

Your application

To apply for this position, please send your CV and a motivation letter describing your interest in the position and your fit as single PDF to mirjam.muench@unibas.ch before December 17th.

Please also provide contact addresses of two references (at least one should be related to your current or previous professional/academic work). For further information, please contact:

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In accordance with the values of the University of Basel, candidates will be considered regardless of their age, religion, gender identity, cultural background, sexual orientation, social status, or disability.