



PhD position in psychology at the University of Geneva, Switzerland

Background: The Consumer Decision and Sustainable Behavior Lab at the University of Geneva, led by Prof. Dr. Tobias Brosch, is looking to fill a 4-year PhD position in psychology. Located at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences and the Swiss Center for Affective Sciences, our lab integrates theoretical approaches and methods from psychology, affective sciences, behavioral economics, and neuroscience to investigate the determinants of sustainable decision-making (www.unige.ch/fapse/decisionlab). The successful PhD candidate will work in an interdisciplinary team with Prof. Dr. Tobias Brosch from the Consumer Decision and Sustainable Behavior Lab and Prof. Dr. Corinne Moser from the Institute for Market Supply and Consumer Decision-Making at the FHNW School of Applied Psychology. The position is financed in the framework of a joint research project on energy consumer preferences supported by the Swiss Federal Office of Energy. The project involves regular interactions with stakeholders inside and outside academia, including policy makers and the wider public.

Content: The aim of the research project is to investigate how energy consumer preferences and behaviors are shaped by escalating energy prices, increases in supply risks, and heightened climate change awareness. The successful PhD candidate will establish a large-scale longitudinal citizen panel to explore the relationships between cognitive and affective perceptions of energy prices, supply risks, and climate change, and investigate how these dynamics shape energy-related consumer behaviors, lifestyles, and social norms over time. The candidate will moreover co-develop tailored communication interventions to be provided to subsets of the panel members, creating large-scale informed citizen panels. The insights created in this research will allow policy makers to better understand public concerns and preferences in the energy domain and improve communication strategies to empower citizens to implement informed choices and behaviors.

Working conditions: The Consumer Decision and Sustainable Behavior Lab provides a stimulating research environment to work on some of today's most pressing societal challenges. The successful candidate will benefit from a large interdisciplinary network and from excellent working conditions, including a competitive salary (starting salary about CHF 50'000) and funding for travel and further education. Geneva is located between the Alps, the Jura, and Lake Geneva, and is noted for its international character and high quality of life. Geneva consistently ranks among the most attractive cities worldwide to live.

Requirements and application process: Applicants should have an excellent master's degree in psychology, excellent methodological and statistical skills, and a strong interest in information processing research and applied behavior change research. Previous experience with longitudinal data analysis methods is a plus. Excellent oral and written skills in English are required, a good knowledge of German or French is an asset. Applicants should be firmly dedicated to pursuing a scientific career. The successful applicant needs to be ready to move to Geneva. Interested applicants are asked to send their application as a *single* pdf document entitled NAME_application including (i) a cover letter outlining their motivation to pursue a PhD in the context of this project, (ii) their CV, (iii) a scanned copy of their M.Sc. diploma with grades (or the latest transcript of grades), (iv) a sample document of their academic writing in English (e.g., previous publication as first author, M.Sc. thesis, semester thesis) and (v) two letters of recommendation to tobias.brosch@unige.ch. Review of applications will begin on September 15 and will continue until the position has been filled. The earliest starting date is November 1, 2024. For questions, please email tobias.brosch@unige.ch.