

# Job Vacancy

The *Leibniz-Institute for the German Language* (IDS) in Mannheim (Germany) is offering a researcher position, starting **1st February 2022**, in a new project investigating ‘Social interaction with Virtual Assistants’:

## Research Associate (post-doc) position

**for up to five years (100%, fixed-term)**

(job reference number 14/2021)

The position is located in the Pragmatics Department of the IDS. The appointment is for up to five years, with a salary according to the German public service scale grade TV-L 13 (*Tarifvertrag für den Öffentlichen Dienst der Länder*).

### Job description

The incumbent of the position will become a member of a research team examining social interaction with virtual assistants such as Amazon Echo (Alexa), Google Home, or Siri. The project aims at identifying emerging verbal and communicative routines in interaction with Virtual Assistants, especially in homes and in cars, in German language. The project team uses methods of multi-modal Conversation Analysis and Interactional Linguistics, complemented by quantitative approaches. The project offers the opportunity to work in an exciting emerging field of research in the context of an internationally renowned research institute.

### Your tasks include

- ▶ designing and conducting a study in the field of Social Interaction with Virtual Assistants, using methods of Multimodal Conversation Analysis and Interactional Linguistics
- ▶ presentation of results at international conferences (independently and together with the project team)
- ▶ (co-authored) publications on results of the project in English and German
- ▶ recruitment of subjects in the field
- ▶ planning, organisation and conduct of field recordings (audio and video recordings)
- ▶ contribution to the administration and coordination of the project
- ▶ participation in the organization of workshops, panels and conferences
- ▶ support concerning administrative and organizational tasks in the context of the department.

### Requirements

We invite applications from scholars interested in technology use in interaction. A strong motivation to pursue a scientific career is mandatory. The successful applicant will:

- ▶ hold (or very soon expect to obtain) a PhD in linguistics or a related social science relevant to the field of research;
- ▶ have expertise in Conversation Analysis and/or Interactional Linguistics;
- ▶ have very good proficiency (at least C1-level according to CEFR) in German;
- ▶ have a good command of (academic) English;

- ▶ enjoy working as part of a team;
- ▶ have experience in or interest in recruiting subjects, and preparing and conducting field- work and data collection;
- ▶ have experience with and interest in using Virtual Assistants;
- ▶ have experience in team and project work.

## Employer

The *Leibniz-Institute for the German Language (IDS)* is an extramural institution dedicated to research on German language. It belongs to the Leibniz Association, one of the four major extramural research associations in Germany. The IDS provides a stimulating research environment, with excellent facilities and expertise supporting linguistic research based on corpora, and close links to the Universities of Mannheim and Heidelberg.

In addition to training and development opportunities, the IDS offers an attractive occupational pension plan, financial subsidy for childcare, and salary in accordance with the German public service scale grade.



The IDS aims to further increase the number of female researchers among the scientific staff. Applications from qualified female scientists are therefore particularly welcomed. The IDS is a family-friendly employer. In cases of equal merit, preference will be given to applicants with a disability.

### Your application contains

- ▶ a cover letter stating your interest in the position
- ▶ a CV
- ▶ a scan of your latest academic certificates (PhD, M.A., B.A.)
- ▶ a sample piece of academic writing (a published article, or (parts of) your PhD or M.A. thesis).

Please send your application, citing the job reference number **14/2021**, in a single pdf file by e-mail to:

Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache (IDS)  
Sekretariat Verwaltung  
E-Mail: [hohlfeld@ids-mannheim.de](mailto:hohlfeld@ids-mannheim.de)

The deadline for applications is **November 15, 2021**. We are expecting to conduct job interviews in the second half of November. Due to the ongoing pandemic, they may take place virtually via Zoom.

For enquiries concerning the position, please contact Henrike Helmer ([helmer@ids-mannheim.de](mailto:helmer@ids-mannheim.de)).