



# Changing the clocks, changing the conversation

Media reception of seasonal clock changes.

Tübingen / Munich / Remote · English · Master's thesis · Research internship · Erasmus+ research placement

## The question

How do news media explain seasonal clock changes, and whose concerns receive attention? Scientific evidence, everyday experience and political debate can appear in very different frames.

## The project

Analyse media coverage of seasonal clock changes in a defined set of outlets, languages or contexts. Examine how claims about health, convenience and social consequences are presented and attributed, rather than treating every mention as the same kind of evidence.

## What you will do

- Build a transparent sampling strategy and document a bounded media corpus.
- Develop a coding approach for frames, sources and claims; evaluate coding consistency.
- Analyse patterns using qualitative interpretation or reproducible quantitative text analysis.

## Possible scope

A thesis could offer a comparative media study. A shorter placement could focus on one corpus or analytical stage. Journalism, media studies and communication backgrounds are especially relevant; text-analysis experience is useful but need not define the project.

## Suitable backgrounds

Media studies · Communication · Journalism · Sociology · Data science

## General expectations

You should be able to analyse data in R or Python, use Git and GitHub, and work reproducibly. Independent reading, careful documentation and increasing responsibility are expected. Previous sleep or circadian research experience is not generally required.

## Funding

No salary or stipend from the research group unless explicitly stated. Master's theses are generally unpaid. Mention external funding or mobility programmes when applying.

Suggested backgrounds are not formal programme approval. Confirm requirements with your home institution.

## How to apply

Send a short motivation, CV, relevant skills, preferred project, dates, format and location. Mention external funding. Contact Prof. Manuel Spitschan using the address below.

Munich: [manuel.spitschan@tum.de](mailto:manuel.spitschan@tum.de)

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