

Fully-funded PhD position in Digital Humanities at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland

The [Laboratory for the History of Science and Technology](#) (LHST) at EPFL invites applications for one full-time PhD position within the [EPFL PhD program in Digital Humanities](#) (EDDH), working at the intersection between computer science and history.

The successful candidate will analyze a large corpus of English and American patents (18th-20th century) to develop their own research project around the following historical and methodological topics: the history of technological innovation; the rise and development of intellectual property; the evolution of legal and technological language; semantic information extraction by combining text-based and image-based methods; alignment and document analysis of textual and pictorial publications; the development of a representation model for complex historical sources.



Profile:

- Applicants should hold a master's degree in science, engineering, the humanities or social sciences relevant to research in digital humanities. Candidates who have a dual background in the sciences and the humanities (e.g., a B.S. in Computer Science and a M.A. in History) or can demonstrate knowledge and interest in both domains are particularly encouraged to apply.
- Technical expertise in (one or several of) the following fields: applied statistics, data science, programming (e.g., Python), natural language processing, machine learning, computational linguistics. The successful candidate will further develop their skills by attending the EDDH doctoral school.
- Fluent English; French and/or German an asset. The dissertation can be written in English, French or German.
- Interest in working in a collaborative, interdisciplinary and international environment.
- Candidates of all nationalities are invited to apply; applications from women are especially welcome.



What we offer:

- LHST is a young and dynamic lab with an interdisciplinary perspective and an interest in experimenting with innovative methods in the digital humanities. The lab is a member of the [Digital Humanities Institute](#) at EPFL and of the joint University of Lausanne-EPFL [dhCenter](#). The lab also hosts a rich [collection of historical scientific instruments](#).
- EPFL provides an excellent and stimulating research and teaching environment as well as a dynamic and lively international campus with a vibrant student life.
- Located on Lake Geneva, Lausanne is a picturesque city with various possibilities for recreational and cultural activities.

Starting date: January 1, 2021 (flexible).

Duration: 4 years.

Terms of employment: Fixed-term at 100% work rate. EPFL offers internationally competitive salaries and generous research support.

Deadline for application: September 15, 2020.

How to apply: Via the EPFL doctoral school online application (please note that only completed applications will be reviewed). For further information about applying for a PhD at EPFL, see the page [PhD admission criteria and application](#).

Contact: For more information about the position, please contact jerome.baudry@epfl.ch.