

## **Researcher (PhD student) in Digital Forensic Linguistics**

The German Department at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum (Germany) is offering a researcher position in the group of Tatjana Scheffler (Digital Forensic Linguistics). This is a paid position (part-time 65%, TV-L E13), starting Nov. 1, 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter, and limited for three years.

The research focus of the group is the theoretical and computational analysis of conversations in social media. The advertised position is intended to concentrate on the linguistic analysis and automatic detection of digital disinformation. The position includes a small teaching requirement, which will be carried out in the undergraduate and graduate programs in German linguistics.

This position is meant to lead to further qualification of the holder in the form of a Ph.D. Work on the Ph.D. thesis is considered part of the tasks in this position. In addition, we expect a commitment to teaching and involvement in academic administrative tasks. The teaching requirement is regulated in § 3 of the Lehrverpflichtungsverordnung NRW.

Please send applications, including academic C.V., diplomas of achieved degrees, list of publications, and a brief research statement by email to [sigrun.schuh@rub.de](mailto:sigrun.schuh@rub.de) by August 9, 2020. For further questions about the position, please contact Dr. Scheffler directly at [tatjana.scheffler@rub.de](mailto:tatjana.scheffler@rub.de). Interviews will be held online via video conference.

The Ruhr University Bochum (RUB) is one of the leading research universities in Germany. As a reform-oriented campus university, it unites the entire spectrum of the major scientific areas in one place. The dynamic coexistence of subjects and subject cultures offers researchers and students alike special opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration.

At the Ruhr-Universität Bochum, we particularly want to promote the careers of women in the areas in which they are underrepresented and are therefore very happy to receive female applicants for this position. Applications from suitable persons with disabilities are also very welcome.

**Expectations:**

An excellent degree (Master's or equivalent) in computational linguistics, linguistics, computer science, or related fields is required.

The future focus of the position is negative communication practices in digital media, in particular disinformation and its automatic detection. Therefore, we expect good programming skills and excellent writing skills (in English). Knowledge of German is not required. Previous experience in natural language processing (NLP), in particular neural methods (deep learning), and/or knowledge of forensic linguistics or the linguistics of lying and deception, as well as experience working with digital corpora will be considered an advantage.