

The Applied Geochemistry group at the Institute of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg, Germany, is seeking a highly motivated

Postdoctoral or Senior Researcher in Environmental Geochemistry

The research group, led by Prof. Kerstin Hockmann, integrates applied and environmental geochemistry to study the geochemical cycling of elements in soils, sediments, and surface waters using an interdisciplinary approach. We aim to better understand (bio)geochemical reactions involving key elements such as iron, carbon, and sulfur in environments shaped by human activities and climate change. Our research also explores the broader effects of these reactions, including their impact on trace element mobility and mineral properties. Additionally, we seek to address these challenges by developing innovative solutions through novel remediation techniques and engineered approaches.

Your role and impact:

- Initiating, conducting, and supervising scientific research projects, including securing funding.
- Applying and developing novel analytical approaches to investigate (bio)geochemical reactions in both field and laboratory settings.
- Training and supporting laboratory users, in close collaboration with our technicians.
- Teaching in the B.Sc. and M.Sc. programs at the Institute of Earth and Environmental Sciences; participation in laboratory sessions and/or field trips.

The successful candidate will join a dynamic and growing research team to develop and advance exciting and new research projects. You are encouraged to bring your own project ideas, for example, related to the understanding of (bio)geochemical reactions at the mineral-water interface in environmental systems across different spatial and temporal scales. Additionally, you will be involved in supervising PhD, MSc, and BSc students. The position offers mentoring and support to develop your career and research interests, with opportunities for further qualifications, including habilitation.

Your profile:

The ideal candidate holds a PhD in **(bio)geochemistry, environmental chemistry, geomicrobiology, organic geochemistry, or a related field, and has an intellectual curiosity about the many interdisciplinary aspects of geochemistry**. Expertise in advanced spectroscopic or microscopic techniques (such as mass spectrometry, Mössbauer spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy, XPS, SEM/TEM, FTIR, or synchrotron-based methods) or a strong willingness to acquire these skills, is essential. A passion in developing new methods and analytical approaches in the laboratory, along with the willingness to collaborate with researchers from diverse backgrounds in a highly interdisciplinary faculty is required. Proficiency in written and spoken English is essential, with German considered an asset.

Ready to join our team?

Please submit your application as a single PDF to Prof. Kerstin Hockmann (kerstin.hockmann@geochem.uni-freiburg.de) with the following documents:

- A cover letter describing your motivation for the position and your earliest possible starting date.
- Your CV and publication list.
- Research statement (max. 2 pages) outlining your research interests, relevant skills, your potential contributions to the group, and how they align with our group's interests.
- Contact information for at least two professional references.

Applications will be reviewed starting 15 October 2024, and the position will remain open until filled. The ideal start date early 2025 or as soon as possible. Employment follows University of Freiburg regulations (TV-L A13, 100%), initially for 3 years, with a possible 3-year extension.

For informal inquiries about the position or questions related to our research and lab infrastructure, please contact Prof. Kerstin Hockmann. Additional information about the University of Freiburg and our recent projects is available through the links at www.geochemie.uni-freiburg.de.