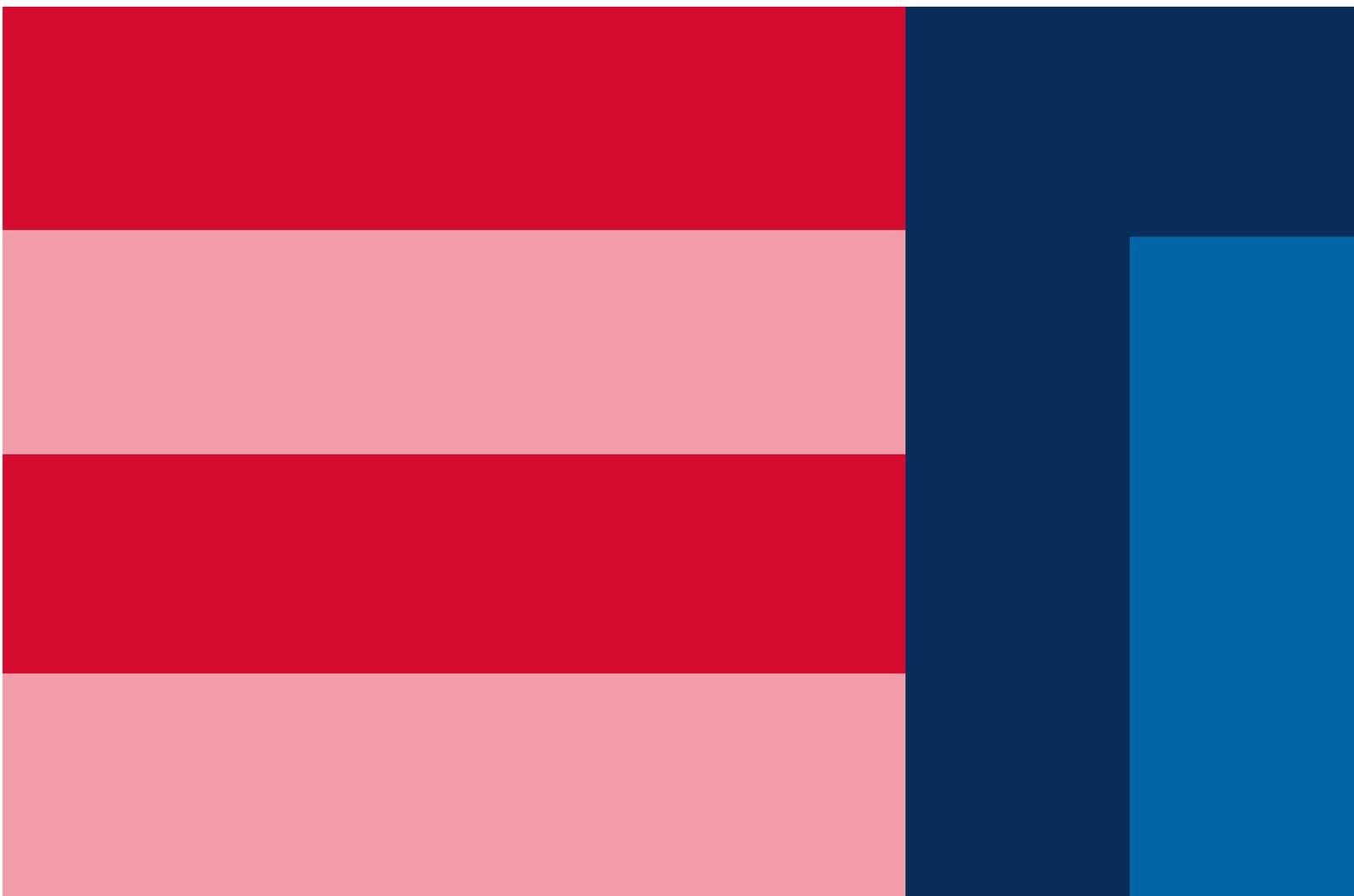


Additional information for applicants

The ZeMKI at the University of Bremen

- some information about the work environment



The ZeMKI at the University of Bremen – some information about the work environment

We are delighted that you have become aware of a vacancy at the ZeMKI and that you are considering applying. To give you a better idea of where and with whom you will be working, we have put together a brief overview of who we are, what we do at the ZeMKI, what makes us special and what you can expect from us. If you have any questions, please get in touch with the contact person listed in the job advertisement.

