

1 - Working at the VUB

For already 50 years, the **Vrije Universiteit Brussel** has stood for freedom, equality and connectedness. These values are strongly present on our campuses, in our students as well as our staff. At the VUB, you'll find a diverse collection of personalities: pure innovators and especially **people who are 100% their authentic selves**. With about **3.500 employees**, we are the **largest Flemish-speaking employer in Brussels**, an international city with which we are all too happy to be connected, and around which our four campuses are located.

Our education and research are grounded in the principles of **free research** with an eye on human progress. We disapprove of every purely authoritative argument and guarantee the free formation of judgement that is necessary for this basic principle to be incorporated in the community.

The VUB is autonomous and managed **democratically**. As such, we guarantee fundamental freedoms within our university, as well as the right of the university community to be involved in making and checking university policy.

The mission of the university includes:

- the development, the transfer and the application of high-standing academic education and scientific research, free from any prejudice;
- community integration of this in a spirit of social compassion;
- critical development of everyone in light of the responsibilities borne in the community.

2 - Position description

The Faculty **Social Sciences and Solvay Business School**, Department **Sociology**, is looking for a **PhD-student with a doctoral grant**.

The research part of this vacancy is situated in the field of **health sociology and the sociology of social inequality and inclusion**. More specific, the following themes can be addressed: structural determinants of inequalities in mental and sexual health; intersectionality within the sociology of health; medicalization; social inequality and stigma within health care; more inclusive chronic care; migration and health; the relationship between precarious work, unemployment and mental health from a macro-sociological perspective; population health management (pro-active data-driven health and care management); etc. Both **quantitative and qualitative** research questions can be investigated.

The selected candidate is expected to design a PhD theme at the beginning of the appointment. The candidate is expected to propose this theme to the Fund for the Research Foundation – Flanders for obtaining a grant 'Fellowship fundamental research'. It goes without saying that the candidate will be guided in this by the supervisor and more experienced colleagues. For the research part, you will be supervised by **Prof. dr. Veerle Buffel**.

As teaching assistant, you will be involved in the teaching of the department and in particular for guidance in the Bachelor of Sociology (a.o. Introduction to Sociology, Seminar Sociology). The language of instruction in this programme is Dutch. Supervision of an additional course in the Dutch-language programme is also an option. In addition, you will contribute to the daily functioning of the department and the Bachelor in the Social Sciences programme.

For this function, our **Brussels Humanities, Sciences & Engineering Campus (Campus Etterbeek)** will serve as your home base.

3 - Profile

What do we expect from you?

- You have a Master's degree in sociology or a related social science (e.g. political science, communication sciences).
- You have an excellent knowledge of Dutch and English. You feel comfortable to teach, to supervise students and to communicate in writing and orally in both languages.
- You have experience with both qualitative and quantitative research methods and look forward to teaching about them with enthusiasm.
- You are a motivated researcher. Some professional experience with scientific research is an asset, but not a requirement.
- Candidates who recently graduated are encouraged to apply.
- You have not performed any works in the execution of a mandate as an assistant, paid from operating resources, over a total (cumulated) period of more than 12 months.

4 - Offer

Are you going to be our new colleague?

You'll be offered a **full-time PhD-scholarship**, for **12 months** (extendable up to max. 6 years [*48 months PhD-scholarship and 24 months as academic staff*]), on condition of the positive evaluation of the PhD activities), with planned **starting date 01/12/2023**.

You'll receive a grant linked to one of the scales set by the government.

IMPORTANT: The effective result of the doctorate scholarship is subject to the condition precedent of your enrolment as a doctorate student at the university.

At the VUB, you're guaranteed an open, involved and diverse workplace where you are offered opportunities to (further) build on your career.

As well as this, you'll enjoy various benefits:

- **Full reimbursement for your home-work commute with public transport** according to VUB-policy, or compensation if you come by bike;
- Cost-free **hospitalisation insurance**;
- The space to form your job content and **continuously learn** via VUB LRN;
- **Excellent facilities for sport and exercise**; a range of discounts via **Benefits@Work** (in all kinds of shops, on flights, in petrol stations, amusement parks...);
- **Ecocheques**;
- Delicious meals at attractive prices in our **campus restaurants**;
- An open, family-friendly work environment where attention is paid to work-life balance, and exceptional holiday arrangements with **35 days of leave** (based on a fulltime contract), closure between Christmas and New Year and 3 extra leave days;
- **Nursery near campus**, discount on holiday camps;
- **Extensive homeworking options**, a telework allowance of 50 euros per month OR an internet fee of 20 euros per month;
- And finally: **great colleagues** with a healthy drive.

5 - Interested?

Is this the job you've been dreaming of?

Then send us **ONLINE** at the latest on **6 November 2023** (via Veerle.Buffel@vub.be)
your motivation letter
your curriculum vitae
your diplomas (not applicable for VUB alumni)

Do you have questions about this position? Please contact Prof. Dr. Veerle Buffel (Veerle.Buffel@vub.be) or Prof. Dr. Christophe Vanroelen (christophe.vanroelen@vub.be).

Would you like to know what it's like to work at the VUB? Go to www.vub.ac.be/vacatures and find all there is to know about our campuses, benefits, strategic goals and your future colleagues.