Università
della
Svizzera
italiana

Faculty of Informatics

Assistant Professor position (tenure-track) in Theoretical Data Science and Machine Learning, Faculty of Informatics at USI Università della Svizzera italiana

The Faculty of Informatics at Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) welcomes applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor in Theoretical Data Science and Machine Learning. The faculty's focus is always on excellence in both research and teaching. There are rich opportunities for internal collaboration among the whole Faculty and with the solar research institute IRSOL, biomedical institutes including IOR, and IRB, the Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale (EOC) as well as the Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS). The position is available from Spring 2026.

USI is a young and lively university where students are offered a quality interdisciplinary education in which they can be fully engaged and take center stage, and where our researchers can count on having the space to freely pursue their initiative. Established in 1996, USI is in constant evolution, always taking on new challenges while remaining true to its three guiding principles: quality, openness and responsibility. In its recent ranking of "The Best Small Universities in the World", the Times Higher Education places USI in the top 10.

USI's Faculty of Informatics is an international, English-speaking, research-focused faculty in Lugano (Switzerland). About 200 researchers from around the world conduct research in eight different macro-areas, with tens of millions of Swiss francs acquired through competitive funding; since its inception 20 years ago, faculty members have obtained over a dozen ERC grants and various other distinctions.

The faculty's strong commitment to research impacts its educational programs through a unique teaching philosophy where the student is actively and creatively placed at the heart of the learning process. All academic programs of the faculty are entirely taught in English.

Candidates' profile
The successful candidate must:
- Hold a Ph.D. in Data Science, Statistics, Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics or related fields.
- Have a strong research profile in foundational aspects of data science and machine learning. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to the advancement of theoretical methods underpinning modern inferential or machine learning techniques, which may include, but are not limited to, causal modelling, physics-inspired machine learning, geometric deep learning, topological data analysis, computational learning theory, mathematical foundations of machine learning, or large-scale computational approaches.
- Show the ability to build and maintain a research group supported by third-party funding.
- Be willing to teach both undergraduate and graduate courses in data science or machine learning (all Faculty teaching is in English). The Faculty runs various educational programs,

among which both a Bachelor's and Master's in Data Science, and a Master's in Artificial Intelligence.

Facilities and Support
- Access to state-of-the-art research computing facilities, including a local university cluster and the Swiss high-performance computing facility (CSCS) in Lugano.
- Institutional support for Ph.D. positions and continuous support for reasonable travel and research infrastructure expenses.
- The faculty is located in the University's newly opened East Campus, situated only minutes from the city center, with state-of-the-art classrooms, gyms, and on-campus childcare facilities.

General terms
- Workplace: Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland.
- Teaching: Assistant professors are expected to teach one 6-ECTS course in the first year, and subsequently one 6-ECTS course per semester.
- Travel: Availability to travel for collaboration and research.
- Salary: Defined according to university statutes.
- Residence: Professors are expected to reside in Ticino and actively participate in university activities (faculty board meetings, committees, student supervision).

The Application
Applications should contain:
- Motivation letter
- Curriculum vitae
- Publication list and copies of three key publications
- Statements on research and teaching
- Contact information for three references

Applications must be submitted ONLINE by filling out the form accessible through the following link: https://recruitment.usi.ch/position/4423681. You will also need to upload the documents listed above.

For more detailed information on the position, please contact Prof. Ernst C. Wit, Dean, Faculty of Informatics, at dean.inf@usi.ch.

Applications will be reviewed starting 30 November 2025, and candidates applying by that date will be given priority. However, applications will be considered until the position is filled.

USI strives to be an equal opportunity and family friendly employer and is further responsive to the needs of dual career couples. We guarantee that the selection process will give equal opportunities to female and male researchers.
As an institution that values diversity, USI particularly encourages applications from women and from all individuals from underrepresented groups.

Lugano, 23.09.2025