

Master thesis (m/f/d)

Genomics of Retroviral Infection

The **Leibniz Institute of Virology (LIV)**, is committed to research on the biology of different human viruses as well as the pathogenesis of viral diseases. The Institute offers the opportunity to perform cutting-edge research in a world-class research environment with excellent technical facilities.

The junior research group **Genomics of Retroviral Infection** (head: **Dr. Ulrike Lange**) focuses on exogenous retroviruses such as infections with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) as well as endogenous retroviruses (ERVs) that have invaded our germline during human evolution. A critical step in the replication cycle of retroviral infections is the integration of virus-derived DNA into the genome of target cells. We would like to understand if and how these integration events influence target cell biology. To do so, we use a range of methods including cellular model systems, primary cell work and NGS-based genome-wide profiling.

We are looking for a highly motivated and teamoriented **master student (m/f/d)** in Molecular Life Sciences, Molecular Biology or a related field with interest in genome biology and retrovirology to pursue a master thesis in our research group. The project will focus on **developing targetable transcriptional modulators** using a.o. Cas9-based genome editing techniques, which will then be used to functionally **assess alterations in ERV expression profiles** in different cellular contexts. Methods include but are not limited to: molecular cloning, cell culture (1ary and cell lines), qRT PCR assays, generation of transcriptome datasets.

We expect at least 10 months of laboratory research time fully dedicated to the project. Previous experience in the aforementioned laboratory techniques is beneficial. Good knowledge of the English language (oral and written) is required. The position is to be filled as soon as possible.

During the course of the thesis (usually 12 months), the successful candidate will be employed on a **450€/month** basis. We offer intellectual and practical supervision and are looking for candidates that enjoy working independently in a young team and an international institute environment.

Applications should include a motivating cover letter, indicating earliest possible starting date, a CV, a short description of previous experiences and technical skills, and two or three references. Please submit your application as **single pdf** by 29th July 2022 to **personalabteilung@leibniz-liv.de**. Late applications may be considered until the position is filled.

For questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Ulrike Lange directly (u.lange@leibniz-liv.de).

The LIV promotes the professional equality between all genders. Handicapped applicants with equal qualifications will be given preferential treatment.