

INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL PROGRAMS 2010

HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN

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WELCOME

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Welcome to Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin! We are pleased that you are considering pursuing your doctoral studies here with us in the exciting city of Berlin, Germany. Our university has a number of excellent academic programs to offer you, ranging from arts and sciences to mathematics, economics and medicine with professors and students representing more than 130 countries around the world. No matter where your interests lie, I am sure you will find a top graduate program at our university in central Berlin or at our science and technology campus in Berlin-Adlershof.

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin is highly regarded throughout Germany and internationally for the quality of its academic training and research. Promoting structured doctoral education lies at the heart of our university's strategy. We also aim to provide every doctoral student with individual training opportunities beyond the academic curriculum. Within our Humboldt Graduate School, the very best doctoral students at Humboldt-Universität will have the opportunity to become a member of an exclusive network offering ample possibilities for careers in academia and beyond.

As a doctoral student at Humboldt-Universität, you will have access to academic resources and opportunities for research and networking throughout the broad academic community of Berlin. We offer you more than forty structured doctoral programs, among them many Research Training Groups funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and several graduate schools funded by the German Excellence Initiative.

This booklet is designed to give you a comprehensive overview of the possibilities to pursue your doctoral studies in one of our structured doctoral programs. For any further questions you might have regarding specific programs, application procedures or program deadlines, please check with the individual programs or Humboldt Graduate School.

We hope to attract your interest in becoming a doctoral student at Humboldt-Universität in the near future and in joining the vibrant and welcoming intellectual community at our university and in the inspiring city of Berlin.

Prof. Dr. Michael W. Linscheid,
Vice President for Research, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 2010

DOCTORAL EDUCATION AT HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT

Germany's universities are renowned worldwide for their strong research tradition. And it was here in Berlin where Wilhelm von Humboldt 200 years ago developed his concept of a "universitas litterarum", bringing together teaching and research to provide students with a well-rounded humanist education plan. This concept spread around the world and earned our university the title "mother of all modern research universities".

With this background, the German doctoral degree is internationally acknowledged as an important piece of independent research, the promising first step of an academic career. For centuries, the quality of Ph.D. work was based upon an individualized system of a close one-to-one professor-student relationship during the doctoral studies. This traditional system is still in place at many German universities, especially in the humanities.

However, as the need for interdisciplinary research has grown, doctoral programs have been introduced. They provide doctoral students with focused academic training, improved supervision and an interdisciplinary context suited to complementing Ph.D. research. Today, doctoral programs represent about twenty percent of all doctorates and this share is rising.

Humboldt-Universität is known for its strong tradition of fostering junior researchers at both the postdoctoral and the doctoral stage. Approximately 1000 young scholars obtain their Ph.D. with us each year, among them 23% in the humanities and social sciences, 22% in the natural sciences and 55% in medicine.

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS AT HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT

Humboldt-Universität has taken the opportunity to introduce structured doctoral education at a very early stage. When the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) introduced its Research Training Groups (Graduiertenkollegs) in 1991, we were among the first universities to successfully apply for that kind of structured doctoral programs and since we are among the German Universities with the greatest number of these programs.

Third party funding for structured doctoral programs is limited to a certain period of time, hence the university is always eager to sustain both structures and know-how by providing financial and infrastructure support to these programs.

Together with many partners from outside the university and diverse sources of funding, Humboldt-Universität succeeded in establishing a great number of doctoral programs. These range from the "International Postgraduate Programs" of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), International Max Planck Research Schools, Research Training Networks of the European Union to Graduate Colleges

of the Franco-German University and many more. We are particularly proud that our "Berlin School of Mind and Brain", "Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences" and "Berlin-Brandenburg School for Regenerative Therapies" have been funded through the German Excellence Initiative in 2006 and that we are significantly contributing to the "Berlin Mathematical School", also funded through the Excellence Initiative and hosted by the Technische Universität Berlin.

In addition, initiatives by our faculties and professors to establish doctoral programs beyond third party funding are highly encouraged. Examples include the "Berlin Doctoral Program Economics & Management Science" (BDPEMS) and the "Doctoral Certificate Program in Agricultural Economics". Synergies and sustainability are granted by cooperation with other scientific institutions.

Today, more than 40 programs at Humboldt-Universität cater to the scientific needs of doctoral students from Germany and abroad. The number is increasing steadily and we are expecting a significant change in 2011 due to the second round of the Excellence Initiative.

HUMBOLDT GRADUATE SCHOOL

In 2006, the Humboldt Graduate School (HGS) was established as an overarching quality assurance and service structure for those doctoral programs that comply with its high quality standards. HGS member programs are obliged to follow quality criteria based on competitiveness, transparency, equality, international standards and the provision of adequate supervision and support. Humboldt Graduate School evaluates its member programs and acts as a quality assurance body as well as a non-scientific service and support structure for the member programs and their Ph.D. students.

Situated in the dwellings of the former Royal Veterinarian School in the city center of Berlin the campus of the Humboldt Graduate School is hosting an information service center dedicated particularly to support our international students and a café and lounge which suites for networking events. The community spirit on the doctoral campus will make students feel at home. It is also here where doctoral students of our member programs can attend high profile non-scientific skills' trainings which are an essential part of graduate education and support future scientific career opportunities. Doctoral Students in one of the Humboldt Graduate School member programs may expect a high-quality doctoral education and an outstanding career support.

