

The Collaborative Research Center 1342 “Global Dynamics of Social Policy” at the University of Bremen invites applications for the following academic position

**PhD Researcher in Informatics / Human Computer Interaction**

Salary Scale TV-L 13 (100%) starting April 1, 2018.

The position is a fixed term position until December 31, 2021.

Reference number: to be announced (we will update this PDF)

The position is part of the Collaborative Research Center “Global Dynamics of Social Policy” (Globale Entwicklungsdynamiken von Sozialpolitik) funded by the German Research Foundation and will be located within the project:

**A01. Measuring the global dynamics of social policy and cross-national interdependencies—Co-Creating the Global Welfare State Information System (WeSIS)**

**Project Description**

The project aims to quantify the dynamics of socio-political interdependencies between countries on a global scale. For this, a web-based information system will be developed, which allows a comprehensive analysis of such interdependencies and which will empower social scientists to leverage state-of-the-art machine learning and visualization tools. This system will be co-created by an interdisciplinary team of political scientists, geographers, and computer scientists. Together, we will envision, implement and evaluate novel software tools and techniques. The web-based information system will be the first to enable the dynamic measurement of social policy and horizontal and vertical interdependencies between countries on a global scale. WeSIS will also aggregate the findings of the collaborative research center in a central space. Eventually, WeSIS will contain data on social policy, country-specific characteristics, and political, economic, and social interdependencies across states as well as the countries’ integration into International Organisations.

**Responsibilities**

As human-computer interaction researchers, our research question will focus on co-creation and the empowerment of social scientists. Together with a large group of social scientists, we will build the information system that gives a holistic picture of the global welfare state.

Your role is defined as building a bridge between technology and the user by improving the user experience of visualizations. For this, we are looking for a computer scientist interested in data science, i.e. machine learning and visualization. Your focus will be on the user-centered design and development of novel data visualization tools. Together with your project partners, you will be part of the development of the information system, which will be made available as a web platform. You will support creating the database management system and the system infrastructure.

**Requirements**

- Master degree in Computer Science, Human-Computer Interaction, Digital Media, Media Informatics, or related field
- proven experience with user-centered and participatory design
- proven experience in database design and development
- interest in advancing social science by envisioning novel visualization tools
- programming skills in Python, Ruby, Java, or equivalent object-oriented programming language
- Level C1 in English

**Desirable**

- proven experience with web development
- proven experience with co-creation
- proven experience with computational social science

The University of Bremen has received a number of awards for its diversity policies and offers a family-friendly working environment as well as an international atmosphere.

The University is committed to a policy of providing equal employment opportunities for both men and women alike, and therefore encourages particularly women to apply for the position offered. Persons with disabilities will be considered preferentially in case of equal qualifications and aptitudes.

The University of Bremen explicitly invites persons with migration background to apply.

If you have any questions regarding the position, please contact Prof. Dr. Andreas Breiter ([abreiter@uni-bremen.de](mailto:abreiter@uni-bremen.de)).

Applications including a cover letter, a short expose (up to three pages) of your own motivation and possible research questions, CV, as well as copies of degree certificates, should be submitted until January 31, 2018, electronically to: Miss Ewa Zoschke ([e.zoschke@uni-bremen.de](mailto:e.zoschke@uni-bremen.de)):

Information Management Research Group  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Breiter  
Am Fallturm 1 (Entrance F)  
D-28359 Bremen

The cost of application and presentation cannot be reimbursed.