GENERAL PROFILE OF THE POSITION

Profile: Assistant professor (tenure track) in computational social science

Sciences Po médialab is recruiting an Assistant Professor in computational social science to reinforce its capacity for quantitative analysis of the digital public space. The position is intended for a candidate who has, during his/her academic career, demonstrated a capacity to renew methods of analysis of digital data which may have an impact in social science research (sociology, political science, history). The position is open to a variety of approaches: machine learning, statistical analysis, network, text or image analysis. Candidates may hold a PhD centered on data computation and modeling approaches (computer science, mathematics, physics) or have demonstrated their involvement in data science. Special attention will be paid to the candidate's ability to articulate the data-intensive methods that s/he develops with research questions pertinent to médialab's research axis on the digital public space and the quality of online democratic debate. Candidates with different research interests are invited to apply as long as they adopt approaches involving computational social science.

We expect the candidate to develop his/her own research program, but also to frame his/her activity in a collective setting and take full part in the interactions with other members of the laboratory. In particular, the person recruited will benefit from the médialab experience in engineering and design, so that the methodological innovations that s/he develops are disseminated widely throughout the scientific and student communities.

Médialab at Sciences Po

Created in 2009, médialab is a university research center (EA7033) whose research aims to explore the transformations of our societies using digital traces produced online. Closely associating approaches from sociology, design and data science, the médialab team seeks to design techniques for exploring digitized worlds and to set up mechanisms for public participation and involvement. Various research projects in médialab are already articulated around the question of the quality of debate in online settings. The candidate will then be offered the opportunity to collaborate with the various related on-going projects having to do with the circulation and reception of misinformation, the self-regulation of content on social media, the dynamics of online social movements, and so forth.

In addition, médialab plays a strategic role at the heart of Sciences Po's research community by supporting projects that focus on the study of digital worlds. As a mixed group motivated by various approaches (software development, science studies, data visualization, design,etc.), the médialab team has produced original digital tools and methods that complement projects in social science.

FUNCTIONS

Research

The recruitee will conduct his/her research program at the médialab. S/He should have a thorough knowledge of recent theoretical and methodological developments in the analysis of digital data (the data could be of any type: text, network, image, etc.). We expect strong capacities in computer science and mathematical formalism. The candidate should also demonstrate some experience with working with massive datasets in a collaborative setting. S/He will develop his/her research program through Sciences Po's own research networks, both national and international. The recruited person is also expected to take an active part in the collective activities of the center: seminars, scientific events, collaborations, call for projects from French, European or international tenders, and the supervision of students.

Teaching

The annual teaching service is 128 hours, divided into 3 courses (CM) of 24 hours each, and 56 hours (equivalent CM) of

March 2022

complementary pedagogical tasks (juries, supervision of dissertations, missions, etc.) at all levels of education offered by Sciences Po: undergraduate (in one of the seven campuses of Sciences Po), graduate, and PhD. Courses may be taught either in French or in English. Teaching service is limited to 96h/year during the first 3 years of the tenure track (2 courses of 24 hours each and 48 hours of complementary pedagogical tasks).

Administration

The recruited person will be welcome to assume various responsibilities in Sciences Po, but is not bound to any administrative obligation *a priori*.

RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Application

The application file will consist of the following documents:

- An application letter;
- The research project that the candidate intends to pursue (2-3p);
- A syllabus;
- A CV and a complete list of publications;
- Three significant publications;
- The name of three academic referees.

Applications must be sent (by email) by 15 September 2022, Barbara Bender, General Secretary of médialab, as well as to the academic human resources department of Sciences Po.

All applications will be reviewed by the Selection Committee, candidates who are shortlisted will be invited to present their research work during a job talk at Sciences Po in front of the academic community.

Job talks and interviews

Job talks and interviews will take place in Paris in October 2022. They will be divided into two parts. The first part, open to Sciences Po's academic community, will include a presentation of the candidate's work, followed by a discussion with members of the selection committee and members of the public. The second part will consist of an interview with the selection committee only.

Effective start date: January 1st, 2023

Sciences Po is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The policy at médialab is to extend opportunities to qualified applicants and employees on an equal basis regardless of an individual's origin or sex.

AFFILIATION

médialab : https://medialab.sciencespo.fr/fr/

March 2022

CONTACTS

Academic Human Resources of Sciences Po: drh.poleacademique@sciencespo.fr
Barbara Bender, secretary general of médialab: barbara.bender@sciencespo.fr

Sciences Po is an institution of higher education and research in humanities and social sciences. Its permanent scientific community - 210 professors and researchers - is structured in 12 solid and internationally recognized entities (including 5 joint research units with the CNRS and 4 university research units) and divided into 5 disciplinary departments.

hr

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

March 2022