

Doctoral position in project B08 (PL: Hill)

Project B08 “Non-canonical alignment in Nuristani” 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 B08 “Non-canonical alignment in Nuristani” aims to refine our understanding of morphosyntactic prominence, its evolvement and subsequent development by investigating the phenomenon of Differential Object Marking in three languages belonging to the Nuristani sub-branch of Indo-Iranian. The objectives of the projects are (i) a comprehensive synchronic description of the alignment systems in the relevant Nuristani languages by means of a corpus-based detailed investigation, (ii) establishing the diachronic sources for different types of Nuristani predicates, (iii) a comprehensive reconstruction of the emergence of Differential Object Marking and its subsequent evolution in Nuristani. A particular focus of the advertised position will be, first, on the corpus-based investigation of the relevant languages and, second, on the application of the classical Comparative Method to a group of closely related but underinvestigated languages.

Your tasks

- Acquiring a working knowledge of the relevant Nuristani languages
- Annotating a selection of representative texts
- Establishing correlations between alignment type and other characteristics of the relevant clauses
- Investigating the different types of predicates by means of Comparative Method
- Presenting the results at international conferences and in academic journals

Your profile

- You are familiar with pre-modern Indo-Iranian languages (at least with Sanskrit)
- You have experience with Comparative Method and its application in linguistic reconstruction
- You have strong writing skills in English and at least some working knowledge of German
- 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 and new languages to work with

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).