Humboldt Graduate School is committed to:

- ensuring a high quality of structured Ph.D. research training, which includes the support and monitoring of equal opportunity measures,
- co-ordinating as well as extending training opportunities for Ph.D. students, especially by providing high-quality interdisciplinary training,
- providing comprehensive services across the research programs, thus leading to a greater efficiency and quality of service.

At present, Humboldt Graduate School caters to 12 member programs. You will find them indicated in the following chapters within the program description. Further member programs will be accepted in due course.

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DFG RESEARCH TRAINING GROUPS

Research Training Groups (Graduiertenkollegs, GRK) by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) are the most common type of doctoral programs in Germany. Participating in a Research Training Group, qualified Ph.D. students are able to produce their doctoral theses within a collaborative research environment. Research Training Groups are open to all disciplines and preferably focus on interdisciplinary research questions.

Ph.D. students benefit significantly from participation in a Research Training Group:

- their doctoral thesis is integrated into a comprehensive, outstanding research program;
- they are actively involved in an accompanying study program;
- advisory structures are transparent and innovative; and
- incentives to encourage mobility and networking in the international scientific community are provided.

Support for doctoral students within Research Training Groups includes funding for scholarships, travel and smaller conferences organized by doctoral students.

Research Training Groups also seek to promote international cooperation in the field of doctoral education and, in particular, raise the appeal of German universities for international students pursuing a doctorate. This is done by

- encouraging international collaboration by funding travel and stays abroad for doctoral students, offering a program for visiting professors and accepting international students into the doctoral program;
- promoting International Research Training Groups in which German and international universities jointly design the doctoral programs.

For the host universities, Research Training Groups contribute to improving the development of the doctoral phase by providing them with incentives and opportunities to create new structures to advance the development of young researchers.

Research Training Groups provide a framework for testing new forms of structured doctoral training and so continue to provide models and experience for broader doctoral programs designed to run long-term.

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS AT HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT – LISTING

Humboldt Graduate School – Member Programs

http://humboldt-graduate-school.de/hgs-homepage-en/?set_language=en

- Berlin-Brandenburg School for Regenerative Therapies
- Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences
- Berlin School of Mind and Brain
- European Ph.D. in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies
- Gender as a Category of Knowledge (GRK 1014)
- Graduate School of Ancient Philosophy
- Hormonal Regulation of Energy Metabolism, Body Weight and Growth (GRK 1208)
- Humboldt Graduate School of Business
- International Graduate Program Medical Neurosciences
- Mass, Spectrum, Symmetry: Particle Physics in the Era of the Large Hadron Collider (GRK 1504)
- Ph.D.-Net “Das Wissen der Literatur”
- ZIBI Graduate School for the Infection Biology and Immunity

DFG Research Training Groups at Humboldt-Universität

http://forschung.hu-berlin.de/research/main_fields/grk/standardseite

- Sex- and Gender-Specific Mechanisms in Myocardial Hypertrophy (GRK 754)
- Perspectives on Urban Ecology – the Example of the European Metropolis Berlin (GRK 780)
- Arithmetic and Geometry (IGRK 870)
- Genetic and Immunologic Determinants of Pathogen-Host-Interactions (GRK 1121)
- The Impact of Inflammation on Nervous System Function (GRK 1258)
- Multilevel Constitutionalism – European Experiences and Global Perspectives (GRK 1263)
- Model-Based Development of Technologies for Self-Organizing Information Systems in Application for Disasters Management (GRK 1324)
- Genomic and System Biological Analysis of Molecular Networks (IGRK 1360)

DFG Research Training Groups – Participation of Humboldt-Universität

http://forschung.hu-berlin.de/research/main_fields/grk/grk_b_html#1582

- Cellular Mechanisms of Learning and Memory Consolidation in the Hippocampal Formation (GRK 1123)
- Fluorine as Key Element: Discovering innovative synthetic: concepts to generate novel molecules with unique properties (GRK 1582)
- History and Culture of the Metropolises in the 20th Century Berlin – New York (IGRK 1015)
- Methods of Discrete Structures (GRK 1408)
- Prospective Interaction Design (GRK 1013)
- Self-Assembled Soft-Matter Nanostructures at Interfaces (IGRK 1524)
- Stochastic Models of Complex Process and Their Applications (GRK 1339)

