



UNIVERSITY
OF COLOGNE

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Doctoral Position in Physical Geography (f/m/x)

Institute of Geography



Foto: Gregor Hüb

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 doctoral 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
- » Own further qualification (doctorate)
- » Presenting results at national and international conferences
- » Writing scientific articles for publication

YOUR PROFILE

- » M.Sc degree in Geography, Geology, Physics, or a related field
- » Experience with experimental laboratory work and with analysing and interpreting complex datasets
- » Experience with geochemical and/or petrological analysis methods and/or luminescence dating 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
- » Flexible working time models
- » Extensive advanced training opportunities
- » Occupational health management offers
- » 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 1 November 2025 on a part-time basis (29,87 hours per week). It is limited for 36 month. 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 (letter of motivation, CV, copies of certificates) without a photo under: <https://jobportal.uni-koeln.de>. The reference number is Wiss2506-20. The application deadline is 30 August 2025.

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