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PhD position in the Marie Curie International Training Network *Deictic Communication – A Multidisciplinary Training*, Project 5: *Spatial Deixis in Diachronic Language Development*

**Description**  
The English Department of the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena invites applications for one 3-year position (full time) for a PhD student as early as Sept. 2016. The position is funded by a Marie Curie ITN Early Stage Researcher grant (to Prof. Holger Diessel)

The project will investigate aspects of spatial deixis from synchronic, diachronic, and cross-linguistic perspectives. Of particular importance will be the origins and diachronic developments of spatial deictic expressions. Methodologically, the project will combine qualitative analyses of data from historical texts, etymological dictionaries, and historical grammars with quantitative analyses of (diachronic) corpus data and data from a typological database to be established in the course of the project.

**Duties and benefits**  
The PhD student will carry out research within the described project and will write a dissertation on some aspect of spatial deixis from a diachronic and/or cross-linguistic perspective.   
  
If accepted, the PhD student is expected to take up residence in Jena and to enrol in the PhD programme of the English Department of the University of Jena. The student will participate in the training activities of the Marie Curie Innovative Training Network, which include courses on topics in linguistics and cognitive science and regular meetings of all members of the network. PhD students will receive financial support for summer schools, conferences, and secondment visits to partner institutions of the training network.

In addition to the activities organized by the Innovative Training Network, the PhD student can benefit from courses offered by the University of Jena and is expected to participate in the research activities of the linguistics group of the English Department of the University of Jena (e.g. linguistics colloquium, workshops).

For a total of up to 36 months, the PhD student will receive a monthly salary (for a full-time position) plus a supplementary family allowance, if applicable.

**Requirements**

Essential:The successful candidate must hold a Master’s degree (or equivalent) in Linguistics or a related discipline (e.g. English Linguistics; Cognitive Psychology) and should have a research focus/interest in diachronic linguistics. Excellent spoken and written English language skills are essential.

Desirable:The successful candidate is familiar with methods of (diachronic) corpus linguistics and advanced methods of statistical analysis.

Candidates who have lived for more than 12 months in Germany during the past 3 years are not eligible for the position in Jena, but may apply for other positions of the training network in other countries.

**How to Apply**

Please send applications electronically to: **x5basi@uni-jena.de**

Application Deadline: **21 March 2016**

Contact information: holger.diessel@uni-jena.de

Applications should include:

- Letter explaining the candidate’s research experience and motivation for application

- Curriculum vitae

- Copy of BA and MA diploma

- A one-page outline of the dissertation project (optional)

- Names and email addresses of at least two senior scholars who are willing to write a letter of recommendation

The Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena is an Equal Opportunity Employer