



## PhD position in Consumer Attitudes and Behavior Towards Climate Change

### Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences - Department of Psychology

Publication date	Closing date
November 30th 2017	December 18 <sup>th</sup> 2017
Opleidingsniveau	Functieomvang
Master's degree	38 hours per week
Salarisindicatie	Vacaturenummer 17-605
€ 2,191 to € 2,801 gross per month	

The [Department of Psychology](#) is a part of the [Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences \(FMG\)](#), which is the largest educational and research institution in the social sciences in the Netherlands.

### Project summary

Despite being one of the most important societal challenges of the 21st century, public engagement with climate change currently remains low. Mounting evidence from across the behavioral sciences has found that most people regard climate change as a non-urgent and psychologically distant risk (spatially, temporally, and socially), which has led to deferred public decision making about mitigation and adaptation responses. Moreover, if consumers do experience a sense of urgency about mitigating climate change, they often have limited insight into how to effectively translate this into behavior. In this project, insight will be provided into what causes consumers to experience a sense of urgency to combat climate change and 2) how their environment as a consumer can be modified to make the translation of this sense of urgency into behavior most likely.

### Job description

The PhD project will be conducted within the program group of Social Psychology at the Department of Psychology at the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, which is ranked 10th in the QS World University Rankings. The University of Amsterdam has access to state-of-the-art research facilities (Labs psychology / Spinoza center) to implement and coordinate the proposed research. The PhD candidate will develop and execute experimental studies in the context of the research project, and report results at project meetings, conferences and in international journals, leading to a PhD dissertation. The candidate will also provide teaching assistance (15%).

The PhD candidate will work under the daily supervision of dr. Frenk van Harreveld (Social Psychology, UvA) with Prof. Gert-Jan Gruter (UvA, Chemistry) and Prof. Bas Haring (LIACS, UL) as co-promoters. This PhD project is part of the NWO-funded program *New Materials for a Circular Economy*, which involves various partners from academia (UvA, UL) and the industry (Avantium, LEGO).

### Requirements

We are looking for highly motivated candidates preferably with a 2-year research master diploma in Psychology or Communication Science, and with demonstrable interest in the topic of the PhD project. The present research strives for scientific and societal impact and candidates are therefore expected to have an interest in the societal applications of their research. Applicants should also possess strong writing skills and have an excellent command of English.

### Further information

Requests for further information may be sent by email to:

- [dr Frenk van Harreveld](mailto:f.vanharreveld@uva.nl): f.vanharreveld@uva.nl

### Appointment

The PhD position is for four years (initial employment is 12 months and after a positive evaluation, the appointment will be extended further with 36 months) and should lead to a dissertation. Based on a full-time appointment the gross monthly salary will be €2,191 in the first year, increasing to €2,801 in the fourth year (conform the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities).

### **Job application**

For full consideration, applications should be send by email to [spsecretariaat-fmg@uva.nl](mailto:spsecretariaat-fmg@uva.nl), and include a CV, a letter of motivation, a grade list, and the names of 2 references. Please put 'PhD position van Harreveld 17-605' in the subject line to ensure that your application will be considered. All applications submitted before December 18th June 2017 will be considered.

*No agencies please*