



UNIVERSITY
OF COLOGNE

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Postdoctoral researcher (f/m/x)

Institute of Geography



We are one of the largest and oldest universities in Europe and one of the most important employers in our region. Our broad range of subjects, the dynamic development of our main research areas and our central location in Cologne make us attractive for students and researchers from around the world. We offer a wide range of career opportunities in science, technology, and administration.

The position is part of the project “Soil and Landscape Dynamics – Quantifying Processes in Earth’s Critical Zone”, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation. The focus of the research is the identification of weathering-induced luminescence characteristics and the development of a luminescence-based weathering proxy.

YOUR TASKS

- » Conducting laboratory-based experiments to develop a time series on feldspar weathering
- » Analysing petrological and luminescence-based properties of feldspars from a quasi-natural weathering environment
- » Quantifying luminescence features influenced by weathering in feldspars altered in both lab and natural settings
- » Presenting results at national and international conferences
- » Writing scientific articles for publication

YOUR PROFILE

- » PhD in Geography, Geology, Physics, or a related field
- » Experience with experimental laboratory work and with analysing and interpreting complex datasets
- » Experience in luminescence measurements and/or luminescence dating
- » Experience with geochemical and/or petrological analysis methods is desirable
- » High motivation, commitment, creativity, and excellent communication skills in English

WE OFFER

- » A diverse working environment with equal opportunities
- » Support in balancing work and family life
- » Extensive advanced training opportunities
- » Occupational health management offers
- » Flexible working time models
- » Opportunity to work remotely

The University of Cologne promotes equal opportunities and diversity. Women will be considered preferentially in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (Landesgleichstellungsgesetz – LGG NRW). We also expressly welcome applications from all suitable candidates regardless of their gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation and identity.

The position is available from 01.03.2026 on a full-time basis (39,83 hours per week). It is limited for 24 months. If the applicant meets the relevant wage requirements and personal qualifications, the salary will be based on remuneration group 13 TV-L of the pay scale for the German public sector.

Please apply online with proof of the required qualifications without a photo under: <https://jobportal.uni-koeln.de>. The reference number is Wiss2511-03. The application deadline is 23.11.2025.

For further inquiries, please contact Jun.-Professor Dr Svenja Riedesel (svenja.riedesel@uni-koeln.de) and take a look at our [FAQs](#).



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH