

PhD researcher (m/f/x)

Online seit 13.08.2025 | 2025-08-13-938479 | Wissenschaftliche:r Mitarbeiter:in

Stellenbeschreibung

Center for Religious Studies (CERES):

Science and Dogma (SCIGMA) – Tracing Natural Knowledge within Scholastic Theology (1545–1789)

In order to fill a **fixed-term position in part-time (75%: 29,8725 hours/week) 01.02.2026**, we are looking for a

PhD researcher (m/f/x)

CERES is a Central Research Unit of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum. It currently brings together over 50 researchers, which makes it one of the largest centers for the comparative study of religion in Europe. The center combines a focus on the history of religions with theoretical and empirical approaches in the study of religions. A position of a PhD researcher is to be filled for 3 years starting on 1 February 2026. The PhD position is part of the ERC Starting Grant (101164040) led by Prof. Christoph Sander as Principal Investigator (PI): Science and Dogma (SCIGMA) – Tracing Natural Knowledge within Scholastic Theology (1545–1789). SCIGMA investigates how naturalism and empiricism informed scholastic and dogmatic theology, from the Council of Trent to the French Revolution across all Western Christian denominations. For more information, see www.scigma.de and <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.16535350>.

Your tasks:

- Designing and conducting a doctoral research project in close collaboration with the PI, focusing on the intersection of religious and intellectual history
- Contributing to the activities of the SCIGMA team, including the organization of workshops, co-publications, and related tasks
- Digitally recording and managing research data generated in the dissertation project

Anforderungsprofil & Qualifikationen

Your profile:

- Master's degree (or equivalent) in a relevant humanities discipline
- Familiarity with early modern intellectual history (e.g., theology, philosophy, science, ca. 1500–1800)
- Latin reading skills or willingness to acquire basic proficiency quickly
- English proficiency for communication within the international SCIGMA team
- Willingness to work with databases and digital tools
- Interest in engaging with sources, authors, and themes that fall outside the traditional canon and are largely unexplored

Desirable qualifications:

- Knowledge of Christian dogmatics and Reformation history
- Experience with bibliographic software (e.g., Zotero)
- Interest in or familiarity with Semantic Web standards (e.g., RDF, SPARQL)
- Interest in or experience with digital approaches to large text corpora (e.g., OCR, topic modeling, semantic search)

We offer:

- Options for flexible working (mobile working and teleworking)
- Extensive training and professional development opportunities
- Support in combining family life and work (including childcare arrangements/holiday offers/
- Integration of an independent PhD project into a larger international research initiative, with individual academic supervision
- Financial support for travel and research expenses
- Training and hands-on experience in digital research methods
- Possibility to acquire teaching experience (but no obligation)

Further information:

The position is salaried and based on the collective agreement of the Länder (TV-L). If the personal and collective agreement requirements are met, the employee will receive pay grade E13 TV-L.

Further information can be found at <https://oeffentlicher-dienst.info/> (in German).

The place of work is Ruhr University Bochum.

If the position is funded by third-party funds the employee has no teaching obligation.

Application documents (in German or English): Motivation letter (max. 2 pages) Tabular CV (max. 2 pages) Outline of the proposed PhD project (max. 1000 words). Job interviews will be held in the first half of October 2025, exclusively online. Please do not hesitate to ask questions before submitting your application: scigma.academic@gmail.com

German language courses are offered by the University Language Center (ZFA) in the field of German as a Foreign Language (DaF).

<https://www.daf.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/sbgk/index.html.en>

The Staff Council has the right to participate in all selection interviews. At the request of a candidate (m/f/x), it will ensure its participation in the entire procedure. Please contact wpr@rub.de.

The Ruhr-Universität Bochum is one of Germany's leading research universities, addressing the whole range of academic disciplines. A highly dynamic setting enables researchers and students to work across the traditional boundaries of academic subjects and faculties. To create knowledge networks within and beyond the university is Ruhr-Universität Bochum's declared aim.

The Ruhr-Universität Bochum stands for diversity and equal opportunities. For this reason, we favour a working environment composed of heterogeneous teams, and seek to promote the careers of individuals who are underrepresented in our respective professional areas. The Ruhr-Universität Bochum expressly requests job applications from women. In areas in which they are underrepresented they will be given preference in the case of equivalent qualifications with male candidates. Applications from individuals with disabilities are most welcome.

Contact persons for further information:

Dr. Tim Karis +49 234 32 25492

Travel costs, accommodation costs and loss of earnings or other application costs for job interviews can unfortunately not be reimbursed.

We look forward to receiving your application via our **online application portal by 2025-09-15**. Please make sure to mention the reference number ANR 4874.

Vorteile für Mitarbeitende

- Vergünstigtes Jobticket
- Arbeitsplatz in lebendiger Metropolregion

Stellenmerkmale

Beschäftigungsart	Wissenschaftliche:r Mitarbeiter:in
Beschäftigungsumfang	Teilzeit (befristet)
Home Office	Nein
Bewerbungslink	https://jobs.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/jobposting/1b63dff2eab1d2c4f72e32ca6fa4fb65c85f9cfe?ref=stellenwerk

Kontaktdaten

Firma/Hochschule	Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Anschrift	Universitätsstraße 150 44801 Bochum
Kontakt	Dr. Tim Karis
Telefon	 +49234 32 25492
E-Mail	
Webseite	https://uni.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/de/stellenangebote