



The **University of Mannheim (Germany)** is offering a full-time position as

Postdoctoral Research and Teaching Fellow (male/female/non-binary) (E 13 TV-L BW)

starting on August 1st, 2023 or later, depending on the applicant's convenience (October 1st the latest).

When we encounter other people, we first and foremost tend to ask ourselves two questions: Is this person benevolent or malevolent? And what is that person's social status? Likewise, when we evaluate ourselves, we are also primarily concerned with our own benevolence and status. In other words, benevolence and status are the focal dimensions in social cognition and the self-concept. But why? That is, what **evolutionary benefits** do humans have from a social cognition and self-concept that revolves around benevolence and status? With funding from the European Research Council (ERC Consolidator Grant) our research group seeks to elucidate one potential benefit: **Social learning** from "good models"--that is, from people high in benevolence and status.

The ideal candidate for the advertised job holds a PhD in **evolutionary anthropology or related fields**, possesses considerable **expertise in human evolution and social learning**, and is **interested in acquiring additional expertise in quantitative psychology**. At present, our research group at the University of Mannheim consists entirely of social and personality psychologists, but the ERC project is carried out in collaboration with anthropologists and biologists from the Human Behaviour and Cultural Evolution Group at the University of Exeter, Cornwall Campus.

Your tasks include:

Collaboration with members of the ERC project on the social learning function of benevolence and status. Depending on your interests and skills, this collaboration may include...

- ...agent based modelling
- ...experimental research
- ...longitudinal research
- ...social data science

(Co-)Supervision of theses at the...

With approximately 2,630 staff members and 12,000 students, the **University of Mannheim** is an academic higher education institution with an outstanding reputation in research and teaching.

In particular, the fields of Economics and Social Sciences, which are traditionally very strong at the University of Mannheim, rank among the top institutions both at national and international level. A special characteristic of the university is the high degree of networking among its five schools.

At the Chair for Cross-Cultural Social and Personality Psychology we currently carry out an interdisciplinary and international research project on the social learning benefits of a social cognition and self-concept tethered to benevolence and social status. The project is funded by the European Research Council (ERC Consolidator Grant) and is conducted in collaboration with anthropologists and biologists from the Human Behaviour and Cultural Evolution Group at the University of Exeter, Cornwall Campus.

Key information

Start: August 1st, 2023 or later, depending on the applicant's convenience (October 1st the latest)

Term: In accordance with German law (WissZeitVG), the position is temporary and initially limited to a period of three years with an option for extension to six years

Remuneration bracket: E 13 TV-L BW

Weekly hours: 39.5 hours, the position is generally suitable for job sharing

Application deadline:
15 Mai 2023

- ...bachelor level
- ...master level
- ...PhD level

Teaching seminars in the area of social and personality psychology (broadly defined!). Exemplary topics for teaching may include, but are by no means limited to,...

- ...social learning
- ...cultural evolution
- ...sociobiology
- ...evolutionary social psychology and anthropology
- ...(behavioral) genetics of social behavior
- ...evolutionary genetics of personality

Your profile:

- PhD in evolutionary anthropology or related fields, including biological anthropology, evolutionary biology, etc.
- Interest in acquiring expertise in quantitative psychology (social, personality, and/or cross-cultural)
- Ideally, expertise in social learning, human evolution, agent-based modelling, evolutionary explanations for personality variation, and/or evolutionary game theory

What we offer:

- A 3-year temporary position with the option for extension to 6 years, in accordance with German law (WissZeitVG).
- Interdisciplinary and international research environment, involving psychologists at the Universities of Mannheim (Germany) and Copenhagen (Denmark) and anthropologists and biologists at the University of Exeter (England)
- Substantial funds from the European Research Council and the University of Mannheim to carry out research of highest quality
- Possibility to acquire a "habilitation" (German 2nd doctorate), if desired by the successful applicant.



Outstanding research
culture



Innovative academic
working environment



Positive working
atmosphere

Applicants with disabilities are given preferential consideration in the event of equal qualification. The University of Mannheim is committed to increasing the quota of women in academia and thus encourages women with relevant qualifications to apply.

If you are interested in applying, please send your application documents via e-mail or mail **by 15.05.2023 at the latest:**

Data protection

Please find detailed information on the collection of personal data from the data subject according to Article 13 GDPR on the university's homepage:
www.uni-mannheim.de/datenschutz-bei-bewerbungen.

Submitted application documents will only be returned if you enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. Otherwise, they will be destroyed in accordance with current data protection law after the application procedure has ended. Electronic applications will be deleted accordingly..

If you apply by e-mail, please note that protection of confidential data cannot be guaranteed as unauthorized third parties might gain access to unencrypted e-mails during transmission.

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If you have any questions about the position, please contact
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