

The **Department of Modern Languages** of Goethe University Frankfurt offers full funding for 5 positions as

Doctoral Researcher (m/f/d)
(E13 TV-GU, 65%-part-time)

funded for 3 years. The salary grade is based on the job characteristics of the collective agreement applicable to Goethe-University (TV-G-U). These positions are part of the Research Training School (RTG) Nominal Modification, funded by the German Science Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG). Starting date is April 1st, 2021. Each position will be funded for 3 years including social benefits.

Students are **expected** to write a dissertation based on independent research and to actively participate in the courses, workshops, and events offered by the RTG. They will be encouraged and financially supported to participate in international conferences and summer schools, and to conduct empirical research or field work. The students will also be supported in short term stays at an international university. Internationally renowned scholars will be invited for talks and seminars relevant to the research topics of the graduate students.

The aim of the research program is to reach a better understanding of the processes of nominal modification and of the structure of the nominal domain. The first aspect of the research program is concerned with the internal syntactic structure of modified nominal phrases, addressing the universality of the DP layer, the availability of functional layers within the nominal phrase and the parallel between CP and DP from a synchronic and a typological as well as from a diachronic and a language acquisitional perspective. The second aspect investigates the external syntactic structure of modified nominal expressions with its potential relation to prosodic structure, focussing on extraposition, word order variation and discontinuity. Within a cross-linguistic perspective, we examine whether extraposition phenomena are motivated by semantics and/or phonology and how to explain linear ordering restrictions, among other aspects. The third aspect of the program deals with interpretive aspects of modification. The focus is on the question of when the occurrence of a DP-internal modifier is required or excluded and on the question of how to classify semantic relations between a modifier and a modified head. Detailed information about the research program, a list of potential dissertation topics, and a list of faculty involved can be found at <http://nominal-modification.de>.

The dissertation should address the topic of nominal modification; the focus can be on any of the linguistic sub-disciplines represented by the participating researchers at Goethe University.

The Research Training Group cooperates closely with the Grade Center Language of the Graduate Academy of Goethe-University (GRADE), which allows students to profit from a variety of events and workshops regarding support and networking <https://www.goethe-university-frankfurt.de/54287285/Home>

Application Requirements:

Applicants should hold an M.A. in linguistics, or equivalent, with the degree completed by April 1st, 2021.

Please add the following documents to your application:

- proposal (1-3 pages) in English describing the research topic the candidate plans to work on in his*her doctoral thesis and the candidate's research interests. The research topic has to be related to nominal modification.
- representative sample of research work (M.A. thesis or an advanced seminar paper)
- two names of referees who may be contacted by the search committee by mail
- Curriculum Vitae
- transcripts of BA and MA courses (English or German version)
- BA degree
- MA degree (if not already available by the date of application to be handed in the latest by April 1st, 2021).

All documents should be emailed as pdf (preferably as one document) to the spokesperson of the RTG, Prof. Dr. Esther Rinke (Esther.Rinke@em.uni-frankfurt.de). Subject line: nominal modification. Application deadline is **October 31st, 2020**. Further inquiries should be directed to the coordinator of the RTG, Dr. Derya Nuhbalaoglu (Nuhbalaoglu@em.uni-frankfurt.de)