The ZeMKI

ZeMKI, the Center for Media, Communication and Information Research, is located at the University of Bremen in northwest Germany. It is one of the leading research institutes for communication and media studies in the DACH countries (Germany, Austria and Switzerland) as well as in the entire European scientific area, and it has a high international profile. We are one of nine Central Research Units at the University of Bremen. This means that our work is of central strategic importance for the University, that we carry out our tasks across faculties and institutes, and that we pursue a common focus that brings our research activities together. In our case, this is the transformation of society and culture through the transformation of media and communication. The ZeMKI staff come from various faculties at the university.

At ZeMKI, our overarching focus is on investigating questions of media and communication change at the interface of social and cultural sciences on the one hand and technological sciences on the other. A special focus

The research of the ZeMKI is of central strategic importance for the University of Bremen.

of our research is the emerging digital society with regard to existing inequalities, both in terms of historical questions of its genesis and current challenges posed by algorithms, automation, and data. We have also been closely examining the development, use, and consequences of artificial intelligence. Among other things, we investigate communicative figurations in various societal sub-sectors, pioneer communities, changes in practices and patterns of (digital) media use, and interactions between regulation, discourses, and the development of technologies and business models. We rely on standardized methods as well as qualitative digital and computer-based methods, which we use and develop in research and teaching to address questions of digitization, datafication, and deep media-tization.

A wide range of supporting programs rounds off the work at the ZeMKI. These include the regular ZeMKI colloquium with lectures by staff and external guests, the ZeMKI Research

Day, Teaching Day, and Faculty Day, participation in lecture series and public events at the university, as well as a summer party and a Christmas and New Year's celebration.

The Labs at ZeMKI

The research activities at the ZeMKI are organized in the form of working groups, which we call Labs. The task of the Labs is to conduct both basic and applied research in the interdisciplinary research field of the ZeMKI. The Labs bring together employees who work together on research projects and deal with common topics. However, the Labs are not a "closed shop". We also cooperate intensively across Lab boundaries, both in teaching and in research, especially when it comes to applying for new projects or implementing large-scale projects. One example of this is our work on communicative figurations and artificial intelligence.

The ZeMKI currently has ten Labs:

- Audio-Visual Media and Historiography
- Datafication and Mediatization
- Digital Communication and Information Diversity
- Film, Media Art, and Popular Culture
- Media and Education
- Media and Religion
- Media Change and Long-Term Transformation Processes
- Platform-Governance, Media and Technology
- Political Communication and Innovative Methods
- Sociotechnical Systems and Critical Data Studies

Internationalization and cooperation at ZeMKI

Cooperation is essential for excellent science. This applies both nationally and internationally. The ZeMKI is involved in various research networks. Another basis for cooperation is academic associations. In the domain of communication and media studies, the ZeMKI focuses on four major academic associations:

- The German Society for Communication Studies (DGPUK) with its sister societies in Austria (Austrian Society for Communication Studies - ÖGK) and Switzerland (Swiss Society for Communication and Media Studies - SGK M).
- At the European level, the European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA).
- At the international level, the International Communication Association (ICA) and the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR).

All academic associations organize their work in specialist groups, sections, and working groups, which also host their own annual conferences in addition to the major conferences. There are also numerous other specialist societies and conference series that may be of interest depending on the positioning of your doctoral project. Summer and winter schools also offer support on the path to a doctorate.

