

The Comparative BioCognition Research Group (Prof. Dr. Simone Pika) of the Institute of Cognitive Science invites applications for

**1 Postdoc  
(Salary level E 13 TV-L, 100 %)**

to be filled by April 1, 2020 for a period of 2 years (extension may be possible).

**Description of Responsibilities:**

The position involves studying the development and production of turn-taking abilities in human children (0-6 years of age) to participate in the research activities within the EU-funded research project "*Taking Turns: The 'missing' link in language evolution*". We are a growing, dynamic lab investigating the evolutionary trajectory, development and cognitive underpinnings of language and complex communicative systems.

More information about the research group can be found on our website:

<https://www.comparative-biocognition.de/>

The project investigates whether cooperative turn-taking bridges the gap between the communication system of our species and our inarticulate primate cousins and whether pro-social behaviors drove its emergence. The project will address these issues through a comparative investigation of human and nonhuman primates (chimpanzees, bonobos, geladas, common marmosets) to explore the development, production and comprehension of turn-taking via systematic behavioral observations in natural environments and controlled experiments (eye-tracking, pupillometry) in captive settings.

**Required Qualifications:**

Applicants are expected to have an excellent PhD degree in Developmental Psychology, Anthropology, Biology, Cognitive Science or related fields and good knowledge of child development, communication and cognition.

Experience in the following areas is expected:

- Directing, planning and executing research projects involving behavioural observations and experiments,
- Acquisition of parent-infant dyads and management of a successful child lab,
- Use of eye-tracking technology (e.g. Tobii) and analyzes of resulting data, and
- Conduction of statistical analyses using R, LMM's and GLMM's.

Successful applicants would have an excellent track record of scientific publications in high-quality journals, excellent skills in spoken and written English, would be fluent in German, would have strong social and communicative skills, and enjoy collaborative work in an international research environment.

The position involves the opportunity to supervise and mentor junior researchers (e.g. PhD-students or master interns), publish first author papers, contribute to related projects as a co-author and present the work at international conferences and institutions.

Osnabrück University has been certified as a family-friendly university committed to helping working/studying parents and carers balance their family and work life.

The university aspires to ensure equal opportunities for men and women and strives to work towards a gender balance in schools or departments where new appointments are made.

If equally qualified candidates apply, preference will be given to those with special needs.

Applications with the usual documentation should be submitted by e-mail in a **single** PDF file to Prof. Dr. Simone Pika (spika@uos.de) with a cc to [office@ikw.uni-osnabrueck.de](mailto:office@ikw.uni-osnabrueck.de) no later than **March 25, 2020**. Further information can be obtained from Prof. Dr. Simone Pika (spika@uos.de).