

PhD assistant position in information systems **University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland**

We offer a 80-100% paid PhD position in information systems starting **1st August 2025**.

The hired candidate will work on a groundbreaking project on the effect of **dark patterns in online shopping environment** funded by the **Swiss National Science Foundation**. The project will seek to understand the variables that condition the effectiveness of dark patterns, evaluate how consumers identify and interpret dark patterns, and implement interventions (consumer strategies and policies) to empower consumers to make shopping decisions that are in line with their objectives.

Position details

- Research - The candidate is committed to achieve a PhD thesis in the field of information systems.
- Publish findings in top-tier academic outlets and present at international conferences.
- The position ranges from 80%-100%

The successful candidate will work in close relationship with a Postdoctoral researcher, Prof. Adrian Holzer (supervisor and project applicant), Prof. Valéry Bezençon (project co-applicant) and Prof. Sascha Alavi (partner).

Requirements

- Master degree in information systems, human computer interaction, or related disciplines
- An interest in several of the following topics: **nudging, dark patterns, gamification, social marketing, digital ethics, policy**
- Passion for research, curiosity, creativity
- Web development competences
- Demonstrated independence and initiative
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment and interdisciplinary teams
- Good command of English (written and spoken)
- Command of French is a plus

We offer excellent conditions

- Annual salary: CHF 50,000 (EUR 53'000) for a person employed at 80%
- Project duration: 4 years
- Excellent working environment (university, infrastructure, city, sports and culture offering)

University background

The University of Neuchâtel has ~4'500 students who benefit from top-level academic trainings with excellent support. It is one of the most international universities in Switzerland, with about 100 nationalities present and a quarter of students coming from abroad. Ideally located midway between Geneva and Zürich, in the heart of Europe, it is a perfect place to study or undertake high-level research in an idyllic setting between lake and mountains.

Application procedure and deadline

The application files, containing a statement of interest, a CV, copies of diplomas with grade transcripts, a representative scientific work as a first author (e.g. working paper), GMAT or GRE scores if available, should be uploaded via this application form:

https://neuchatel.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5sXmQi0rvbpMkGa

Applications will be processed as they come with **a deadline on 30th Mai 2025**.

The University of Neuchâtel is actively engaged in the implementation of its responsibility and provides non-discriminatory working conditions.