Graduate Schools, Ph.D. – Programs

http://forschung.hu-berlin.de/research/young_scientists/wn_gsphd.html

- Analyse und Bewertung von natürlichen, produktionstechnischen und sozioökonomischen Potentialen für die Rinderhaltung in Kirgistan
- Berlin Doctoral Program Economics & Management Science (BDPEMS)
- Berlin Mathematical School
- Berlin International Graduate School of Natural Science and Engineering
- Complex Surfaces in Material Science
- Computational Neuroscience
- Doctoral Certificate Program in Agricultural Economics
- Fundamentals and Functionality of Size and Interface Controlled Materials: Spin- and Optoelectronics
- Halbleiter-Nanophotonik: Materialien, Modelle, Bauelemente
- Herrschaft im 20. Jahrhundert. Gesellschaftsgeschichtliche Perspektiven
- IMMUCO – Induction and Modulation of T-cell-Mediated Immune Responses in the Gastrointestinal Tract, Integrated Research Training Program
- International Ph.D. Program Molecular Cell Biology
- International Max Planck Research School on Biomimetic Systems
- Kollegium Jüdische Studien
- Multivalency in Chemistry und Biochemistry
- Representations of Changing Social Orders
- The Life Course: Evolutionary and Ontogenetic Dynamics (LIFE)
- TransCard Research School
- Transnational Criminal Justice and Crime Prevention
- Schleiermacher Graduate School at Faculty of Theology
- “Unterschiede denken: Geschichte als Objekt und als Repräsentation“, Deutsch-Französisches Doktorandenkolleg

HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN – PROFILE, FACTS AND FIGURES**Alma Mater Berolinensis**

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin was founded as the German reform university in 1810.

Since then – for 200 years – it has been a comprehensive university, or *universitas litterarum*, embracing all fundamental scientific disciplines in the humanities, social and cultural sciences, mathematics and natural sciences, medicine and agricultural sciences.

Humboldt-Universität is organized into 11 faculties.

In its Institutional Strategy Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, whose foundation marked the origin of modern reform universities, translates the guiding principles of its foundation into the 21st century.

Ideas are put forward and measures are taken to advance the further integration of teaching and research, the exchange between the scientific disciplines, the dismantling of hierarchies, the intensification of the international aspects of research and teaching, the support for young researchers, the transfer of research results into modern society and the strategic development of top-level research.

With the long-term Institutional Strategy Humboldt-Universität reached the final round of the Excellence Competition of German universities and only narrowly missed nomination as Center of Excellence.

Among the winners in the second round of the competition were the Excellence Clusters “NeuroCure: Towards a Better Outcome of Neurological Disorders” and “Topoi: the Formation and Transformation of Space and Knowledge in Ancient Civilizations” (both in co-operation with the Freie Universität) and the Berlin-Brandenburg School for Regenerative Therapies as well as the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences.

Strong Key Research Areas

In 2002, Humboldt-Universität was the first German university to introduce junior professorships, leading to its current position as the university in Germany with the most junior professorships by far.

Profile fields are built on existing exceptional research in currently one DFG Research Center, 16 Collaborative Research Centers, 11 Interdisciplinary Centers, 6 DFG funded Research Units, 2 Excellence-Initiative funded Clusters and 4 Excellence-Initiative funded Graduate Schools.

Below you find a selection of general data concerning Humboldt-Universität. More detailed information (some only available in German) can be obtained from the links provided (<http://www.hu-berlin.de/ueberblick-en/facts/standardseite>)

Undergraduate and graduate studies

Actual Students total (Bachelor and Master level):	34,072
excl. Charité-Universitätsmedizin	27,043
female	15,500
from abroad	4,465

Degree courses in total:	242
Bachelor/Master/extension courses:	152
Diplom/Magister courses:	64
Courses leading to a state examination or state teaching examination:	26

Ph.D. studies

Actual Ph.D. Students:	approx. 5,000
Ph.D. Graduates:	1,059
excl. Charité-Universitätsmedizin	579
Ph.D. Programs:	46

Junior Researchers

Junior research groups:	12
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Staff (excl. Charité – Universitätsmedizin)

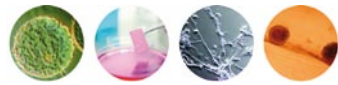
Academic Staff:	2,354
Professorships (overall, not including Charité)	384
of which: women	57
of which: junior professors	79
of which: female junior professors	27

Research Structures

Collaborative Research Centers	
in which Humboldt-Universität has a leading role (including Charité)	16
in which Humboldt-Universität participates (not including Charité)	13
Interdisciplinary centers	11
DFG research center	1
DFG research units	6



LIFE SCIENCES

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Introduction

The Berlin-Brandenburg School for Regenerative Therapies (BSRT) is a joint activity of the clinical, biological, and engineering sciences in the field of Regenerative Medicine. Regenerative Medicine is based on employing targeted cell differentiation to promote endogenous tissue regeneration to help fight acute and chronic diseases. The Graduate School is closely associated with the Berlin-Brandenburg Center for Regenerative Therapies (BCRT), a multidisciplinary research center funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the Helmholtz-Association, which aims to translating scientific discoveries into clinical applications

Research Areas

The rapidly expanding interdisciplinary field of Regenerative Medicine combines pure science, materials science, clinical disciplines and biotechnology with the goal of repairing or replacing tissues and organs impaired by aging, diseases, trauma or congenital abnormalities. Regenerative Medicine investigates the development of functional tissue and organ substitutes in vitro for implantation in vivo, as well as the ability to remodel and regenerate tissue in vivo through cell delivery or targeted stimulation

of (stem) cell differentiation to repair, maintain or enhance organ function.

As a major focus of the research in the field is on the regeneration and repair of diseased or aged tissue, special attention is given to the problems of the aging population. Current investigations include studies on the cellular behaviour of inflammation, regeneration, neoplasia and degeneration. This research addresses important diseases including autoimmune diseases (rheumatoid arthritis, allergic diseases), infectious diseases, cancer and the degeneration of bones and cartilage (osteoarthritis and osteoporosis).

