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 the 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 the VIDSS or the departments supporting the ViDSS:

Ph.D. Position with a focus on the European Arctic within the ERC Project INFRANORTH
(Building Arctic Futures: Transport Infrastructures and Sustainable Northern Communities)
under the supervision of Peter Schweitzer

The recently awarded ERC Advanced Grant INFRANORTH (PI Prof. Peter Schweitzer) at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology offers a Ph.D. position (30 hours a week for three years) with the regional focus on the European Arctic (Finland, Sweden, Norway, Island, or Greenland).

The project focuses on how residents of the Arctic, both indigenous and non-indigenous, engage with transport infrastructures and tries to understand the role of existing and planned infrastructure projects regarding the future of human habitation and sustainable community development in the Arctic. In addressing these tasks, the project will document the material and non-material entanglements of local residents with transport infrastructures in the coastal areas of the three macro-regions of the Arctic: the Russian Arctic, the North American Arctic, and the European Arctic.

Candidates with a background in social anthropology or related disciplines, knowledge of English and at least one regional language (German is an advantage), as well as field experience or interest in the Arctic, are encouraged to submit their applications (a cover letter, a CV, and a writing sample in English) via the Job Center of the University of Vienna. The call for the position will remain open at least until April 30th, 2021.

Job description:
• Conducting and publishing research
• Contributing to the overall project
• Presenting results at international conferences and assisting in organizing project workshops

Profile:
• M.A. degree (or equivalent) in social/cultural anthropology (or related discipline)
• Experience or interest in field-based research in the North on topics related to infrastructure, mobility and sustainable communities
• Excellent command, both written and oral, of English
• Field-specific regional language knowledge necessary

Duration of employment: 3 years
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 candidate who is selected for this position joins the VIDSS as student member. Applications are to be submitted through the Job Center of the University of Vienna (reference number: 11966), no later than 30.04.2021.