

We are seeking **two MA-Students** who are interested in participating in and supporting the ERC-funded project LitAttention as

**Research Assistants (f/m/d) (*wissenschaftliche Hilfskräfte*)
(40h/month)**

The anticipated starting date is 01 October 2025. Remuneration is based on the hourly rates for student assistants in Baden-Württemberg, i.e. 14,87 € /hour.

The positions are part of the project [“LitAttention – What Short Fiction Knows About Attention and Attention Politics”](#), funded by the European Research Council (ERC). LitAttention combines approaches from cognitive literary studies, computational linguistics/digital humanities, and psychology to investigate developments in short fiction and changing theories of attention and to explore literary techniques and linguistic devices that guide readers’ attention. LitAttention is being conducted at the Department of English Literatures and Cultures.

Your tasks include

- research support, e.g. literature research and the development of (online) databases
- editing and proofreading of manuscripts
- support of public outreach (e.g. updating the project website, preparing flyers/posters)
- assistance in the organisation of project events (e.g. workshops)

Requirements

- enrolment as MA/MEd focusing on English literatures and cultures at the University of Stuttgart and a strong interest in 19th-21st century literature and interdisciplinary approaches
- a first-rate academic transcript (proven by the grades achieved during your BA-studies)
- excellent language skills (written and spoken) in English
- strong communication and organisational skills
- the ability to quickly engage in new tasks and to work reliably and independently
- the willingness to engage in interdisciplinary approaches
- experience in web design is welcome

MA-students will have the opportunity to write their MA theses on specific aspects related to one of the LitAttention subprojects and benefit from being part of the project beyond their employment as student assistants.

Please send the following documents (in English) as one PDF to sibylle.baumbach@ilw.uni-stuttgart.de **by 15 September 2025**: your CV, a letter of motivation (one page), which provides an overview of the above-mentioned skills; your academic transcript including all grades received up to this point, and a writing sample (e.g. BA-thesis, a research paper).

If you have any questions about the positions, please contact Prof Dr Sibylle Baumbach, sibylle.baumbach@ilw.uni-stuttgart.de.