

Prof. Paolo Ghisletta from the Methodology and Data Analysis Unit in the Department of Psychology at the University of Geneva (Switzerland) seeks applicants for

1 Doctoral Fellowship in Multivariate Modeling in Cognitive Neuroscience of Aging

This is a full-time 4-year position. Salary starts at CHF 47'040.- (Swiss Francs) per year (50'040.-by year 3). The position starts in the Fall 2023 (at a convenient date).

The position entails the writing of a PhD thesis in psychology or neuroscience by producing various scientific papers with Naftali Raz, Ann Daugherty, Cheryl Dahle, based on advanced multivariate analyses of the Detroit Aging Brain Study data (e.g., [Daugherty et al., 2015](#) and [Ghisletta et al., 2019](#)). In particular, we will study how multiple indicators or cognitive performance, MRI-derived structural brain, and vascular and metabolic risk factors are intertwined. State-of-the-art statistical modeling techniques will be applied to longitudinal data to examine age-related change over several years, lead-lag relationships between cognitive and brain variables, and modifying influence of metabolic and vascular risk factors on these associations and change trajectories.

Candidates should demonstrate expertise and strong interest in advanced quantitative data analysis (linear mixed models and latent variable modeling for longitudinal data, latent class analyses) and cognitive neuroscience of aging literature. Ambition for an academic career is highly desirable.

Candidates must have a Master in psychology or equivalent (e.g., neuroscience). There are no teaching requirements. Candidates must be fluent in English (spoken and written). Knowledge of French is desirable but not necessary. Knowledge of and willingness to learn technical statistical software is necessary (e.g., R, SAS, Mplus).

The University of Geneva offers an excellent research infrastructure and is located in one of the top-rated cities in the world with respect to quality of life. Geneva enjoys a pleasant climate and the idyllic scenery on its lake at the foothill of the French and Swiss Alps, is located at the center of Europe, and is internationally well-connected via its airport.

Applications (including a cover letter in English describing your research interest, motivation, and suitability for the position, a curriculum vitae, copy of Master diploma, two relevant publications, and two letters of recommendation) should be sent as a single PDF file, with your last and first names as the file name (e.g., DoeJohn.pdf), to Sandrine Amstutz (sandrine.amstutz@unige.ch) by Aug. 1st 2023. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

For further inquiries about the position please contact [Paolo Ghisletta](mailto:paolo.ghisletta@unige.ch) (paolo.ghisletta@unige.ch) via email.

References

- Daugherty, A. M., Haacke, E. M., & Raz, N. (2015). Striatal iron content predicts its shrinkage and changes in verbal working memory after two years in healthy adults. *The Journal of Neuroscience*, 35(17), 6731–6743.
<https://doi.org/10.1523/JNEUROSCI.4717-14.2015>
- Ghisletta, P., Dahle, C. L., & Raz, N. (2023). Age-Related Hearing Loss, Cognitive Performance, and Metabolic Risk in Healthy Adults: A Seven-Year Longitudinal Study. *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*, 78(3), 409–420.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/gbac148>