



45,000 students and 8,000 employees in teaching, research and administration, all working together to shape perspectives for the future – that is the University of Münster (WWU), Germany. Embedded in the vibrant atmosphere of Münster with its high standard of living, the University's diverse research profile and attractive study programmes draw students and researchers throughout Germany and from around the world.

The Department of Behavioural Biology at the University of Münster, Germany, is seeking to fill two positions for

**Doctoral Research Associates
Wissenschaftliche/r Mitarbeiter/in
(salary level TV-L E 13, 65%)**

The two fixed term part-time (65%) positions are available to commence at the earliest possible date. They are funded for 3 years, with the possibility for an extension until 31 December 2025.

The positions are offered by the DFG funded Collaborative Research Centre (SFB/TRR 212) *A Novel Synthesis of Individualisation across Behaviour, Ecology and Evolution: Niche Choice, Niche Conformance, Niche Construction (NC3)*, subproject B01 "Social niche conformance in a rodent: When, how and why" (Prof Sylvia Kaiser). The overall aim of this project is to elucidate the causes and consequences of social niche conformance in a highly social rodent, the guinea pig. We will ask three questions: 1) when, 2) how and 3) why does social niche conformance occur? To answer these questions, we will compare the behaviour and endocrine parameters of juvenile, adolescent and adult male guinea pigs, living in different individualised social niches.

Your tasks:

- planning and conducting behavioural experiments
- observing and analysing social behaviour
- sampling and analysing endocrine data
- statistical data analysis
- publication of the data in peer-reviewed journals
- presentation of data at conferences
- collaboration in the externally funded project B01 within the CRC "NC3"
- These positions are tied to working towards a doctorate.

Our expectations:

- a master's degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline (e.g. behavioural biology)
- laboratory animal certificates
- interests in behaviour and endocrine systems
- experience conducting behavioural tests
- experience handling small rodents
- experience using statistical software
- a strong ability to work both independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team
- very good oral and written communication skills in English

The University of Münster is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to increasing the proportion of women academics. Consequently, we actively encourage applications by women. Female candidates with equivalent qualifications and academic achievements will be preferentially considered within the framework of the legal possibilities.

The University of Münster is committed to employing more staff with disabilities. Candidates with recognised severe disabilities who have equivalent qualifications are given preference in hiring decisions.

Are you interested? Then we look forward to receiving your application by **10 December 2021**. To apply, please provide (i) a letter of motivation including a statement of your research interests and skills, and experience relevant to the position, (ii) a CV including a publication list, (iii) names and contact details for two referees willing to write confidential letters of recommendation. All materials should be sent as a single PDF file to **kaisesy@uni-muenster.de**. Please note that we cannot consider other electronic file formats.

Contact

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