



Doctoral Student – Task Switching Decisions and Underlying Cognitive Processes (f/m/x)

Department of Psychology

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.

As part of the DFG-funded research group "Task-Switching Decisions and Underlying Cognitive Processes" (FOR6047), a research position (PhD candidate) is available in a subproject. The subproject investigates decisions on task switching from the perspective of decision psychology using cognitive modeling. The subproject is being carried out in collaboration with the German Sport University Cologne and offers graduate training within the research group, exchange with approximately 10 other doctoral candidates and project leaders in Freiburg, Magdeburg, Osnabrück, Regensburg, Tübingen, and a Mercator Fellow in Princeton, USA.

YOUR TASKS

- » Working on one's own doctoral thesis in the subject area of the project (including participation in the DFG FOR6047 doctoral training program).
- » Implementation of a project within the research group
- » Completion of experiments and publishing of the results in peer-reviewed scientific journals
- » Statistical analysis of experimental data
- » Cognitive modeling, including model development, estimation, and comparison
- » Collaboration in a joint project with the German Sport University Cologne
- » Participation in the self-administration of the institute

YOUR PROFILE

- » Completed university degree (Master of Science), preferably in psychology or cognitive science
- » Interest in decision research, cognitive modeling, and experimental psychology/social psychology
- » Advanced knowledge of quantitative methods and statistics
- » Knowledge of statistical programming languages (e.g., R, Python, Matlab, Stata)
- » Knowledge of cognitive modeling or willingness to develop this knowledge in the context of the project
- » Very good English skills (spoken + written)
- » Independent, structured way of working and enjoyment of working in an interdisciplinary research team

WE OFFER

- » Collaboration in a theoretically and methodologically demanding research group
- » 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

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 July 2026 on a part time basis (29,87 hours per week). It is limited for a fixed term until 30.06.2030. If the applicant meets the relevant wage requirements and personal qualifications, the salary is 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 photo under: <https://jobportal.uni-koeln.de>. The reference number is 2603-15.

The application deadline is 30.04.2026.

For further inquiries, please contact Professor Dr Andreas Glöckner (andreas.gloeckner@uni-koeln.de) and take a look at our [FAQs](#).