Research Collaborations

The internationally recognized research groups of the Charité, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, Universität Potsdam, Max Planck, Leibniz and Helmholtz Institutes, along with other prominent research institutions in Berlin and Brandenburg, contribute to the training programs at the BSRT. The founding members of the BSRT faculty comprise 25 renowned professors from clinical fields relevant to the BSRT as well as natural, material and engineering sciences and transcend disciplinary and institutional borders to promote cutting-edge scientific research.

Facilities

The Graduate School is located in the BCRT's building at the Charité Campus Virchow-Klinikum in the immediate vicinity of several surgical wards, the German Heart Institute Berlin, the Robert Koch Institute, and the Technische Universität Berlin's Institute for Biotechnology.

The BCRT building provides office and lab space for the BSRT administration, two newly assigned professors, and the BSRT doctoral students. The BSRT administration has also a branch office in the building of the Humboldt Graduate School at Luisenstraße 56, where many of the complementary training courses take place.

Courses

The BSRT offers an international post-graduate training program which is taught in English. The school's educational activities include scientific training, training in complementary skills and personal development.

The BSRT is divided into three tracks: the Biology, Engineering and Clinical Scientist Tracks. Each track offers in-depth education in that specific discipline, as well as training across the disciplines to provide a well-rounded education in cell biology, molecular biology, bioengineering, biotechnology and biomaterials. Clinically-oriented introductory courses provide pure scientists with insights into the clinical needs of Regenerative Medicine. The complementary courses impart skills such as communication, presentation, languages, ethics, good scientific practice and entrepreneurship, in order to prepare the Ph.D. students for a future career in or outside academia.

The Ph.D. Student Award offered by the BSRT acknowledges outstanding scientific achievements in the field of Regenerative Medicine. Young, talented scientists in Berlin and Brandenburg who are doing their Ph.D. in the field of Regenerative Medicine can submit their publications and posters by 31 October each year. The award ceremony takes place each December during the annual BSRT Nikolaus Lecture.

Information about Applying

National or international graduate students with a Master's or equivalent degree in biology, biochemistry, bioengineering, bioinformatics, veterinary medicine, chemistry, physics, engineering or medicine can apply to the appropriate track through the regular international calls for applications.

Applicants to the BSRT must complete an online application form at www.bsrt.de and select three research projects which they wish to join. Based on their qualifications, motivation and references approximately 30 applicants are invited for further assessment in Berlin where they have participate in personal interviews and give a short oral presentation about their current research. Approximately 15 applicants will be enrolled into the program.

The doctoral candidates will receive a Dr. rer. nat. from the Humboldt-Universität, the Freie Universität or the Universität Potsdam, or a Dr.-Ing. from the Technische Universität.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Two main types of funding are available to Ph.D. students:

1. Research positions or stipends as part of funded research projects of the BSRT research groups. The number of stipends varies depending on the number of projects and grants available.
2. Stipends provided by the BSRT and funded by the DFG. The stipends are fully funded for two or three years. Approximately 15 stipends are awarded annually.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The program is funded by the German Excellence Initiative.

Member of

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Introduction

The Berlin School of Mind and Brain is an international research school offering a unique three-year interdisciplinary doctoral program in English in the mind/brain sciences.

The school has a faculty with 60 distinguished researchers covering the gamut of research in the mind and brain sciences. Each doctoral candidate is assigned two professorial advisors – one from the “brain sciences” and one from the “mind sciences” – in order to maximize the interdisciplinary impact of their work. Between ten and fifteen doctoral candidates are accepted into the school each year.

Research Areas

Research within the Berlin School of Mind and Brain focuses on the interface between the humanities and the neurosciences. Of particular interest are research areas that fall on the borders between the mind sciences (e.g., philosophy, linguistics, behavioral and cognitive science, economics), and the brain sciences (e.g., neurophysiology, computational neuroscience, neurology, and neurobiology). Major topics of research within the program include: “conscious and unconscious perception”, “decision-making”, “language”, “brain plasticity and lifespan ontogeny”, “mental disorders and brain dysfunction”, the “philosophy of mind”, and

“ethics”. However, research is not limited to these areas, and candidates are strongly encouraged to develop and work at their own initiative on any projects that are relevant to interdisciplinary questions relating to mind and brain.

Partners in Research and Training

- Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
- Freie Universität Berlin
- Technische Universität Berlin
- Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg
- Universität Potsdam
- Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin
- Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Leipzig
- Mind and Brain Institute, Berlin
- Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience, Berlin
- Berlin NeuroImaging Center
- Neuroscience Research Center, Charité
- Center for General Linguistics (ZAS)
- Interdisciplinary Center for Meaning in Language
- Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine
- Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin
- Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Architecture and Software Technology
- Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities
- Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Berlin

Facilities

Since January 2009 the Berlin School of Mind and Brain has been housed in the former Royal Veterinarian School at Luisenstraße 56 in central Berlin, in close vicinity to the Medical Faculty of Humboldt-Universität (Charité), its Neuroscience Center Building, the Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience, and the departments of Neurophysiology, Neurology, Experimental Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry. The main campus of Humboldt-Universität is located within easy walking distance. The facilities include office space for the especially appointed Mind and Brain professors, doctoral candidates and management staff, as well as seminar rooms, a welcome and lounge area and a service desk for students and guests.

