Universität Hamburg
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS IN THE DFG GRADUATE PROGRAM "BIOTA-MEDIATED EFFECTS OF CARBON CYCLING IN ESTUARIES (RTG2530) – FOOD-WEB DYNAMICS, NUTRIENT FLUXES AND C TRANSPORT BETWEEN TERRESTRIAL AND ESTUARINE ECOSYSTEMS " § 28 SUBSECTION 3 HMBHG

Institution: Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences, Department of Biology, Institute of Cell and Systems Biology of Animals
Salary level: EGR. 13 TV-L
Start date: 01.04.2026, fixed till 31.03.2029 (This is a fixed-term contract in accordance with Section 2 of the academic fixed-term labor contract act [Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz, WissZeitVG]).
Application deadline: 2025-11-30
Scope of work: part-time
Weekly hours: 65 % of standard work hours per week

The overall mission of the Research Training Group 2530 (RTG 2530) is to fill existing knowledge gaps on biota-mediated effects on estuarine C cycling under current conditions and with respect to global change scenarios. Embedded into the inspiring academic environment of the University of Hamburg, RTG 2530 provides Doctoral and Postdoctoral Researchers an outstanding platform for their career development. The RTG has been established by an interdisciplinary group of 17 Principal Researchers with scientific backgrounds ranging from terrestrial and marine ecology, via geoscience to microbiology and molecular animal biology. The RTG is funded by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG).

Currently,we have 14 open positions (TVL E13, 65%) for doctoral researchers (see www.biologie.uni-hamburg.de/en/forschung/grk2530/openpositions.html

Your responsibilities

Active participation in a structured graduate program.

The doctoral researcher will be a member of RTG 2530 and the lab of both, Functional Ecology and Animal Network Ecology and will investigate nutrient fluxes and food-web dynamics between terrestrial and estuarine ecosystems. The project aims to identify the magnitude of energy and nutrient subsidies and trophic connectivity between terrestrial and aquatic systems along the salinity

gradient in the Elbe Estuary using stable isotope approaches (SIA) complemented with molecular methods (meta-barcoding) and feeding experiments. Species interaction networks will be constructed that describe the trophic interactions across the water-intertidal-land habitats throughout seasons and along the salinity gradient. Thus, the project will offer a stimulating combination of field- and lab work as well as network modeling.

Your profile

A university degree in the field(s) of i.e., Biology or Environmental Sciences.

The successful candidate should have knowledge and experience in ecology, limnology and/or environmental sciences. Experience in extensive field work, stable isotope approaches and taxonomy would be beneficial. Team spirit, experience with field work and scientific writing as well as knowledge on biostatistics and modeling are required. Good oral and written English skills are necessary. A valid driver license (ClassB, light vehicle) would be beneficial.

We offer


Reliable remuneration based on wage agreements


Continuing education opportunities


University pensions


Attractive location


Flexible working hours


Work-life balance opportunities


Health management, EGYM Wellpass


Educational leave


30 days of vacation per annum

- a structured and interdisciplinary program with colloquia and workshops
- an inspiring university environment with international visiting scholars
- funding for international research stays for members of the Research Training Group
- excellent research infrastructure with administrative offices, shared workspaces and an attractive working environment
- a wide range of support services during the doctoral phase and national and international continuing education and training opportunities
- participation in cultural and scientific university events

Universität Hamburg—University of Excellence is one of the strongest research educational institutions in Germany. Our work in research, teaching, educational and knowledge exchange activities is fostering the next generation of responsible global citizens ready to tackle the global challenges facing us. Our guiding principle “Innovating and Cooperating for a Sustainable Future in a digital age” drives collaboration with academic and nonacademic partner institutions in the Hamburg Metropolitan Region and around the world. We would like to invite you to be part of our community to work with us in creating sustainable and digital change for a dynamic and pluralist society.

The University of Hamburg is committed to equity. Diversity enriches our university life, whether in our studies, research, teaching, education, or workplace. We therefore welcome all applications, regardless of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnic or social background, age, religion or belief, disability, or chronic illness.

Severely disabled and disabled applicants with the same status will receive preference over equally qualified non-disabled applicants.

Instructions for applying

Contact

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Location

Martin-Luther-King-Platz 2
20146 Hamburg
Zu Google Maps

Reference number

311

Application deadline

2025-11-30

Use only the online application form to submit your application with the following documents:

- cover letter
- CV
- copies of degree certificate(s)
- summary of your MA thesis

If you experience technical problems, send an email to bewerbungen@uni-hamburg.de.
More information on data protection in selection procedures.