

## Doctoral position in project A01 (PLs: Schumacher/Grice)

Project A01 “Intonation and attention orienting: Neurophysiological and behavioral correlates” of the Collaborative Research Centre 1252 “Prominence in Language” seeks to fill a doctoral position (part, time, 65%, 25.89 hours/week) from April 01, 2025 until December 31, 2028. If the necessary prerequisites required by tariff regulations as well as the required personal qualifications are met, the salary will correspond to the pay grade 13 as specified in the States’ Tariff Agreement (TVL).

The Cologne-based Collaborative Research Centre 1252 “Prominence in Language” is a dynamic research environment with 20 projects in linguistics and related fields. Project A01 “Intonation and attention orienting: Neurophysiological and behavioral correlates” aims to refine our model of prosodic prominence by providing more elaborate and complete characterisations of signal prominence (highlighting a universal bottom-up approach) and code prominence (highlighting a language-specific top-down approach). Our goal is (i) to determine the most adequate acoustic measures of prosodic prominence, (ii) to identify the timing patterns of co-speech beat gestures that contribute to prominence and (iii) to investigate the prominence-cueing potential of the association of H tones to different positions in prosodic structure (heads and edges). A particular focus of the advertised position will be the examination of the association between speech and beat gestures and their contribution to prominence marking. This will involve annotations of video corpora of natural speech and co-speech gestures as well as behavioral and electrophysiological studies to investigate the comprehension of multimodal prominence-related cues and their alignment.

### Your tasks

- Carry out phonetic and phonological analysis of intonation and beat gestures, including visualization of prosodic and gestural parameters
- Prepare speech and video stimuli for experiments
- Design, conduct and analyze rating tasks on the alignment of speech and gesture
- Design, run and analyze ERP experiments
- Present your results at international conferences and in academic journals

### Your profile

- You are familiar with research on prosody and/or electrophysiology
- You have experience with R or other programming languages
- You are highly proficient in German and English
- You are capable of working in a team and working at the interface to related projects
- You are capable of quickly adapting to new research topics

### Formal requirements

- University degree (Master) in linguistics or related fields

The University of Cologne promotes equal opportunities and diversity. Women will be considered preferentially in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also expressly welcome applications from all suitable candidates regardless of their gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation and identity.

Please specify the position(s)/project(s) you are applying for and submit a cover letter describing your qualifications and motivation for applying for this position, CV and copies of the relevant university degree(s) including transcripts as well as your Master's thesis. In case your Master's thesis has not yet been completed, please provide two to three preliminary chapters of the Master's thesis if possible, as well as two representative samples of your writing, e.g. term papers.

Please apply online with proof of the required qualifications without photo under: <https://jobportal.uni-koeln.de>. The reference number is **Wiss2412-04**.

**The application deadline is January 17, 2025.**

For further inquiries, please contact Dr. Christine Röhr ([applicationsfb1252@uni-koeln.de](mailto:applicationsfb1252@uni-koeln.de)).