

Call for applications for a position of **doctoral assistant**

in sociocultural/educational psychology

The Institute of Psychology and Education of the University of Neuchâtel (Switzerland) invites applications for a doctoral assistant, in principle for 4 years, renewable each year, with a starting date as soon as possible (to be discussed with the successful candidate). The Institute of Psychology and Education is part of the House of Analysis of Social Processes (MAPS) of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Its CURIOUS research center is one of the recognized European centers for research in sociocultural psychology (<https://www.unine.ch/ipe/home/recherche>).

Required qualifications: Master's degree in psychology and/or education (or equivalent) obtained at the latest at the time of starting the job. Good oral and written skills in English and French are required. Knowledge of socio-cultural psychology is desirable. Preferably the candidate would be interested in research that takes a *critical stance* towards the examination of learning and social practices/structures. They should also be interested in examining questions of social and/or environmental justice. The doctoral assistant will be expected to develop an original PhD project in sociocultural psychology to be supervised by Prof. Antti Rajala, in one or more of the following areas:

- Learning ecologies; and learning across (formal and informal) contexts
- Critical pedagogy
- Global citizenship education and decolonial approaches
- Agency, transformative learning, and social change
- Sustainable futures
- Utopian methodologies

They should be interested in participating in the training of Bachelor and Master students in psychology/education; They should be able to work independently and with initiative, while being able to work in a team and contribute to the life of the institute (<https://www.unine.ch/ipe/home>); They should be ready to engage in local and international scientific collaborations, in English, and in French with various field partners. The selected candidate will be part of the international Utopia project research group, led by prof Rajala (www.utopiaproject.fi/en). A taste for participatory and collaborative methods is an asset.

Workload: Half of the work time is devoted to personal research work and writing the doctoral thesis. The other half of the work time is dedicated to the supervision of BA and MA students (teaching; reception of students) and to the participation in administrative tasks of the institute.

Salary and application rules: salary according to the norms of the University of Neuchâtel

A candidate cannot be appointed as a doctoral assistant more than 5 years after obtaining the Master's degree, unless an exceptional dispensation is granted by the Rectorate.

Application: please send as soon as possible by email to Prof. Antti Rajala (Secretariat.IPE@unine.ch) a detailed letter of motivation in English accompanied by two pages of thesis proposal in English, a curriculum vitae, one publication if available, copies of academic titles, contact of a reference person.

Interested candidates can informally contact Prof. Antti Rajala at the following e-mail address: Secretariat.IPE@unine.ch

The deadline for sending the applications is September 30, 2024.