

The Unit Economic Geography in the Institute of Geography, University of Bern, invites applications for the following position:

PhD/Assistant in Economic Geography

The position will allow the successful applicant to pursue a PhD in the fields of innovation studies, entrepreneurship and regional development. Dissertation projects can be developed from own interest and/or focus on any of the following topics we are currently working on:

- Social innovation and post-/de-growth development, including studies of social innovation in rural/mountain regions, post-/de-growth dynamics and alternative economy approaches (this research area connects with a current project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation)
- Digitalization and regional development, including drivers and consequences of workplace mobility for innovation and entrepreneurship, policy-relevant research (this research area connects with a current project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation)
- The geography of entrepreneurship, including studies of entrepreneurial ecosystems, minority/women entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship in rural/mountain regions
- The geography of innovation particularly in the context of peripheral regions/peripheries/mountain regions

We offer a stimulating and team-based work environment, which provides opportunities to present at national and international conferences and workshops, network with scholars and practitioners and develop skills in advanced research methods, analysis and writing, teamwork and leadership.

The position

Starting date: August 1 or September 1, 2019 (later starting date negotiable)

Workplace: Institute of Geography, University of Bern, Switzerland

The salary is according to guidelines of the University of Bern.

Your responsibilities

- Conducting research for a doctoral dissertation (protected time for research is ensured)
- Supporting the group's teaching, research and administrative activities

Your qualifications

- Candidates for the Ph.D. position should hold a Master degree in geography or in a closely related discipline (economics, socioeconomics, sociology, history, etc.).
- Candidates should be able to conduct fieldwork using methods of social science analysis. Experiences in economic geography research and methods are an asset.
- Excellent language skills in English and German.

Your application

The application should include the following (as one single pdf file):

- Letter of motivation

- Full CV
- Names and e-mail addresses of 2 references
- Copies of diplomas and diploma supplements
- 1 short writing sample (e.g. chapter of master theses)
- 1 page proposal for ideas for doctoral research that fits with the research of the group

Deadline: April 15, 2019

The PhD position is part of the Unit Economic Geography at the University of Bern (Professor Heike Mayer). The research group is active in the [Center for Regional Economic Development \(CRED\)](#) at the University of Bern. We currently work on a number of SNF-funded research projects. In addition, we are engaged in applied research and regularly provide expert advice to local, regional and national policymakers. For more information about the research group, please visit our [website](#).

The University of Bern has more than 17,500 students and offers a full range of fields of studies. For more information about the University as an employer, please visit this [link](#). If you would like to know more about the PhD, please click [here](#).

For questions about the position, please contact Heike Mayer (mayer@giub.unibe.ch).

Please send your application to Therese Jost (therese.jost@giub.unibe.ch).