Doctoral Program

The curriculum of the School's doctoral program comprises eight weeks of courses, a weekly international lecture series, weekly journal and methods clubs, annual poster presentations, scientific soft skills courses, mentoring, and career advice.

Supervision

Each doctoral research project carried out under the auspices of the Berlin School of Mind and Brain will be supervised by two experienced professorial advisors. As mind/brain projects must be inherently interdisciplinary, one of these advisors will typically have a ‘mind’ and the other one a ‘brain’ background.

Mentoring

Each student will have access to a mentor. Mentors will either be experienced faculty or a person of public standing and integrity. The mentor's role is to advise the student on questions of personal and career development and on possible further exploration of new scientific terrain.

Information about Applying

In order to be considered as an applicant for the School, students must have completed (or be in the process of completing) a Master's degree, Diplom, Staatsexamen, or Magister in a field related to mind/brain research (e.g. philosophy,

linguistics, psychology, medicine, computer science, biology, law, economics, or related fields). Applications must include a detailed research proposal in one of the research areas of the Berlin School of Mind and Brain. Research proposals must have clear mind/brain relevance. Proposals must contain a detailed project idea, and include a summary of previous research, a justification for the relevance of the current project and the proposed research methodology, a summary of the hypotheses and research questions to be addressed, and a relevant bibliography. Proposals should be no longer than five pages. Graduate students are invited to turn in their application by 15 January of each year.

Funding for Doctoral Students

Depending on the student's individual profile and interest, funding will usually consist of a full scholarship (external or internal) or research and/or teaching posts with one of the faculty members. The Berlin School of Mind and Brain can offer a number of scholarships. Scholarships are currently awarded for one year, with a possible extension for the second and third year.

It is not a prerequisite for a successful application that applicants bring their own funding to the program. However, if applicants have secured funding (e.g. an external scholarship or a research position with a faculty member) they should name their source of funding.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The program is funded by the German Excellence Initiative.

Member of

II III HUMBOLDT GRADUATE SCHOOL





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Introduction

The Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience offers an interdisciplinary, international Ph.D. Program in Computational Neuroscience involving several universities, which leads to the degree of Dr. rer. nat. (the German equivalent of a Ph.D.). The program is targeted to students who are interested in neuroscience and have a strong mathematics background. In accordance with the interdisciplinary nature of Computational Neuroscience, the program encourages students from diverse disciplines such as the natural sciences, engineering, or mathematics to apply.

Research Areas

Computational Neuroscience is a young, growing discipline within the exciting field of neuroscience. It uses theoretical approaches from a variety of disciplines, including mathematics, physics, computer science, and engineering, to understand the brain. Computational Neuroscience integrates experimentation, data analysis and modeling. The Center’s research groups work on a single cell level up to a macroscopic level, both experimentally and theoretically, and cover the following research areas: Experimental and Clinical Neuroscience, Machine Learning and Statistical Data Analysis, and Computational Neuroscience.

Research Collaboration

The Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Berlin integrates research and teaching activities at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Charite-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, Fraunhofer FIRST – Institute for Computer Architecture and Software Technology, the Max-Delbrueck-Center for Molecular Medicine and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. Furthermore, the Bernstein Center Berlin is part of the National Network for Computational Neuroscience made up of the Bernstein Centers, Bernstein Foci, Bernstein Collaborations, Bernstein Groups, Bernstein Awards and the G-Node. More information about this network can be found under www.nncn.uni-freiburg.de

Facilities

The Bernstein Center Berlin has a faculty of 26 principal investigators, 19 of which are located at one of the participating institutions in Berlin. The center has a central building housing the research groups of Prof. Michael Brecht and Prof. John-Dylan Haynes as well as the central administration. The house offers a seminar room, a lecture hall, a computer pool, and a library. It is the location of the monthly Bernstein meetings as well as the Ph.D. meetings. The tea room and the garden offer space for informal get-togethers.

Courses

The main focus of the Ph.D. program is a 3 year research project, which is complemented by an individualized curriculum including course work, summer schools, conferences and soft skill courses. Within the first six months of their project, students have to defend their Ph.D. proposal in front of a Ph.D. committee. Students must also report to their committee on an annual basis. Furthermore, students attend a monthly Ph.D. meeting, followed by the Bernstein meeting, at which international experts within the field of Computational Neuroscience are invited to present and discuss their work.

Information about Applying

To apply for the Ph.D. program, applicants will must have successfully completed their university education at Master, Diplom, Staatsexamen, or Magister level in a field related to Computational Neuroscience, such as the natural sciences, mathematics, or engineering. Applications can be submitted via our internet portal at www.bccn-berlin.de/applications. Selection of candidates occurs in a two-step process: a committee first reviews the applications; promising candidates are then invited for an interview at the Bernstein Center. Based on the outcome of the interviews the selection committee will name the successful candidates.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Funding possibilities for 2010 are not yet confirmed. Please check with the program coordinator if you are interested.

