

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR POSITION IN ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES

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The Faculty of Science and Medicine of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, announces the opening of a position of Assistant Professor in Environmental Humanities (D/F) limited for 5 years.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The successful candidate should be in possession of a PhD in the Humanities or Social sciences, specialist in Environmental Humanities and have a broad experience in research and teaching at university level.

The position is a full-time assistant professorship at the Department of Geosciences at the University of Fribourg limited for 5 years. Possibilities of extension will depend on performance and funding possibilities.

Preference will be given to candidates with a “habilitation” degree (or equivalent experience). Qualified applicants must have an outstanding track record of successful independent research in the fields of Environmental Humanities addressing following topics primarily, but not exclusively:

- Social dimensions of climate change
- Natural hazards adaptation and mitigation strategies
- Socio-ecological transformations, especially in the energy supply sector
- New practices of consumption (nutrition, dwelling, recreation)
- Environmental justice: social and spatial distribution of costs and benefits associated with environmental protection

The successful candidate is expected to develop an internationally recognized competitive research programme sustained by external funding. The research topic will depend on the academic expertise of the candidate. Given the different interests of the research teams in Fribourg, synergies within the University of Fribourg, especially the Faculty of Science and Medicine, the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences will be encouraged. The future assistant professor will have the opportunity to supervise Master theses, Doctorates, and participate in the general encouragement of upcoming scientists and academics.

The future assistant professor will coordinate and participate in the present teaching programme of Environmental sciences at the Bachelor level. He/she is expected to play a central role in the future development of the Environmental Sciences curriculum exploring the possibilities of a collaborative educational programme at the Master level between the different faculties of the University of Fribourg.

Seeking to promote an equitable representation of women and men, the University strongly encourages applications from women.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Hard copies of the following documents should be forwarded to the mailing address below:

1. a cover letter mentioning the position for which the candidate is applying (Assistant Professor of Environmental Humanities)
2. a complete curriculum vitae
3. a complete list of publications (highlighting specifically the 5 most important contributions)
4. a detailed record of teaching experience
5. a record of past and present funding
6. a 1-2 page description of the research, which the candidate intends to carry out in Fribourg
7. the names and addresses (postal and e-mail) of three persons who could be contacted as referees

Deadline: the applications have to reach the Dean's office before **March 15th, 2018**

**Prof. Christian Bochet
Dean of the Faculty of Sciences and Medicine
University of Fribourg
Chemin du Musée 8
CH-1700 FRIBOURG
Switzerland**

Please also send an **electronic version of the application** (".pdf") and PDF versions of the 5 most relevant publications ("-papers.pdf") to the Faculty Administrator at the Dean's Office (franziska.heyne@unifr.ch).

ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

Faculty and Departments

While the position of the Assistant professor will be integrated in the Department of Geosciences and thus in the Faculty of Sciences and Medicine, the professor will liaise and collaborate with researchers of other faculties.

Study programmes

The new professor will be responsible for the orientation and coordination of the teaching programme for Environmental Sciences. Environmental Sciences is at present an optional teaching programme for students at the Bachelor level of all faculties of the University of Fribourg. A basic module (12 ECTS) consists of four lecture courses on Environmental ethics, Ecology, Resources, Economy and Environmental law. In addition, there is the possibility to choose the Environmental sciences as optional course with either 30 or 60 ECTS points:

1. **Optional course in Environmental Sciences (30 ECTS):** Core module (4 lecture courses) and an optional programme depending on the orientation: Sustainability, Ecology, Resources, Environmental ethics or Environmental economics.
2. **Optional course in Environmental Sciences, option Environmental law (60 ECTS):** Core module (4 lecture courses) with two specialized and optional courses from the Faculty of law.
3. **Optional course in Environmental Sciences, option Environmental Practice (60 ECTS):** Core module (4 lecture courses) with courses In Environmental Sciences (30 ECTS) at the University of Fribourg and a specialized programme with courses of the Universities of Fribourg and Berne.

The choice of additional optional courses consists of existing courses offered in the different faculties. Please find further information on the present state of Environmental Sciences at

<http://www.unifr.ch/environment/de> or <http://www.unifr.ch/environment/fr>

Research

The new assistant professor is expected to generate a new impulse in environmental research at the University of Fribourg by strengthening existing and creating new interdisciplinary collaborations across the faculties. In order to put the interdisciplinary approach on a sound scientific basis, a clear epistemological stance will be needed in order to clarify the relationship between the social science perspective on the non-human world and the handling of this aspect by the natural sciences. The epistemological work will allow for the identification of an interdisciplinary interface and for the definition and the operationalization of collaborative empirical research projects.

Languages

The University of Fribourg is bilingual. Teaching in environmental sciences students at the Bachelor level is in French or in German. Students are expected to understand both languages, but can take their exams in either language. Master of Science and PhD programmes are taught in English at the Faculty of Sciences and Medicine. Candidates are expected to have a working knowledge of all three languages or be willing to acquire such knowledge within a few years.

INFRASTRUCTURE, POSITIONS AND FUNDING

Infrastructure

Rooms and facilities

The Assistant Professor of Environmental Humanities and his research Unit will be accommodated in the Geography unit of the Dept. of Geosciences.

Computers (University, teaching and research)

The University's computer service supplies all department members (academic and technical staff) with state-of-the-art PCs or Macs and appropriate office, reference, statistical and graphics software. Specific research software is considered for research facilities.

Positions (University, teaching and research)

The new Assistant Professor of Environmental Humanities will receive the following dotation:

- 75% assistant
- 50% secretary

A 75% IT specialist is at the service of the Department of Geosciences (professors, office of studies).

Financial support (University, teaching and research)

Set-up funding

- Resources for computing material will be at the new professor's disposal

CONTACT

Contact for further information:

For the academic activity:

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