

## **Project 4: Digitalisation and healthy ageing: The impact of health care digitalisation on health in old age**

This dissertation project explores how older individuals perceive and react to the digitalisation of health care services; studies how the digitalisation of health care services impacts health in old age; and investigates the changing importance of gender differences and social inequalities in technological skills for health in old age. It uses qualitative methods: semi-structured interviews, qualitative content analysis, and thematic analysis. Quantitative methods (secondary data analysis) are also used.

Host institution: TU Dortmund University, Germany

Preferred start date: October 2026

Contract duration: 36 months full-time

Supervisors: Adj. Prof. Christian Deindl, Assist. Prof. Laura Naegele

Secondments: Open University of the Netherlands (Netherlands), Norwegian Institute for Public Health (Norway)

### **Additional information**

- The writing sample submitted should be a summary of your Master's thesis.
- Short essays about your doctoral thesis ideas are particularly welcome (maximum 2 pages).
- Please also submit your bachelor's degree certificate.

### **Working at the Department of Social Sciences at TU Dortmund University**

With more than 6,700 employees in research, teaching and administration and its unique profile, TU Dortmund University shapes prospects for the future: The cooperation between engineering and natural sciences as well as social and cultural studies promotes both technological innovations and progress. TU Dortmund University comprises 17 departments in the natural and engineering sciences as well as the humanities and social sciences and is a dynamic university with a strong profile in research, teaching, promotion of young scientists and transfer. The Department of Social Sciences comprises the Institute of Sociology (ISO), the Social Research Center Dortmund (sfs) and the Institute for Interdisciplinary Didactics (IDIF). The position is based at the Institute of Sociology.

### **What we expect**

- An excellent Master degree in Sociology (or other Social Sciences)
- Excellent command of the English language
- Experience in qualitative methods

Experience in quantitative methods, ideally within a mixed-methods framework, is a bonus.