GENETIC AND IMMUNOLOGIC DETERMINANTS OF
PATHOGEN-HOST INTERACTIONS
RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 1121



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Introduction

The DFG funded Research Training Group Pathogen-Host Interactions (GRK 1121) provides a multidisciplinary approach to studying the interaction between pathogens and their hosts. Different research groups cooperate in this program and offer outstanding scientific training resulting in a doctoral degree (Dr. rer. nat.).

Research Areas and Research Collaboration

Several internationally recognized research groups of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, the University Hospital Charité, the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, the German Arthritis Research Center, the Robert Koch-Institute and the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research are involved in the Research Training Group. They cover a wide range of scientific areas, including microbiology, biochemistry, cell biology, molecular biology and immunology. This close cooperation has lead to the formation of a common “ZIBI Graduate School“ supported by the activities of the ZIBI (Interdisciplinary Center for Infection Biology and Immunity). A short description of the major research interests of the group leaders and a selection of key publications are available on the program’s website. The introductions are intended to help candidates choose their favourite research fields when applying to the Research Training Group.

Facilities

The strength of the program is the diversity of the labs involved and the wide array of state-of-the-art techniques provided.

Practicals

Various practicals are offered by members of the Research Training Group in which students can learn methods and techniques used in infection biology and immunology. The practicals are usually accompanied by the theoretical introduction into the field.

Lab exchange

Students have the possibility to spend up to three months outside their own laboratory to learn new approaches to their research work.

Hot topic seminars

Students are encouraged to plan, coordinate and organise workshops on “hot topics” in their field in small teams.

Retreat

The Research Training Group’s annual retreat allows students and faculty members to get together in a location outside of Berlin.

Soft skills courses

Ph.D. students will have the opportunity to attend introductory courses in scientific writing, time management and self-discipline, presentation, grant writing and other topics.

Courses

The Research Training Group encourages independent research by students in different fields including viruses, bacteria and parasites. Different approaches such as molecular, cellular, and organismal biology as well as genetics, immunology and biochemistry are used to study the different aspects of infection biology. During the three year program, the students carry out their scientific research work in one of the research labs. A thesis committee consisting of three faculty members will support the student to ensure the progress of the work. During the doctoral program students will attend seminars, workshops, colloquia, conferences, and tutor courses providing them with a rich environment for scientific interactions. German language courses, courses on scientific presentation and writing, and workshops on career opportunities will also be offered and announced on the website.

Information about Applying

The Ph.D. program covers a period of three years. To ensure a high standard of individual training, the number of participants is limited. It is the aim of the program that 50% of the doctoral candidates have an international background. The official language of the program is English; a strong command of the English language is thus required. Applicants should hold a master’s degree, a German diploma or equivalent degree in biology, biochemistry, bioinformatics, chemistry or physics. It is not necessary to hold the degree at the time of application. However, candidates must be awarded their degree prior to enrolment in the program. In exceptional cases, students holding a BSc may also be accepted for program preparing them for a doctorate. Faculty members of the Research Training Group review all incoming applications. Candidates are selected for an interview based on academic qualifications, motivation, suitability to the program and referee’s evaluations. Details concerning eligibility and the application procedure can be found on our website.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Students admitted to the Research Training Group will be supported by stipends to cover living expenses. Funding will be provided for three-years. Additionally, the cooperating International Max Planck Research School offers up to 12 grants per year with a yearly application period.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Research Training Group is financed by the DFG (German Research Foundation).

Member of





Contact Information

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Introduction

The International Research Training Group (IRTG) “Genomics and Systems Biology of Molecular Networks” includes research groups from the Bioinformatics program at Boston University, the Joint Bioinformatics program of Kyoto University and Tokyo University as well as from the Humboldt-Universität, Freie Universität, Max Planck Institute for molecular Genetics, Charité, and the Max Delbrück Center in Berlin. Since the foundation of the IRTG in 2006, the field of systems biology has gained momentum and the application of mathematical methods and computational approaches to biology has been established as an important tool in life science, leading to a deeper understanding of biological processes. However, there is still urgent need for further development of the theoretical concepts and computational tools which can be applied both in biological and biomedical research. We offer a successful research and education program based on the understanding that systems biology comprises both the experimental investigation of a biological system and its theoretical examination. The cross-fertilization between both approaches has led to a number of successful research projects. We focus on the integration of two strong areas of modern biology, bioinformatics and molecular systems biology, to enable a deep understanding of complex cellular regulatory networks, ranging from its components to systemic properties.

Research Areas

Systems Biology is a new development in the life sciences that combines approaches from physiology, molecular biology, biotechnology, engineering, mathematics, physics, and information technology. Our specific research projects fall within the following categories:

- The dynamics and topology of metabolic networks;
- The regulation of gene expression;
- Intra- and intercellular signal transduction and dynamics;
- The structure and function of protein families; and
- The development of applied models for medical applications.

Research Collaboration

We have strong collaborations within the Berlin consortium and with the partner institutions in Boston and Japan. All groups have further collaborations with experimental and theoretical research groups.

Facilities

The participating institutions have computer facilities suited for bioinformatics and computational research.

