

## J O B O F F E R

The University of Konstanz, with its "Institutional Strategy to promote Top-Level Research", has been receiving continuous funding since 2007 within the framework of the Excellence Initiative by the German Federal and State Governments.

In the Faculty of Humanities the Linguistics Department has within the newly installed Research Unit „Questions at the Interfaces“

### **2 Doctoral Research Positions in Linguistics (bilingual language acquisition) (Salary Scale 13 TV-L / 65 %)**

available. The positions are funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft and are available for three years. **They are to be filled as soon as possible.**

Applications are invited for two 3-year 65% (doctoral) research positions in the Research Unit "Questions at the Interfaces (QI)" as part of Project P10.

#### **Project description:**

Project P10 "Non-canonical questions in early and late bilingual language acquisition" focuses on the interface between syntax, prosody, lexicon and context from the point of view of bilingual language acquisition. The aim of the project is to experimentally examine how sentence intonation, lexical elements (specifically discourse particles) and theory of mind develop in bilingual children with German as the majority and Italian as the heritage language as well as in Italian late second language learners of German. Project tasks involve preparation, implementation and analysis of production, perception and comprehension experiments as well as the publication of results at international conferences and in relevant journals. The data collection will be carried out in Germany and Italy.

#### **Research Unit:**

The research unit runs **from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022** and is dedicated to investigating question formation, with a particular emphasis on rhetorical, echo, self-addressed, suggestive questions. This Research Unit (RU) combines expertise from theoretical, computational and experimental linguistics as well as visual analytics to study how different components of grammar (morphology, syntax, phonology) interface with one another to signal a particular meaning. The RU consists of 8 subprojects, each of which has positions on offer. See <http://ling.uni-konstanz.de/pages/home/qi> for more information.

#### **The Linguistics department:**

The Linguistics department at the University of Konstanz offers a lively and internationally well-connected research environment where students are immediately integrated in scholarly life and research at all levels. The research unit offers PhD students the opportunity to discuss their topics with fellow students who work on similar issues; we also have funding for PhD students to attend international workshops and conferences.

#### **Requirements:**

Applicants should have a M.A. degree (or equivalent) in linguistics with a focus on language acquisition, phonetics and/or syntax. We especially welcome experience in working with children, experience with experimental linguistics, solid knowledge of statistics and acoustic analysis software (PRAAT), and native-like or excellent proficiency in Italian *or* German (or both). Special personal skills like patience, assertiveness, flexibility and the ability to work under pressure are also welcome. Experience with databases in the field of experimental methods or first language acquisition (e.g., CHILDES) is a plus.

Applications should be sent by email as (a single) PDF **to Tanja Kupisch and Theo Marinis** at the application email addresses below and include the following: short cover letter, full CV, brief description of personal skills that you will put into practice in the project (250 words), two up-to-date references, BA- and MA- certificates. Please write "Doctoral Position P10" as subject of your email.

The University of Konstanz encourages disabled persons to apply. They will be given preference if appropriately qualified (contact + 49 (0) 7531 / 88 – 4016 und 88 - 2834).

The University of Konstanz is an equal opportunity employer that tries to increase the number of women in research and teaching.

The University of Konstanz has been certified as a family-friendly institution by the Hertie Foundation and is committed to further the compatibility of work and family life.

The University of Konstanz offers a “Dual Career Couples Programme“. Information is available at: <http://www.familie.uni-konstanz.de/dual-career/>.

**The positions will be open until they are filled.**

Application Email Addresses:

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