

Master's thesis project available on vocal behaviour of wild ravens



We are looking for a master's student to conduct his/her master's thesis at the Konrad Lorenz Research Station in Grünau im Almtal, Upper Austria.

Background: Common ravens often form groups to forage, socialise or roost. Grouping also allows information transmission between individuals, which for example occurs through food calls or mobbing calls. The aim of the project is to study the reaction of receivers (non-calling individuals) via playback experiments and test predictions derived from previous observational studies.

Terms of appointment and qualifications:

- The project should ideally start mid of November, latest end of December 2018, and it will last for 6-8 months.
- We expect high levels of motivation, flexibility and a sincere interest for animal communication. Besides intensive field work during winter, sometimes with very low temperatures, there will be an intensive phase of analytical work on the computer.
- Work language is English and the thesis thus has to be written in English, preferably in the style of a scientific publication
- Experience in field work, the statistical software R and basic knowledge of acoustic analysis are beneficial.
- Accommodation at the research station is available (for one Euro per day), but be aware that the housing situation may be dense (sharing of rooms). Due to the remoteness of the research station (the next village is 5 km away) a personal car is beneficial but not required.
- Application deadline: 10.11.2018

Supervision: Prof. Thomas Bugnyar, Department of Cognitive Biology, University of Vienna

Co-Supervision: Mario Gallego and Matthias Loretto

To apply, please send your CV to: mario.gallego-abenza@univie.ac.at