Courses

We offer regular courses for various aspects of Systems Biology, including modelling of biochemical networks, protein structure, or bioinformatics. For the seminar series, we invite both local and international speakers. It is foreseen that Ph.D. students spend up to six months in partner laboratories either in Boston or Kyoto/ Tokyo. The locations of common conferences rotate among the partner institutions. An annual retreat is organized on the island of Hiddensee or in Zeuthen near Berlin.

Information about Applying

Can be found at our website (see above).

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Students admitted to the International Research Training Group will be supported by stipends to cover living expenses. Funding will be provided for three years, according to the rules of the DFG (German Research Foundation).

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Graduate Program IRTG is funded by the DFG (German Research Foundation).



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Introduction

The Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC) has established the Helmholtz Graduate School “Molecular Cell Biology” to offer a unified interdisciplinary platform for structured Ph.D. training at the MDC or its partners. We work in collaboration with our partners Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, and the Leibniz Institute for Molecular Pharmacology. There are currently about 200 international Ph.D. students in the Helmholtz Graduate School selected on competitive basis. For more information: www.mdc-berlin.de/phd.

Research areas

The MDC is a leading research institution in the field of Molecular Medicine with around 400 publications in top international journals every year, including contributions to Science, Nature, Cell etc. It has more than 50 research groups, an exceptional research base and state-of-the-art facilities, a long-standing cooperation between basic researchers, clinical scientists and the partner universities, and can thus provide excellent training of future scientists in molecular cell biology.

The MDC covers a broad range of research areas including: Cardiovascular & Metabolic Diseases; Cancer; Bioinformatics and Systems Biology and Function and Dysfunction of the Nervous System. For more information about these areas please see the website www.mdc-berlin.de/en/research/research_programs/ and the MDC’s latest research report: www.mdc-berlin.de/en/research/research_report/.

There are currently four Ph.D. programs within the Helmholtz Graduate School that cooperate across the above research areas:

- MDC International Ph.D. Program “Molecular Cell Biology”
- International Helmholtz Research School “Molecular Neurobiology” (MolNeuro)
- International Helmholtz Research School “Translational Cardiovascular & Metabolic Medicine” (TransCard)
- Berlin Institute for Medical Systems Biology Exchange Program

Training and courses

Lectures

The Helmholtz Graduate School provides interdisciplinary training in Molecular Cell Biology, including a series of Ph.D. lectures presented by the Ph.D. faculty and world experts, who give an overview of their research, techniques and latest findings. This is supplemented by neuroscience and cardiovascular focused lecture series provided by the MolNeuro and TransCard Research Schools. The Helmholtz Graduate School also offers weekly and bi-weekly seminar series, summer schools, symposia and more.

Supervision

All Ph.D. students are supervised by an individual Ph.D. Project Committee, which consists of Ph.D. faculty and external experts. Students are expected to give an annual report to the committee about their proposed Ph.D. project and work progress.

Ph.D. Retreat

Once a year, the Ph.D. students at the MDC and FMP organize a Ph.D. Retreat for their colleagues and faculty to help students to get to know each other’s projects and to facilitate interaction and collaboration. The retreats usually take place at locations on the outskirts of Berlin.

Travel and Collaboration Fund

All Ph.D. students are encouraged to apply for funds for conferences and external courses or for a stay outside their host lab to learn new techniques or work on a sub-project for up to 6 month. Oral and poster presentations (incl. at the yearly Ph.D. Retreat) are considered essential parts of students’ soft skills training.

Soft Skills Courses

The Helmholtz Graduate School provides courses in scientific writing, presentation, time management, grant writing and other topics.

University Interface

Since most students will have a position at the MDC in Berlin-Buch, the Helmholtz Graduate School assists students in the admission, enrolment and submission process at the partner universities and organization of the Ph.D. examination.

Application

There are two ways to become a member of the Helmholtz Graduate School. We accept applications either during the yearly application round from October to January, or directly to a faculty member of one of our Ph.D. programs. For more information see www.mdc-berlin.de/phd . We are looking for excellent international graduate students who wish to obtain a Ph.D. in the fields of molecular cell biology or systems biology. Eligible candidates should:

- hold or expect to obtain a degree equivalent to the German Diplom or MSc with a thesis in the natural sciences,
- have a good command of English.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

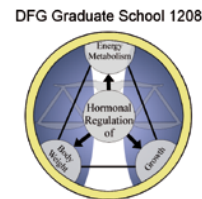
Successful candidates are awarded a three-year scholarship from the MDC. The salary level for the graduate students employed as research assistants is in accordance with the standard wage agreement for the public service sector (900 – 1100 EUR net per month, depending on individual tax status).

Funding of the Graduate Programs

The programs are funded by the Helmholtz Association, the MDC, the BMBF and the Berlin Senate.

HORMONAL REGULATION OF ENERGY METABOLISM, BODY WEIGHT AND GROWTH

RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 1208



Contact Information

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Introduction

The DFG (German Research Foundation)-funded Research Training Group “Hormonal Regulation of Energy Metabolism, Body Weight and Growth” addresses in an interdisciplinary, multi-institutional approach important aspects of hormone systems controlling these parameters in higher mammalian organisms, including man. Several endocrine research teams cooperate in this Ph.D./M.D. program, offering their outstanding scientific training, teaching, and research experience to provide a structured interdisciplinary research and training curriculum with the aim of awarding Ph.D. (Dr. rer. nat.), Dr. rer. medic., or M.D. degrees.

