

Hier  
entsteht  
Zukunft!



Saarland University is a campus university that is internationally recognized for its strong research programmes. Fostering young academic talent and creating ideal conditions for teaching and research are a core part of the university's mission. As part of the University of the Greater Region, Saarland University enables students and staff to share and exchange knowledge and ideas between disciplines, between universities and across borders. With over 17,000 national and international students, studying more than a hundred different academic disciplines, Saarland University is a diverse and dynamic learning environment. [Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany's family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4,000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.

The Department of Language Science and Technology is inviting applications for the following position, **commencing at the earliest opportunity**.

## Academic Research Assistant (m/f/x)

**Reference number W2791**, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale<sup>1</sup>, pay grade E13 TV- L, duration of employment: 12 months, volume of employment: 50 % of standard working time.

### Workplace/Department:

The successful candidate will work with Apl. Prof. Dr. Stefania Degaetano-Ortlieb. The position will be located within the Department of Language Science and Technology. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to collaborate with researchers affiliated with the DFG-funded Collaborative Research Center (CRC) 1102 on Information Density and Linguistic Encoding and the CASCADE HORIZON Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Network on Computational Analysis of Semantic Change Across Different Environments. The research environment has over 30 PhD students and postdocs from many subfields of Linguistics, Computational Linguistics, Psycholinguistics, and Psychology.

The Department of Language Science and Technology consists of about 100 research staff in nine research groups in the fields of Computational Linguistics, Psycholinguistics, Speech Processing, and Corpus Linguistics. It is part of Saarland Informatics Campus, which brings together computer science research at the university with world-class research institutions on campus.

As part of an interdisciplinary research project, we are investigating how differences in sensory processing sensitivity (SPS) influence communicative patterns, language adaptation processes, and interaction processes. Virtual reality environments (MetaQuest3) are used to experimentally manipulate environmental conditions (e.g., light, background noise) and social stimuli (e.g., friendly vs. unfriendly conversation partners).

### Job requirements and responsibilities:

- Collaboration on study design (interview and conversation scenarios in Virtual Reality settings)
- Preparing ethics applications, GDPR documents, and OSF pre-registration
- Recruiting, screening, scheduling, randomizing, and supervising participants
- Conducting VR experiments, including pre- and post-questionnaires on affect, stress, and strain
- Collecting and evaluating psychological measurement instruments (SPS, manipulation checks)

<sup>1</sup> TV-L = collective agreement on remuneration of public sector employees in the German *Länder*

- Support with annotation and feature extraction (linguistic and non-linguistic variables)
- Conducting statistical analyses (quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods)
- Documentation, presentation, and collaboration on publications

**Your academic qualifications:**

- Completed university degree in psychology, psycholinguistics, cognitive science, computational linguistics, or a related subject
- Language skills (according to CEFR): at least B2 in German or English

**The successful candidate will also be expected to:**

- Experience in experimental research and the application of psychological measurements
- Solid knowledge of statistics (R, SPSS, Python or comparable)
- Interest in language, communication, information processing, and predispositions
- Willingness to work in an interdisciplinary team consisting of linguistics, psychology, and computer science
- Experience with VR or game-based experiments is desirable

**What we can offer you:**

- Flexible working time models for a better work-life balance, including the option of teleworking,
- A secure and future-oriented workplace with attractive conditions,
- Extensive training and continuing education opportunities (such as language courses),
- Attractive offers a part of the company health management program, such as university sports,
- Additional Pension plan (RZVK),
- Discounted ticket for public transportation (Job-Ticket),
- Company bicycle leasing (JobRad).

We look forward to receiving your **detailed online application** (in a PDF file) by **February 11, 2026** at [s.degaetano@mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:s.degaetano@mx.uni-saarland.de). Please include the reference number **W2791** in the subject line of your email.

If you have any **questions**, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:

Apl. Prof. Dr. Stefania Degaetano-Ortlieb  
 Department of Language Science and Technology  
 Tel.: +49 681 302 70077  
 E-Mail: [s.degaetano@mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:s.degaetano@mx.uni-saarland.de)

If you have obtained a foreign university degree, a proof of the equivalence of this degree with a German degree by the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) is needed before hiring. If necessary, please apply for this in time. You can find more information at <https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung>.

Unfortunately, neither costs for attending an interview at Saarland University nor costs for any certificate evaluation by the ZAB can be reimbursed in principle.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women, the University actively encourages applications from women. Applications from severely disabled persons are expressly welcome and will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung. By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.

