

The chair of Social Data Science and Social Research Methods of the University of Mannheim invites applications to join the research project “Prediction-based Adaptive Designs for Panel Surveys (PrADePS)”, starting July 01, 2022 as a

### **Pre-Doctoral Researcher (m/f/d) (65% TV-L E13)**

The DFG-funded project PrADePS is investigating how machine learning (ML) and adaptive survey design methodology can be used to reduce panel attrition in longitudinal surveys. Using the GESIS Panel as a use case, panelists with high risk of non-participation are first identified using ML methods, and then various interventions that aim to reduce the risk of non-participation are tested experimentally. PrADePS is a cooperation project between the University of Mannheim (Dr. Christoph Kern) and GESIS (PD Dr. Tobias Gummer, Dr. Bernd Weiß).

Payment will be 65% TV-L E13 position for a period of three years. The University of Mannheim is an equal opportunity employer and particularly encourages applications from women and persons with disabilities.

#### **Tasks:**

- Development and evaluation of models to predict panel nonresponse using machine learning techniques
- Analysis of (heterogeneous) treatment effects of survey-based interventions on survey participation of risk groups
- Acquiring a doctorate in the context of the PrADePS project
- Publication of project results in international journals and presentations at international conferences

#### **Requirements:**

- Holds a Master's degree in one of the social sciences (sociology, political science, and related fields), data science or statistics
- Interested in computational social science
- Strong quantitative data analysis skills
- Some familiarity with a statistical programming language (e.g. R, Python)
- Fluent in English (written/spoken)

For further questions about the position or the project, please contact Christoph Kern by e-mail ([c.kern@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:c.kern@uni-mannheim.de)). Please send your application documents as a single PDF file to: [c.kern@uni-mannheim.de](mailto:c.kern@uni-mannheim.de) or by postal mail to:

University of Mannheim  
School of Social Sciences  
Christoph Kern  
68131 Mannheim (Germany)

Application deadline: **24 April 2022**



After completion of the application procedure, submitted documents will be deleted according to the laws of data protection. Electronic applications will be deleted appropriately.

Information on the processing of personal data according to article 13 of the GDPR is provided on the Universities website, section “Employment Opportunities”:

<https://www.uni-mannheim.de/en/about/employment-opportunities/data-protection-during-the-job-application-process/>