

The overarching goal of the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History is to explore the history of humanity using state-of-the-art analytical methods. Scientists from different disciplines, such as genetics, linguistics, archaeology, anthropology and history are working together to answer fundamental questions about the biological and cultural evolution of humanity from the paleolithic until today.

We are seeking a

Scientific Programmer with an interest in Linguistics

to begin on **August 2017 or earlier** as a member of the Department of Linguistic and Cultural Evolution (DLCE). The DLCE currently maintains and develops various data- and codebases for linguistics, cultural, and genetic research, based on an Open Source stack, in particular the python programming language (for exemplary projects, see <http://clld.org> and <http://www.shh.mpg.de/DLCE>).

Your tasks:

As a programmer in our department, you will contribute to a wide variety of software projects, ranging from algorithmically complex analysis software to full-stack web application development.

You will contribute to building and maintaining databases for cultural, linguistic, and genetic research in close collaboration with researchers in an international consortium including D-Place (<https://d-place.shh.mpg.de>), Concepticon (<http://concepticon.clld.org>), and other CLLD projects. You will also further develop front-end "explorer websites", e.g. Sound Comparisons (see <http://soundcomparisons.com>). You will work closely with both our current programmers and researchers to identify the functionality and the applications needed for the scientific work.

We adhere to **best practices** of software development throughout our work, so testing and documenting your code is highly valued. Your work will involve implementing much-needed new standards for databases in linguistics, particularly the CLDF (Cross-linguistic Linked Data Formats) specification (see <http://cldf.clld.org>), and maximising synergies and shared components across our projects and the Max Planck Society's initiative for the Digital Humanities.

Your qualifications:

- Good command of spoken and written English.
- Sound knowledge of Python under Unix/Linux.
- Communicative personality (you will work in an interdisciplinary and international team where communication and team work among the members is crucial).

- Curiosity regarding language and cultural evolution is expected and a background in comparative linguistics, language typology, genetics, or anthropology is a plus.
- Experience with any of the following would be beneficial: git, PostgreSQL, SQLAlchemy, pyramid, Django.

Our offer:

We offer an interesting and responsible job in a competitive, dynamic and stimulating international research environment.

As a member of the DLCE, you will be able to learn new skills and enhance existing ones. Since all our software is Open Source, you will also be able to build up your programming portfolio.

Remuneration will follow the public service pay scale (TVöD 13, 100%), according to qualification and experience. In addition, social benefits are paid according to the regulations of the Civil Service. The fulltime-position is for 3 years with the possibility of extension depending on the availability of funding.

The Max Planck Society is committed to fostering diversity in its workforce and encourages all individuals to apply regardless of gender, race or creed.

Your application:

Please submit your application no later than **July 3 (Monday)**, to Kerstin Schück-Tittmann (schueck@shh.mpg.de), and make sure to write “[DLCE-PROGRAMMER]” in the header of your email. Please attach a short statement of motivation (maximally one page), your current CV, and a list of any relevant publications or software projects in a single PDF file. If you mention forthcoming publications, please attach the drafts as well to the same PDF. If you have questions regarding the concrete projects and the colleagues with whom you will be working most closely, please write an email to Robert Forkel (forkel@shh.mpg.de) with “[DLCE-PROGRAMMER-INFORMATION]” in the header, and we will gladly answer your questions or provide more information regarding the project and the requirements for this position.

Information regarding the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History can be found at <http://shh.mpg.de>.