PhD Student and Graduate Assistant in Urban Geography (Global Urbanism)

Introduction

With close to 15,000 students and almost 4,000 academic staff, the University of Lausanne offers a welcoming place for the brightest minds around the world to engage in critical and innovative thought. Its scenic campus is situated right on the shore of Lake Geneva, in the heart of Europe, and is home to over 120 nationalities.

Presentation

The Department of Geography and Sustainability (IGD) at the University of Lausanne seeks to fill the position of PhD Student and Graduate Assistant in Urban Geography (Global Urbanism). The position is part of the research team led by Professor Martin Müller, who will act as the doctoral advisor.

The Department of Geography and Sustainability (IGD) is an interdisciplinary community of about 100 academics that work on space, place and the environment. With 15 professors and close to 40 PhD students, the department offers a vibrant, stimulating environment for cutting-edge research. It hosts regular lecture series and distinguished guest researchers from around the world. The post is located in the research cluster Urban Studies, the largest of the department’s six research clusters.

Your responsibilities

The successful candidate will develop independent research leading to a PhD in the broad field of urban geography (specialisation: global urbanism), with an aim to developing an academic career. She or he will enjoy considerable freedom in defining the topic of the thesis. It should, however, demonstrate a relationship with ongoing research led by Prof. Martin Müller (www.martin-muller.net).

The candidate will devote at least 50% of working time to her/his PhD research, with the remaining time reserved for supporting teaching and research in the team of Prof. Martin Müller as a graduate assistant.

Job information

Expected start date in position: 01 February 2020, or as soon as possible thereafter
Contract length: 1 year, renewable 2 x 2 years, maximum 5 years
Activity rate: 80%
Workplace: University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

Your qualifications

The successful candidate is expected to
- have earned a Master’s degree (or equivalent) in geography, urban studies or another field relevant to the post
- demonstrate an interest in social theory as applied to cities
- demonstrate expertise in qualitative or quantitative methods
- have fieldwork experience
- show an ambition to develop an international research profile
- have working proficiency in English and French
- demonstrate skills of a team player in a multi-lingual, multi-disciplinary setting
- demonstrate autonomy and initiative
The following are considered assets, but not requirements:

- regional expertise in cities in the Eurasian space
- experience with writing and publishing in English.

**What the position offers you**

The team led by Professor Martin Müller aims to produce ground-breaking, critical thought that makes a difference. We have a global outlook, placing an emphasis on international publications. Our strength lies in bringing together current social and cultural theory with international fieldwork. Our research language is English, while teaching happens in English and in French in roughly equal parts.

We offer a stimulating and diverse work environment and esprit de corps, with dedicated support for developing an academic career. Members of our research group become part of international networks and benefit from opportunities to attend conferences and workshops around the world.

The University of Lausanne offers an excellent remuneration package and additional funds for fieldwork and conferences.

**Contact for further information**

Professor Martin Müller (martin.muller@unil.ch)

**Your application**

Deadline: 01 December 2019

Interviews will take place in the week of December 16, either in person or via Skype.

Please submit the following documents only via the career website of the University of Lausanne:

- cover letter detailing how the profile of the candidate matches the criteria above
- full CV
- names and e-mail addresses of two academic referees
- scans of university degrees and course transcripts/marks
- one piece of research (e.g. Master’s thesis, research paper, publication etc.)
- a short (2-3 pages) proposal for doctoral research, including how it aligns with Professor Müller’s interests.

**Additional information**

UNIL is committed to promoting gender equality and strongly encourages applications from female candidates.