



# Scientific Assistant Position (E13)

(code: Wiss25317)

Department of Animal Behaviour  
Bielefeld University  
Germany

A full-time scientific assistant position (salary scale E13) is available in the Department of Animal Behaviour at Bielefeld University from March 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 or soon thereafter. The position is available for six (3+3) years, with a possible extension in exceptional cases for another four years. The position is comparable to a Lecturer position in the UK or an Assistant Professor position in the US.

We seek a bright and highly motivated postdoctoral researcher who ideally has several years of postdoc experience in a relevant topic (e.g. animal behaviour, behavioural ecology, population ecology, evolutionary ecology). Extensive experience with genetic and genomic approaches to behaviour and/or tracking data will be a distinct advantage. The scientific assistant will be responsible for developing his or her own research agenda while also significantly contributing to one of the three core model systems of the department (zebra finches in the lab, birds of prey in the field, sea lions in the field). It is expected that he/she will be able to obtain significant third-party research funding. The ideal candidate will be able to work both independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team. The teaching duties of a scientific assistant are 4 hours per week during semesters or 120 hours per annum. In addition, the successful candidate is expected to contribute to the running of the Department of Animal Behaviour which is headed by Oliver Krüger.

The successful candidate will be based at the Department of Animal Behaviour at Bielefeld University ([www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/biologie/forschung/arbeitsgruppen/behaviour](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/biologie/forschung/arbeitsgruppen/behaviour)). The department is the oldest of its kind in Germany. It offers a stimulating international environment and an excellent research infrastructure including a brand-new building (to be completed in 2025) with state-of-the-art laboratories and offices. The working language of the Department is English. Together with the Evolutionary Population Genetics (Joe Hoffman), Behavioural Ecology (Barbara Caspers) and Evolution (Klaus Reinhold) research groups housed in the same building, there are over 70 scientists and PhD students from a dozen different countries working on related topics in behaviour, ecology and evolution.

Bielefeld is a city of 325,000 inhabitants with an attractive historical centre and easy access to the Teutoburger Wald for hiking and other outdoor pursuits. It offers a high standard of living and is well connected to most major European cities.

To apply for the position, please provide: (i) a letter of motivation including a 3-5-page statement of your research interests, how you would contribute to the core model systems in the department, relevant skills and experience; (ii) a CV including publication list; (iii) names and contact details of three referees willing to write confidential letters of recommendation. **All materials should be emailed as a single PDF file to: [oliver.krueger@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:oliver.krueger@uni-bielefeld.de).**

The **application deadline is September 10<sup>th</sup> 2025** and interviews will take place in September/October 2025. The preferred start date is March 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 but is flexible and will depend on the timeframe of the most qualified applicant. For further information, please browse the webpage of the department or contact Oliver Krüger via email ([oliver.krueger@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:oliver.krueger@uni-bielefeld.de)) with any informal inquiries.

The University of Bielefeld is an equal opportunity employer. We particularly welcome applications from women and handicapped people. Given equal suitability, qualifications and professional achievement, women or handicapped people will be given preference, unless particular circumstances apply.