



The [Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences](#) promotes innovative, excellent, problem-oriented research that aspires to contribute to societal debates and address key global challenges. The cohorts trained and supported by ViDSS are part of the vibrant research environment at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Vienna. ViDSS aims for the highest standards in doctoral training and close supervision to ensure a mastery of social scientific debates and relevant theories and methods.

The following doctoral position(s) are announced by ViDSS or the departments supporting ViDSS:

University Assistant (prae doc) at the Department of Political Science under the supervision of Barbara Prainsack (Project: “Digitize! Computational social sciences in digital and social transformations”)

Digitisation, datafication and automation offer new opportunities for research and practice, while raising ethical and social questions: How should decisions be made about which data should be collected and processed about which groups of people, and to what democratic and civil society legitimation or control should these be subjected? The process of automation not only fuels fears of the replacement of human labour, but also raises the question of how automated decision-making processes can be controlled or corrected. Which instruments are appropriate for this? The post-holder will address these questions on a theoretical and conceptual level in order to contribute to international scientific debates. Being part of a larger project on computational social science, s*he will also accompany activities in other activities in the other work packages of the project.

Job Description:

- Participation in the aforementioned research project “Digitize!”, which will include data collection, data analysis, participation in publications / scientific articles / lectures
- Signing a dissertation agreement within 12–18 months is expected
- Participation in teaching and independent teaching of courses as defined by the collective agreement
- Supporting students
- Participation in the organization of meetings, conferences, symposia
- Participation in departmental teaching and research administration
- Participation in applications for external research funding

Profile:

- Interest in digitisation and ethics
- Master’s degree in political science, law, or another relevant social science or humanities discipline
- Expertise in ethical, regulatory and societal aspects of digital transformation; experience with, or interest in digital technologies in the field of social science research would be a particular advantage
- Training in the field of empirical social research (qualitative and/or quantitative methods)
- Willingness to work in interdisciplinary teams
- High level of written and oral expression
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Computer user skills
- Team spirit

Extent of Employment: 30 hours/week

[Job grading in accordance with collective bargaining agreement](#): §48 VwGr. B1 Grundstufe (praedoc) with relevant work experience determining the assignment to a particular salary grade.

The candidates who are selected for these positions are automatically admitted to ViDSS as student members. Applications are to be submitted through the [Job Center of the University of Vienna \(reference number: 10828\)](#), no later than 23.06.2020.