University of Basel

# PhD position in the field of archaeobotany

**100% / starting August 2025, latest possible starting date October 2025**

The University of Basel's Integrative Prehistory and Archaeological Science (IPAS) is inviting applications for a PhD position in archaeobotany. IPAS is a unique collaboration between the humanities and the natural sciences, taking an interdisciplinary approach to researching and better understanding the human past from the Stone Age to the present day.

IPAS is part of the Department of Environmental Sciences (DUW). Scientists at DUW investigate the complex interactions between the biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and anthroposphere. Understanding the current state of the environment, including the role of humans, is as important as understanding the variety of processes in Earth and human history. The University of Basel has an international reputation for its outstanding achievements in research and teaching. Founded in 1460, it is the oldest university in Switzerland and has enjoyed success for 565 years.

**Your position**

Your focus will be the archaeobotanical analysis of a Neolithic lakeshore settlement in Switzerland. This PhD position forms part of an SNF Weave/Lead Agency Project entitled 'Deciphering Lakeside Settlements' (grant number 10002949). The successful candidate will analyse the archaeobotanical material and conduct an interdisciplinary reconstruction of the ecology and cultural landscape. They will collaborate closely with the other disciplines involved in the project, including palynology, archaeozoology/ichtyoarchaeology, isotopes, and sediment genetics.
You will obtain your PhD by publishing several articles in peer-reviewed academic journals.

**Your profile**

The ideal candidate will have a strong background in archaeology and/or biology, and preferably experience in archaeobotany. An interest in wetland archaeology, subsistence strategies and ecology is desirable.
Applicants for the PhD must possess a master's degree in archaeology and/or biology. Candidates should have an exceptional academic record. While research experience is advantageous, it is not mandatory for PhD applicants.
Excellent communication skills and fluency in English (spoken and written) are required. Knowledge of the German language would be an advantage.

**We offer you**

- 3-year 100% PhD position, hosted by the IPAS in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of Basel, Switzerland
- Research travel and conference budget
- Collaborative, supportive, small team committed to your career development with a healthy work-life balance
- Fully equipped workplace near the university campus

Position available starting August 2025 (latest possible starting date October 2025).

**Application / Contact**

If interested, please send your application containing the following:

- Max. 2-page cover letter explaining your interest in the position and justifying why your background is a good fit for the position
- CV with your education background and research experience (including a list of publications if applicable)
- An electronic copy of your bachelor's and master's certificates
- One exemplary piece of writing (e.g., your master's thesis or a course assignment) that showcases your strengths

The University of Basel promotes equal opportunities for its employees and welcomes applications from all people regardless of gender, cultural background, age, disability/chronic illness, sexual orientation or religion.

You are encouraged to send your application via the application button on this page. If your application is short-listed, we will contact you within 4-5 weeks.

For more information contact Dr. Örni Akeret: **oerni.akeret@unibas.ch.**