

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

The University of Lucerne is the youngest Swiss university. Founded in 2000, it includes four faculties (Cultural and Social Sciences, Economics, Law, Theology) and has 2800 students. About 500 employees create an inspiring teaching and research environment. The Faculty of Cultural and Social Sciences, with its ten departments and institutes, puts great emphasis on innovative research and study programmes.

At the Department of Political Science of the Faculty of Cultural and Social Sciences of the University of Lucerne, we offer a full-time position as a

PhD Researcher

The successful candidate is expected to conduct research within the Swiss National Science Foundation-funded project “ACCORds: Advancing Configurational Comparative Research Methods”, led by Prof. Dr. Alrik Thiem. ACCORds focuses on the development and application of configurational comparative methods (also sometimes called set-theoretic methods) such as Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA). Specific areas of activity within ACCORds include, but are not limited to, functional and technical enhancements, mixed-method research, philosophical questions related to configurational research, and software development. More details on ACCORds can be found on <http://www.alrik-thiem.net/projects/>.

The starting date is 1 January 2018 or determined by mutual agreement.

Your tasks:

- Designing a high-quality research project within the context of ACCORds, preferably with a methodological focus (applied projects with substantial methodological components are also welcome)
- Generating visible research output, both in terms of scientific publications and the broader communication of ongoing work and results (presentations at conferences, etc.)
- Taking part in the activities of the department
- Teaching is optional

Your profile:

- MA/MSc degree by the time of the start of the position
- high interest in configurational comparative methods
- intermediate to advanced knowledge of programming in R and/or C is a major advantage
- fluency in English (proficiency in German is an advantage)
- academic background in political science or a related area is **not** a requirement

We offer:

- a 4-year contract
- a competitive salary based on the standards of the Swiss National Science Foundation
- an inspiring atmosphere in a small, dynamic, and internationally well-connected department
- an attractive workplace at the shores of Lake Lucerne

Please send your full application (in English) as a single PDF file, including a cover letter, your CV, a copy of your MA/MSc certificate (or an indication of when you will receive it), a sample of your work (e.g., an essay written for a course), as well as a concise outline of your research plans to jobs@unilu.ch, quoting the application number 220194/01. Review of applications will begin on 31 October and will continue until the position is filled. For further inquiries, please send an e-mail to Prof. Dr. Alrik Thiem (alrik.thiem@unilu.ch).