

Trilingualism and internationalism are the defining features of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano in Italy. Founded in 1997, the university has five faculties and offers more than 40 international Bachelor, Master and PhD programmes. With around 4,100 students, it acts as an important bridge between the German and Italian cultural and economic areas.

The Faculty of Education of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano intends to fill the following position

**Professorship for Interdisciplinary Artificial Intelligence and
Emerging Digital Technologies Application with a Specialization in
Educational Innovation
(11/PAED-02 – PAED-02/A)**

Bressanone-Brixen Campus

We are particularly interested in scholar whose research addresses the role of AI and immersive technologies in promoting lifelong learning, educational inclusion, and the development of adaptive learning systems that respond to diverse learner needs. This position is part of our strategic investment in transformative pedagogy and educational innovation at the levels of early childhood education, school education and university didactics, with the goal to equip both learners and educators for a digital and equitable future.

Key Objectives

- Lead interdisciplinary research on the application of AI, machine learning, VR, and learning analytics in formal and nonformal educational contexts.
- Advance knowledge in the use of AI and VR for lifelong learning and accessibility-focused pedagogies.
- Contribute to the design and evaluation of adaptive learning environments, personalized instruction, and inclusive digital learning solutions, from early childhood education to university didactics.
- Collaborate in international research projects, secure competitive funding, and publish in high-impact journals.
- Develop and teach innovative courses at undergraduate and graduate levels of the Faculty of Education in areas such as media literacy, digital pedagogy, AI in education, and immersive learning.
- Support institutional initiatives in inclusive education, ed-tech policy, and digital transformation.

Scholars who have documented scientific and university teaching competences in the scientific-disciplinary area PAED-02/A (Didactics and Inclusive Education) with the following specializations are eligible for admission:

- Ph.D. in Educational Research, Educational Technology, Cognitive Science, Computer Science (with an education focus), or a related interdisciplinary field.
- Proven research excellence in AI applications in education, including adaptive learning, virtual/augmented reality, or learning analytics.
- A strong record of interdisciplinary collaboration, especially at the intersection of education, human-computer interaction, psychology, and data science.
- Demonstrated capacity to carry out research activities and to translate research into practice in inclusive learning environments in at least one field of early childhood education, school education or university didactics.
- Experience designing and evaluating AI-driven platforms and digital learning solutions for personalized, equitable learning experiences.
- Excellence in university-level teaching, curriculum development, and thesis supervision.
- International visibility by peer reviewed publications, networks, and collaborative research projects.
- Fluency in English; knowledge of German and/or Italian is a requirement.

Additionally, documented experience and competencies in the following areas are considered as preferential qualifications:

- Competence in ethical and responsible AI use in education, including fairness, privacy, and transparency and holding an educational impact orientation.
- Research addressing barriers to inclusion, experience with user-centered and participatory design of educational technologies, including designing tools, materials, and intelligent tutoring.
- Contribution to academic life and to administrative responsibilities at university, excellent communication and teamwork skills.

- Engagement in policy or practice-oriented research, in the regional context as much as EU or global context.
- Knowledge of the inclusive education system of Italy and the multilingual environment of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano.
- Experience within internationally oriented or internationally comparative educational research.
- Leadership or responsible participation in third-party funded projects at the national and/or international level in the advertised area.
- Experience in design and organizing conferences/events in the scientific field.

Scholars are expected to:

- Engage in interdisciplinary collaboration in research and teaching under the framework of Education for Sustainable Development (Agenda 2030)
- Actively participate in the "IN-IN: Innovative and Inclusive Education" cluster at the Faculty of Education at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano and collaborate with the "Competence Center for School Inclusion" and the "EduSpaces".

The faculty is guided by the principle of inclusive teaching and that, as a result, the qualification of future educational specialists and teachers is based on the principles and practice of inclusive education.

The teaching activities for the above-mentioned professorship are planned in English and will take place as part of the degree programs MA primary education, BA Communication Sciences or Culture, BA Social Education. English at the level of at least C1 is therefore a prerequisite. In addition, knowledge of one of the two other teaching languages at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (German or Italian) is required.

On the basis of the 'Bassani Law' no. 127/1997, art. 17, paragraph 125 and on the basis of the resolution of the University Council of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano no. 61 of 28 May 2019, scholars who have a similar qualification at a foreign university are eligible for a direct appointment from abroad. Scholars who fulfil these requirements are invited to submit an expression of interest.

In the event of an employment, the position will be for an indefinite period in accordance with Italian law.

The Free University of Bozen-Bolzano aims to increase the proportion of women in research and teaching and therefore invites qualified female academics to express their interest.

Application and deadline

Please send your expression of interest with the usual documents (detailed curriculum vitae, list of publications, details of main research areas and research projects, brief description of previous teaching activities, teaching evaluations, details of the academic position currently occupied) **via e-mail by December 15th, 2025**, to:

Freie Universität Bozen
Fakultät für Bildungswissenschaften
z.H. Dott. Francesca Martorelli
Regensburger Allee 16
I-39042 Brixen, Italia
E-Mail: faculty.education@unibz.it

Expressions of interest received by **12/15/25** will be considered and shortlisted scholars will be invited for interviews.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Prof. Dr. Katja Kansteiner E-Mail: Katja.Kansteiner@unibz.it