The Faculty of Sociology offers a full-time research position (Postdoc) starting April 1st, 2021 (E13 TV-L, non-permanent position)

Your Tasks

The position belongs to a research project led by Prof. Elena Esposito with the title "The Future of Prediction: The Social Consequences of Algorithmic Forecast in Insurance, Medicine and Policing". It is a long-term project funded by an Advanced Grant of the European Research Council. The project aims to explore the social consequences of the algorithmic turn of prediction connected with big data and machine learning through a set of theory-driven empirical studies of the transition from probabilistic forms of uncertainty management to the new algorithmic forms of prediction. In field of policing the project focuses on predictive policing and on its consequences on the relationship between repression and prevention.

The tasks include in particular:

- scientific participation in the research of the subproject on predictive policing (60 %)
- contribution to the events and publications of the project in the form of presentations at conferences, organization of workshops and conferences, co-authorship of book chapters and articles in scientific journals (30 %)
- participation in project activities and collaboration with the research team on common research objectives of the project (10 %)

Your Profile

We expect

- scientific university degree in sociology, social sciences or criminology
- doctorate in sociology or criminology
- knowledge and experience in research on predictive policing, public health, new predictive technologies
- knowledge and experience with qualitative methods of empirical social research (especially ethnographic studies) and science & technology studies
- excellent written and spoken German and English language skills
- cooperative and team-oriented way of working
- independent, self-reliant and dedicated style of work
- strong organizational and coordination skills
- interest in epistemology of digitalization and issues about datafication
- interest in interdisciplinary research issues

Remuneration

Salary will be paid according to Remuneration level 13 of the Wage Agreement for Public Service in the Federal States (TV-L). As stipulated in § 2 (1) sentence 2 of the WissZeitVG (fixed-term employment), the contract will end by March 31st, 2024. In accordance with the provisions of the WissZeitVG and the Agreement on Satisfactory Conditions of Employment, the length of contract may differ in individual cases. The employment is designed to encourage further academic qualification. In principle, this full-time position may be changed into a part-time position, as long as this does not conflict with official needs.

Bielefeld University is particularly committed to equal opportunities and the career development of its employees. It offers attractive internal and external training and further training programmes. Employees have the opportunity to use a variety of health, counselling, and prevention programmes. Bielefeld University places great importance on a work-family balance for all its employees.

Application Procedure

For full consideration, your application should be received via either post (see postal address below) or email (a single PDF document) sent to esposito@uni-bielefeld.de by December 15th, 2020. Please mark your application with the identification code: wiss20262. Please do not use application portfolios and send only photocopies of original documents because all application materials will be destroyed at the end of the selection procedure.

Further information on Bielefeld University can be found on our homepage at www.uni-bielefeld.de. Please note that the possibility of privacy breaches and unauthorized access by third parties cannot be excluded when communicating via unencrypted e-mail. Information on the processing of personal data is available https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/Universitaet/Aktuelles/Stellenausschreibungen/2019_DS-Hinweise_englisch.pdf.

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Bielefeld University has received a number of awards for its achievements as an equal opportunity employer and has been recognized as a family-friendly university. The university welcomes applications from women. This is particularly true with regard both to academic and technical posts as well as positions in information technology as well as the skilled crafts and trades. Applications are handled according to the principles of the state statutes on equal opportunity. Applications from suitably qualified handicapped and severely handicapped persons are explicitly encouraged.