

2024 PHD SCHOLARSHIPS – NOTICE – RECRUITMENT OF PHD STUDENTS

SUBJECT: 2025 PhD Scholarships - Memo - Recruitment of PhD students

Job Information		
	Organisation / Company	University of Caen Normandy
	Field of research	Health law, digital law, comparative law (German law)
	Researcher profile	Early-career researcher (R1)
	Country	France
	Application deadline	Thursday 4 June 2026, 3.00 pm Send the single document (PDF) by email to the DROIT NORMANDIE Doctoral School. The acknowledgement of receipt will not constitute proof of the application's admissibility.
	Type of contract	Temporary
	Employment status	Full-time
	Is the post funded by the EU Research Framework Programme?	NO
	Is the post linked to a staff position within a research infrastructure?	NO

Job description		
	Description of the post and the PhD project (specified and funded)	Funded thesis topic. <i>Vulnerabilities and digital health. A comparative study of French and German law</i>

		<p>Brief rationale.</p> <p>The development of digital technology (telemedicine, artificial intelligence tools, etc.) is often presented as a response to the challenges facing healthcare systems. In particular, it is said to enable better care for vulnerable people, such as those with mental health conditions, the elderly, etc.</p> <p>However, no cross-sectional study on the links between vulnerabilities and digital health has yet been carried out, with academic work remaining limited to certain aspects of the subject.</p> <p>The research project aims to examine, in a comprehensive manner, the benefits and risks arising from the growing use of digital technology in healthcare for people in vulnerable situations, this concept being broadly understood as any moral or material fragility to which a person is exposed. The aim will be, on the one hand, to ascertain whether digital tools developed in the healthcare sector can help mitigate these vulnerabilities (e.g. the development of support <i>chatbots</i> to combat depression) and, on the other hand, to ensure that their use does not result in increased vulnerability. In particular, it will be necessary to ensure respect for patients' fundamental rights, their consent, their privacy, the protection of their data—including brain data—and the absence of any risk of discrimination. Proposals for legislative changes may be put forward to guarantee these rights.</p> <p>The research will be based, in an original way, on a comparative approach between the French and German systems. This choice is justified by the sufficient proximity between the two systems to allow for comparison (Roman-Germanic legal systems, application of European Union law) and by the specific features of the German context regarding health and digital technology, which promise to enrich the discussion.</p>
<p>Requirements</p>	<p>Salary</p>	<p>€2,100–2,300 per month</p>
	<p>Eligibility: subject-specific requirements</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria vary depending on the project leader:</p> <p>To apply for the targeted PhD project funded by the University of Caen Normandy, the candidate must hold a Master's degree in law or an equivalent qualification (such as an LLM). A</p>

		<p>distinction (AB, etc.) must have been obtained for this qualification.</p> <p>In addition, the candidate must have studied German law at Master's level. Proficiency in German is also required. Having studied health law and/or completed an initial research project (Master's dissertation) in health law would be an advantage.</p>
	Admission requirements	<p>Following the candidate's interview before a panel on Tuesday 9 June 2026, starting at 1 pm. 45, and following deliberation by the Select Committee of the ED Droit Normandie, will be admitted to undertake a thesis on the subject 'Vulnerabilities and digital health – A comparative study of French and German law', having met the following admission requirements:</p> <p>(1) Hold a Master's degree in law or an equivalent qualification (LLM) as of¹September 2025, with honours, and have followed an academic course of study relevant to the funded thesis project.</p> <p>(2) Be able to articulate their position on the thesis topic to demonstrate their aptitude for undertaking doctoral research on the specified subject.</p> <p>(3) Be able to present, during the interview, your academic background, the merits of your analysis of the topic, and the research schedule for the three-year duration of the doctoral contract.</p> <p>(4) Have written a law dissertation on a topic related to health law (ideally in digital health law and/or Franco-German comparative health law). If the Master's degree is currently in progress, the candidate must present and justify their dissertation topic, a detailed argument, research avenues, the methodology followed and a bibliography.</p>
Applications		
		<p>The application must be submitted as a single PDF document with paginated pages. The document must include:</p>

		<p>(1) A cover letter briefly describing the candidate's research interests and explaining the reasons for their application to the thesis project.</p> <p>(2) A thesis proposal.</p> <p>(3) A description of the three-year research programme.</p> <p>(4) A selective bibliography on the thesis topic.</p> <p>(5) A curriculum vitae (CV).</p> <p>(6) A letter from one or two referees or individuals in a position to recommend the candidate for the designated and funded doctoral research project.</p> <p>(7) Copies of academic transcripts, diplomas and documents certifying the completion of courses and the award of a Master's degree in private law.</p> <p>(8) The research thesis with bibliography</p>
Place(s) of work		University of Caen (Normandy, France) Faculty of Law Esplanade de la Paix, 14000 Caen
Who to contact?		Doctoral school email: gilles.raoul-cormeil@unicaen.fr
Contact		Supervisor's email address: amandine.cayol@unicaen.fr