

IT:U – Kommunikations- und Informationsplattform

Verlautbarungsteil

Jahrgang 2026

Ausgegeben am 24. August 2026

Nr. 0036 Ausschreibung: Ausschreibung von PhD Doktoratsstudienplätzen

Ausschreibung

der Interdisciplinary Transformation University Austria von PhD Doktoratsstudienplätzen

Die Interdisciplinary Transformation University Austria – IT:U schreibt die Besetzung von PhD Doktoratsstudienplätzen im Fach Computational X in der folgenden Forschungsgruppe aus:

- More-than-Human Design and Regenerative AI

Die Ausschreibungstexte sind im Sinn einer breit formulierten und missionsorientierten Ausschreibung zu verstehen und in der Beilage angefügt. Insgesamt ist ein PhD Doktoratsstudienplatz mit Antrittsdatum ab 1. Oktober 2026 ausgeschrieben. Mit dem Studienplatz geht eine Inskription in das PhD Studium Computational X einher. Das Curriculum ist einsehbar unter:

[it-u_phd-program_computationalx_complete_20240927_final.pdf](#)

Entsprechend den im Bundesgesetz über das Institute of Digital Sciences Austria (Interdisciplinary Transformation University) festgelegten Grundsätzen betreibt die IT:U eine antidiskriminatorische Anstellungspolitik und legt Wert auf Chancengleichheit, Diversität, Inklusion, Gleichstellung der Geschlechter und Frauenförderung. Die IT:U strebt eine Erhöhung des Frauenanteils beim wissenschaftlichen Personal an und lädt daher qualifizierte Frauen ausdrücklich zur Bewerbung ein. Bei gleicher Qualifikation werden Frauen vorrangig aufgenommen.

Die Bewerbungsfrist endet am 14. September 2026.
Eine Bewerbung ist unter <https://apply.it-u.at/> möglich

1 Beilage



Holger Schwartig
Managing Director

(i.V. Stefanie Lindstaedt, IT:U Founding President

Nicht rechtsverbindliche Übersetzung - Non legally binding translation:

IT:U – Communication and information platform Promulgation Section

Volume 2026

Issued on August 24, 2026

Nr. 0036 Announcement:

Call for Applications: PhD Student Computational X

Call for applications

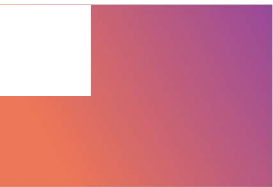
PhD Student Computational X

The Interdisciplinary Transformation University Austria – IT:U announces the opening of a call for one PhD student in the doctoral school Computational X in the following research group field, as outlined in the annex:

- More-than-Human Design and Regenerative AI

The job posting is intended to be understood as broadly formulated and mission-oriented and can be found attached. In total, the appointment of one PhD student is planned, with a start date of October 1, 2026. The Curricula of the doctoral school Computational X may be found on IT:U's webpage: [it-u_phd-program_computationalx_complete_20240927_final.pdf](#)

In accordance with the principles established in the Federal Act on the Institute of Digital Sciences Austria (Interdisciplinary Transformation University), IT:U practices an anti-discriminatory hiring policy and places a strong emphasis on equal opportunities, diversity, inclusion, gender equality, and the promotion of women. IT:U aims to increase the proportion of women in its academic staff and therefore explicitly encourages qualified women to apply. In cases of equal qualifications, preference will be given to women.



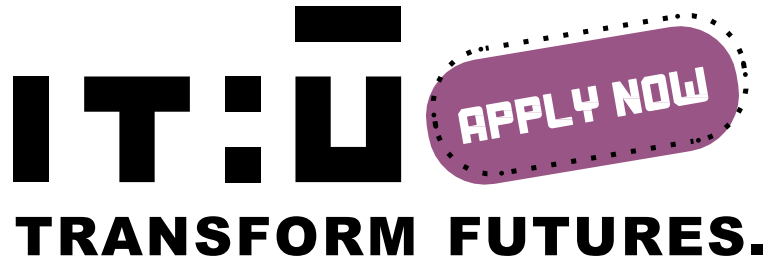
The application deadline is September 14, 2026.
Interested students can apply at: <https://apply.it-u.at/>

1 Annex



Holger Schwartig
Managing Director

(Acting on behalf of Stefanie Lindstaedt, IT:U Founding President)



#TRANSFORMINGTOMORROW: MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH US.

IT:U is Austria's first public interdisciplinary university dedicated to digital transformation for the benefit of our society, economy and environment.

