

## Doctoral position in project A07 (PL: Baumann)

Project A07 “Metrical prominence - Scales and structures“ 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. The general aim of project A07 is to explore the relationship between semantic-pragmatic, syntactic and prosodic properties of words using metrical strength relations. In phase III the project will broaden its perspective by adding the visual modality to the spoken modality investigated so far. Our central research topic will thus be the division of labour between speech and gesture in the expression as well as perception of multimodal prominence. We will gain insights on whether the contribution of pitch accents and beat components of hand, head and eyebrow gestures as a function of meaning-related factors is additive or compensatory in nature. The same set of factors will be examined in (a) a TED Talk, (b) a comparison between monologic and dialogic communication and (c) native (German) speech versus speech by language learners (French learners of German). To supplement the production side of our investigations, a series of rating experiments will be conducted to test the role and impact of beat-like gestures as well as pitch accents in processing and judging the strength of multimodal prosodic prominences.

### Your tasks

- Carry out phonetic and phonological analyses of intonation and beat gestures, as well as semantic-pragmatic and syntactic annotations
- Visualize and statistically evaluate the data
- Prepare speech and video stimuli for experiments
- Design, conduct and analyze rating tasks on the prominence of speech and gesture
- Present your results at international conferences and in academic journals

### Your profile

- You are familiar with research on prosody and/or speech-accompanying gestures
- You have experience with Praat and ELAN, including writing scripts
- 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)).