

2\* 4-year fully funded PhD fellowships in Philosophy at the University of Geneva

The PhD students write a doctoral thesis supervised by Guillaume Fréchet and they will be part of the Swiss research team of the bilateral research project 'The Crisis of Philosophy in the 1930s' funded by the SNSF (Switzerland) and the FAPESP (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and led by Guillaume Fréchet (Geneva) and Mario Porta (Sao Paulo).

The PhD students will join the Department of Philosophy, Geneva (Switzerland).

As per SNSF regulations, the gross salary will be between CHF 47'040 and CHF 50'040 per year.

The starting date is March 1, 2025, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Candidates must have a master's degree in philosophy and a background in phenomenology and/or early analytic philosophy (especially logical empiricism/neopositivism), and/or neokantianism and/or hermeneutics. The candidates will be selected on the basis of their fittingness to the research project and their scientific excellence. It is expected that the successful candidates will also contribute on the relevant sections of the *Grundriss der Geschichte der Philosophie im 20. Jahrhundert* (Schwabe Verlag, in preparation) depending on their field of research.

Deadline for applications is January 15, 2025.

Applicants must submit their dossier as a single PDF file to [Guillaume.frechette@unige.ch](mailto:Guillaume.frechette@unige.ch) with 'PhD application' in the subject line. The dossier should include:

- (i) a cover letter describing the candidate's background and profile and the fit between the candidate's interests and abilities and the research project (see project description below);
- (ii) a CV;
- (iii) academic transcripts;
- (iii) one writing sample; (e.g. thesis chapter, paper, essay)
- (iv) the contact details of two possible academic references.

#### Project description

The "identity crisis" of philosophy is a large-scale phenomenon beginning in the 19th century and extending throughout the entire 20th century, following us even today: many of the questions that were raised in the 19th century are still relevant today: is there a place for philosophy in the development of science? What is the relationship between philosophy and science? To assess such a large-scale phenomenon and its effects on contemporary thought, we need to investigate first its main turning points. Perhaps the most decisive turning point of this phenomenon is the crisis that affected philosophy in the 1930s, especially in Germany, as the result of a conjunction of various political, intellectual and historical factors: the end of the Weimarer Republic and the beginning of Nazi Germany with Hitler as Reichskanzler, the book burning of May 1933, highly symbolic for the fall of culture that came with the *Machtergreifung* of the NSDAP, and the deprivation of rights of many citizens that came with it. Such factors had a direct impact on the development of philosophy, which can be measured particularly well based on four cases: Husserl, Heidegger, Carnap and Cassirer. This project proposes a unified account of the identity crisis of philosophy in the 1930s through the lens of these four philosophers and of the four philosophical movements they created, shaped, or influenced: phenomenology, hermeneutics, logical empiricism/neopositivism and neokantianism.