

The Institute for Sociology and Social Psychology at University of Cologne invites applications for the positions of

**1 x Post-Doctoral researcher (39,5 hours/week, 100%, E13 TV-L)**

**1 x Doctoral researcher (25,35 hours/ week, 65%, E13 TV-L)**

to commence on March 1st or up to four months later upon consultation for the duration of three to three and a half years. In addition, there is potentially a possibility for employment in a related research project with Berlin as the place of work. The successful candidate will conduct research within the project *Early Prevention of Drop Out from Higher Education (PraventAbb)* (Principal investigators: Prof. Dr. Marita Jacob and Anna Kroth, Ph.D.) funded by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research. The project carries out a field experiment in high schools to study how interventions that aim at fostering grit (perseverance and passion for long-term goals), academic self-efficacy and college related informedness affect study behavior. The project investigates the short and long-term effects of these interventions on college enrolment and study success and analyses its mediators. The intervention workshops are developed jointly with experienced guidance counselors and are implemented by them. The participating students in the treatment and the comparison group are surveyed regularly over the course of two years.

**Taks:** Jointly with the team members, the successful candidate will develop the interventions, conduct the experiment and the surveys, analyze the data and write the resulting publications. For candidates without a doctoral degree, further qualification in the form of a dissertation related to the research project is highly welcome. For postdoctoral researchers joint research with team members about related topics is highly welcome. It is possible to collect additional data in the surveys or to employ a qualitative approach.

**Your profile:** You have successfully completed a Master's or doctoral degree in sociology, economics, education or psychology. You are interested in the topic of the research project. You have excellent knowledge of quantitative social research methods, ideally you are experienced in collecting survey data. You have excellent English language skills (written and spoken), ideally you also have German language skills. You are able to work independently and in a team and you have good communication skills. You ideally are ready to work in the project for three years.

**We offer:** The Institute of Sociology and Social Psychology at the University of Cologne is recognized internationally for its longstanding tradition in empirical social research and has more than 120 members. You would work closely with a team of highly motivated researchers who work on this project and on related projects. We offer excellent advising for doctoral and postdoctoral work and many options for training, collaboration, interdisciplinary research and funding for presenting at international conferences. As a doctoral student you would become a member of the Cologne Graduate School in Management, Economics and Social Sciences (CGS) where you can participate in a variety of courses.

The University of Cologne aims at increasing the share of women in research and teaching and therefore strongly encourages qualified female researchers to apply. Applications from severely disabled applicants are especially encouraged and will be given preferential consideration in case of equal qualification.

Please include the following materials in your application: CV, degree certificates, grade transcript (if available), job references (written or contacts), a paper or a publication written by you (e.g. thesis), a two-page cover letter describing your experience and skills relevant to the project and the research questions you would like to study in your doctoral or postdoctoral work.

Applications should be submitted electronically in no more than two pdf documents (the paper in a separate file) to [sekretariat.sociologie@uni-koeln.de](mailto:sekretariat.sociologie@uni-koeln.de) by **February, 19, 2017**. Please feel free to contact Dr. Anna Kroth ([anna.kroth@uni-koeln.de](mailto:anna.kroth@uni-koeln.de)) regarding any questions you might have.