Since 2017, the ZeMKI has been running its own international guest research program,

The ZeMKI is one of the most important European institutions for the investigation of digital media and communication change.

the ZeMKI Visiting Research Fellowship. As part of this program, scientists from all over the world come to Bremen for four weeks at a time to conduct research and collaborate with selected ZeMKI labs. This program also provides opportunities for exchange, cooperation, and networking. The highlight of each stay is the guest's presentation at the ZeMKI research colloquium.

As part of the Erasmus+ program of the European Union, the ZeMKI has numerous cooperation partners in almost all participating countries. You can benefit from this in two ways during your doctorate: Many Erasmus contracts include not only the exchange of students in BA and MA study programs, but also of students in doctoral studies—seek advice here from the International Affairs team headed by Prof. Dr. Christian Katzenbach. As a research assistant at the ZeMKI, you are also involved in teaching and can complete a short stay for the internationalization of teaching via Erasmus+. In addition, we also maintain numerous collaborations with universities worldwide and support our employees in corresponding exchanges.

Teaching at ZeMKI

Science at the university combines research and teaching. At the ZeMKI, we rely on contemporary approaches that combine current research with teaching in lectures and seminars. The training includes introductory courses, comprehensive methodological training, and an examination of theories. In research seminars, the acquired knowledge is applied in practice and research projects are implemented. We offer numerous courses to enable students to set their own individual focus. There are also courses in media practice, internships, and courses that prepare students for their final thesis. We maintain a variety of partnerships with the media industry. The ZeMKI currently offers three study programs:

- BA Media and Communication Studies (main teaching language, German),
- [MA Digital Media and Society](#) (main teaching language, English),
- [MA Media and Public Engagement](#) (main teaching language, English).

ZeMKI faculty are also involved in the B.Sc. and M.Sc. Digital Media, an informatics degree program in Faculty 3 Computer Science and Mathematics.

We care about the diversity and individuality of our faculty and students!

As part of your employment at the ZeMKI, you will also offer independent teaching. This aspect will comprise one-third of your workload. This means that you will be responsible for a two-hour course in both the winter and summer semesters. As a doctoral student, you will be assigned to the BA Media and Communication Studies program and will also supervise seminar papers and bachelor's theses.

Don't worry your first steps in teaching! Our curricula have a modular structure. Each module has a coordinator and a team made up of experienced and new faculty members. You will not be left on your own but will develop your first courses as part of a team. We ensure that you start with more structured modules and can draw on existing teaching materials. However, the diversity and individuality of our faculty and students are also important to us. Later on, as part of curriculum planning, you will also have the opportunity to offer courses with a strong content focus that align with your doctoral project or Lab projects.

ZeMKI Doctoral Program

The doctorate is a major qualification step in science. To provide you with the best possible support, the ZeMKI offers not only first and second supervision but also access to the resources of the ZeMKI doctoral program.

The doctoral program at the ZeMKI deals with media and communication change in both the present and the past. In deeply mediated societies, popular culture, politics, everyday life, education, religion, and art are undergoing radical transformations. This involves not only changing digital infrastructures but also innovative practices of media use and datafication. As phenomena in these subject areas are multi-layered, the doctoral program adopts a broad interdisciplinary approach to strengthen individual disciplinary doctorates. The joint exchange of different perspectives promotes understanding and enables creative approaches to solutions and research within each discipline.

The disciplines involved in the doctoral program are broad. In addition to communication and media studies, they include history,

We offer our own structured doctoral program with many opportunities for exchange.

film studies, religious studies, sociology, political science, education, and informatics.

The objective of the ZeMKI doctoral program at the University of Bremen is to provide cooperative and collegial supervision for its doctoral researchers. Participants must be enrolled as doctoral candidates at the University of Bremen and be supervised by professors working at the ZeMKI. The doctoral program is based on a binding doctoral agreement that separates supervision from assessment and gives doctoral candidates broad opportunities to develop and complete their dissertation projects in a constructive environment.

The ZeMKI doctoral program also includes numerous cooperation opportunities and offers, such as writing weeks, etc. Read more here.

Universität Bremen

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