1 PhD Position Regenerative AI

IT:U Doctoral School - PhD-Program **COMPUTATIONAL X**

1 PhD position | 30h/week | Up to 4 years | On-site in Linz (AT) | Earliest Start Date: October 2026



Field of Research and Scope

This PhD project investigates how AI development affects more-than-human communities. By examining AI's socio-ecological and material conditions through multispecies ethnography, and by establishing a network of More-than-Human Living Labs, the project asks how design and art can make these relations perceptible and contestable, while prototyping alternatives. Moving beyond dominant understandings of AI as an immaterial computational system, the project examines how AI systems entangle humans and nonhumans, including species, land, infrastructures, minerals, labor, ecosystems, and local communities, with particular attention to the Global South. The research is interested in (1) developing conceptual and practical approaches for studying the impacts of AI on more-than-human communities; (2) documenting, through multispecies ethnography, how AI infrastructures reshape relations among humans, nonhumans, technologies, and environments; and (3) developing design- and art-led projects that support situated, regenerative, and ecological perspectives on AI.



Program Structure

IT:U offers a 4-year, structured PhD program.

In the first year, emphasis is placed on focused group work, research lab modules, and Project Integrated Courses (PICS). The first year concludes with a PhD Proposal Presentation. Over the next three years, students will develop and write their PhD theses. This is accompanied by interdisciplinary research seminars and work as a project assistant. The PhD program concludes after the 4th year with the submission and defense of the PhD thesis.

[Click here to view the curriculum.](#)



* **Come as you are** – we value and promote diversity in our team. Each individual is encouraged to reach their full potential, realize ideas and seize opportunities. Regardless of age, skin color, religion, gender, sexual orientation or origin, we welcome applications from all people equally.

Opportunities offered

- Collaborations: The PhD researcher will be embedded in the Ars Electronica ecosystem, with opportunities to develop educational material, facilitate workshops with external partners, and create work for the Ars Electronica Festival. The researcher will also collaborate with leading international researchers and with interdisciplinary research groups within IT:U.
- International mobility and exchange: Selected candidates will benefit from interactions with the PI's collaborators and colleagues across Europe, South America, USA, Australia and New Zealand, who are happy to host PhD students for short stays.
- Professional and personal development: With the PI's experience in managing people both in academia and industry, as well as an international and diverse interdisciplinary background, doctoral students will receive comprehensive guidance throughout their academic journey at IT:U and beyond.



Responsibilities and Tasks

- Write academic publications and present research at leading international venues in design and HCI
- Conduct qualitative and design-led field research in Europe and the Global South
- Develop experimental design methods, artefacts, prototypes, and interventions
- Contribute to establishing a network of More-than-Human Living Labs
- Contribute to workshops, exhibitions, and other public-facing activities
- Collaborate with interdisciplinary research groups within and beyond IT:U
- Contribute to academic teaching for up to two weekly credit hours
- Contribute to applications for third-party research funding
- Comply with IT:U's academic and ethical standards



Skills and Qualifications

- A Master's degree in design, art, media arts, anthropology, HCI, or another relevant field
- Strong motivation and an interest in the social, political, material, and ecological dimensions of technology
- Experience with qualitative, participatory, and/or research-through-design methods
- Experience with digital and physical prototyping is desirable
- Familiarity with coding or electronics, or a willingness to develop skills in interactive prototyping
- Experience creating and exhibiting work in exhibitions or festivals is an advantage
- Ability to work and think independently while contributing to a collaborative research environment
- Strong written and spoken English



What you can expect

- Innovative and stimulating working conditions in an interdisciplinary, international research environment
- Office kitchen with complimentary basic supplies
- Climate Ticket Upper Austria (optimal public transportation connections)
- We offer a gross salary in line with the FWF salary rate of EUR 2.832,10 (30h).



How to apply

Please fill in the online application form and upload your files at:
<https://apply.it-u.at/>

- Curriculum Vitae
- Bachelor's and master's diploma (or equivalent)
- Bachelor's and master's transcript of records
- Motivational letter (2 pages max.)
- Up to 3 contacts of professors/collaborators for recommendations

We look forward to receiving your online application.



Your contact person
Bettina Mairhofer
study@it-u.at

DEADLINE: September 14th, 2026

*** Come as you are** – we value and promote diversity in our team. Each individual is encouraged to reach their full potential, realize ideas and seize opportunities. Regardless of age, skin color, religion, gender, sexual orientation or origin, we welcome applications from all people equally.