

Two fieldwork position opportunities in the Common Buzzard Project, Bielefeld, Germany

We are recruiting two enthusiastic students to join our field work season with common buzzards (*Buteo buteo*), goshawks, eagle owls and other birds of prey! In this project, you will have the opportunity to conduct field work and study morph-dependent host-parasite interaction behaviour, physiology and transcriptomics of these fantastic birds!

WHEN: The preferred starting date is on the 01st January 2022, for training and preparations. The field season will take place from 15th March 2022.

WHERE: If you decide to come on this research adventure, you will be joining our team in the Department of Animal Behaviour in Bielefeld University, Germany (<https://bit.ly/2ZztNbd>). Field work will take place around Bielefeld, where we have been studying populations of common buzzards for over 20 years.



WHAT YOU WILL BE DOING: The work includes daily nest checks over four months, nest video surveillance, sampling of nestlings, as well as combining analyses of transmitter tracks, transcriptomic and life history data. Both field work and analyses are very demanding, so previous experience and ambition to push boundaries will be beneficial. We seek highly motivated students with a master's degree or equivalent in a relevant field (e.g., animal behaviour, behavioural ecology, population ecology, evolutionary ecology, wildlife genomics or wildlife transcriptomics, ornithology). Organisational skills, knowledge on hot topics in ecology and evolution, and ability to develop your own ideas in these fields would be highly advantageous. The ideal candidates will be able to work both independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team, will have experience in statistics and/or bioinformatics and excellent spoken and written English.

WHAT WE OFFER YOU: Travel costs/expenditures in the field will be covered, but bringing an own car would be highly beneficial. Adequate participation in the project can be expected to result in publication co-authorships. One of the positions could become a fully-funded PhD position by mid-2022, while the other one could become a novel project (and PhD grant application by the student and PIs).

The students will be supervised by Nayden Chakarov and Oliver Krüger. Our department is the oldest of its kind in Germany and currently hosts seven principal investigators, ten postdocs, and 20 PhD students from over ten different countries working on related topics in behaviour, ecology, and evolution. It offers a stimulating international environment and an excellent research infrastructure. The working language is English. Bielefeld is a city of 333,000 inhabitants, having an odd blend of big city flair infused with pockets of quiet, simple rural life and easy access to the Teutoburger Forest for hiking and other outdoor pursuits.

HOW TO APPLY: To apply please send (i) your CV, (ii) a letter of motivation including a 1-2-page statement of your research experience, and (iii) the contact details of three referees as a single PDF file to: nayden.chakarov@uni-bielefeld.de. Review of applications will begin on the 15th November 2021 until the positions are filled. For further information, please see <https://bit.ly/2ZztNbd> or contact Nayden Chakarov via email.

The University of Bielefeld is an equal opportunity employer. We particularly welcome applications from women and handicapped people. Given equal suitability, qualifications and professional achievement, women and handicapped people will be given preference, unless particular circumstances apply.