

Research position in English Linguistics (Ph.D. candidate)

The **Speech, Lexicon and Modeling Lab** (<https://slam.phil.hhu.de/>) within the **English Linguistics** section of the **Institute for English and American Studies** (anglistik3.hhu.de) at Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf (Germany) is accepting applicants for a research position for a PhD candidate. National and international applicants are welcome to apply. The candidate will work in the Speech, Lexicon and Modeling Lab with Dr. Kevin Tang. The lab is dedicated to advancing applied and theoretical research involving spoken speech and grammar (phonetics and phonology) and word knowledge (lexicon) with experimental and computational methods. The start date of the position is **1 October 2022**.

About the position:

A PhD position is available for a highly motivated individual with an interest in studying the fine variation in speech production (acoustic and articulatory phonetics) from a computational perspective.

The candidate will join ongoing research into the relationship of articulatory/acoustic phonetics with language predictability, using data from English, Japanese, Korean, and potentially other languages. They will conduct corpus analyses, computational modeling of acoustic and articulatory data, and collaborate with other lab members in running experiments using a new electromagnetic articulography (EMA) system.

The teaching requirement will be one course per semester in areas relevant to the candidate's research and expertise.

Qualifications:

Applicants should have an M.A./M.S. or equivalent degree in Linguistics, Computational Linguistics, Phonetics, Data Science, or a related discipline. A solid programming background in Python, R, and/or similar programming languages is required. Teaching and research takes place in English; a working knowledge of Japanese or Korean is desirable but not required. The ideal applicant would have:

- Prior experience with speech research (especially EMA, acoustic/articulatory data analyses, and conducting experiments) and/or modeling large linguistic datasets
- Keen interest in linguistics research, and be self-motivated and hard-working
- Excellent communication, written and interpersonal skills.
- Willing to work in an interdisciplinary team.
- Working knowledge of Japanese or Korean

What can we offer?

A funded position at the German scale TV-L E13, 50%. The appointment is available for three years, beginning October 2022, with the possibility of an extension depending on the availability of funding.

Research facilities: The candidate will have access to a fully-equipped phonetics laboratory for acoustics and articulatory research and high performance computing systems (<https://www.zim.hhu.de/forschung/high-performance-computing>).

Research environment: HHU offers a strong, collaborative environment for linguistics research. The candidate will join a community of linguistics research across multiple departments/units (including English Linguistics, General Linguistics, and HeiCAD (AI)). HHU researchers have an excellent record of receiving third-party grants and publishing in top-tier journals.

A German doctoral degree and high standard of living: German universities are among the best in the world and the German doctorate enjoys an outstanding reputation in all disciplines. Germany has a very high standard of living, living costs are relatively low. This especially includes the good news that studying for a doctorate at a public university in Germany is free of charge. (For more reasons: <https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/your-goal/phd/good-reasons.html>)

Support and training for international researchers: The Junior Scientist and International Researcher Center (<https://www.juno.hhu.de/en/>) of HHU offers interdisciplinary qualification and soft skill trainings for postdocs, young research group leaders and junior professors in order to support the scientific independency of the young academics at HHU.

Support and training for graduate students: the Graduate Academy philGRAD at HHU supports the faculty's early-career academics during the doctoral phase with a diverse workshop programme in key qualifications as well as with needs-oriented advisory and coaching services (<https://www.philgrad.hhu.de/en/>)

How to apply:

Please send a single PDF file. The PDF should contain: (1) a cover letter describing your previous research experience, career goals, and motivation for working on this project, (2) your CV, (3) the contact information of two references, (4) relevant transcripts, and (5) scientific publications/writing samples, as applicable. Please send your application and/or questions to Dr. Kevin Tang (kevin.tang@hhu.de) and Dr. Christopher Geissler (christopher.geissler@hhu.de) with the subject line "PhD Candidate Position: SLAM". Review of applications will begin 15 February and continue until the position is filled.

Contact: Prof. Dr. Kevin Tang and Dr. Christopher Geissler

Application Deadline: Review begins 15 February until filled

Email Address for Applications: kevin.tang@hhu.de and christopher.geissler@hhu.de