

**Open PhD Position at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland in the SNF Project „Musical Harmony & Sleep”****Project description:**

The sleeping brain is capable of processing auditory information. In this project, we aim at identifying the neural correlates and consequences for sleep quality and recovery associated with the presentation of musical stimuli and sounds during sleep. The PhD student will be mainly involved in nap and night studies, which will involve presenting different types of musical stimuli (e.g. chords, musical pieces) and sounds during sleep in healthy participants. Correlates of musical processing during sleep will be measured using physiological recordings (EEG, EOG, EMG, SCR; HR, breathing). The PhD student will be involved in all stages of the research project, including the planning and design of empirical studies, the recruitment of participants, collection of data, the analysis and publication of the data, and the training and supervision of Bachelor and Master students.

**Requirements:**

A Master in Psychology, Cognitive Sciences, Cognitive Neurosciences or a related field, with knowledge in empirical sleep research and musical skills. Proof of English proficiency is required (e.g. TOEFL or similar test, not for native speakers). A basic knowledge of German and/or French is required.

**We offer:**

We offer the PhD candidate the opportunity to conduct and contribute to exciting research projects in close collaboration with an excellent and highly motivated team. The research will be performed in the fully equipped sleep laboratory of the Division of Cognitive Biopsychology and Methods at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). Terms of employment are in accordance with the regulations of the Canton of Fribourg, Switzerland.

**Anticipated starting date:** 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2025

**Duration:** 4 years

**Application deadline:** 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2025

Please send your application (cover letter detailing the motivation for the proposed project, CV, and the names/addresses of two referees) per email to: Sonja Sutter ([sonja.sutter@unifr.ch](mailto:sonja.sutter@unifr.ch)).

**Contact**

Prof. Dr. Björn Rasch  
Division of Cognitive Biopsychology and Methods, University of Fribourg  
Rue P.A. de Faucigny 2, CH 1701 Fribourg, Switzerland

**Website:** <http://www.unifr.ch/psycho/en/research/cogpsy>