Research Areas and Research Collaboration

Internationally recognized research groups of the Charité (experimental, pediatric, internal medicine and obstetric endocrinology), Humboldt-Universität (molecular genetics), Freie Universität (internal medicine and nutrition), and the Deutsches Institut für Ernährungsforschung (DIfE, pharmacology and nutrition) are cooperatively providing the network, and contribute to the experimental training and endocrine-metabolic curriculum. Scientific areas range from molecular, cellular, and clinical endocrinology to aspects of genetics, reproduction, metabolism, and nutrition research. Neuroendocrinology and endocrine epidemiology are topics as well as endocrine pharmacology.

Main concepts and goals of this graduate program network are:

- to link hormonally regulated processes and adaptive metabolic responses to changing requirements (genetics, nutrition, environment, endogenous and exogenous factors),
- to understand mutual interactions between finetuned, differentiation-dependent and ageadapted hormonal networks on a genetic and molecular background,
- to provide for graduate students scientific training, education in molecular endocrinology and access to future-oriented organization of translational research.

The program is organized in mutually linked three areas: hormonal regulation of body weight and energy homeostasis, comprising 3 groups at CVK (Biebermann, Krude), CCM (Köhrle), and the Life Sciences Faculty of the Humboldt-Universität (Brockmann). Area two focuses on insulin resistance and diabetes complications. These groups are located at the DIfE (Schürmann, Al-Hasani), at CBF (Pfeiffer, Bähr), and at CVK (Plagemann, Harder). The third area “Hormonal adaptation in growth differentiation and ageing” comprises the groups of Schomburg and Schweizer (CCM), and the team of Strasburger and Wu (CCM). Associated graduate students work on related projects, but receive their funding from other sources (SFB 577, SFB 665, DFG Priority Program 1087, NGFN) , DFG Clinical

Research Group 214). Associated projects are located at various academic, clinical and public domain research institutions in Berlin as well as in research and development departments of biotech companies in the Berlin-Brandenburg area.

Structure of the Curriculum

Lectures, seminars, interactive seminars, and tandem seminars provide the graduate students a sound education and knowledge in molecular, cellular endocrinology, and communicate concepts of clinical endocrinology and metabolism.

Courses

During the Ph.D./Dr. rer. medic./M.D. program, students carry out their scientific research work in one participating research lab guided and advised by a team comprising the project leader, mentor, and a tutor, who support and monitor the progress of research and students achievements. Students will attend seminars, workshops, colloquia, conferences, and courses and are encouraged to attend one national or international topical scientific meeting or workshop.

Practicals

Several practicals directed to aspects of endocrinology and metabolism including basic requirements of life science research are offered by members of the Research School and affiliated teams. Theoretical instructions are accompanying the practical courses.

Lab Exchange

Students will spend some time in other labs of the program, as well as in host labs outside of the network in order to acquire new technology, to work on a specific subproject, or to experience different “lab culture”. Once a month, an international guest lecture series brings top researchers to this program – accompanied by a preparatory, interactive seminar.

Information about Applying

The Graduate Program covers a period of 2,5 years and started its first cohort in October 2005.

A second cohort was recruited early in 2008. It is expected that in spring 2010 a further recruitment phase will be announced, provided prolongation of the program by the DFG. In order to warrant intense, focused, and individual training on competitive, high standards, the number of participants and scholarships is limited. A significant number of doctoral candidates will come from outside Germany. Students with Master, a German Diploma, or equivalent degree in life sciences, are entitled to apply for a Ph.D. or Dr. rer. medic. track, medical students can apply for the M.D. scholarships. A strong command of the English language is mandatory for this program.

Applicants must hold a Master, a German diploma, or equivalent degree in biology, biochemistry, biotechnology, bioinformatics, chemistry, or nutrition science. Applicants will be selected for an interview based on their academic qualifications, motivation, suitability to the program, referee's recommendations, their achievements and merits and availability of scholarships. Details can be found on the website.

Information about Funding for Ph.D. and Dr. rer. medic. Students

Students admitted to the Research School will be supported by scholarships that will cover their living costs. The GRK 1208 will fund students for a 2.5- to maximally 3-year period. Associated graduate students can join the program at any time provided they have independent funding by their projects and teams. International and summer students on short research visits can transiently join the program (RISE, DAAD).

Networks

GRK 1208 is closely connected to DFG, BMBF, EU, and other grant networks, some of which also have training programs for their students and young investigators. GK 1208 is linked to Young Investigator networks of the German Society of Endocrinology (DGE) and to national and European endocrine oriented training programs.

Member of

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Introduction

Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin offers an interdisciplinary, international graduate program in medical neuroscience, which leads to the degrees of M.Sc., Ph.D., or M.D./Ph.D. The program is targeted at students of medicine, life sciences, and the natural sciences (biology, biophysics, physics, chemistry, psychology, etc.). About 60% of students come from outside Germany; the working language of the program is English.

The main objective of the program is to bring clinical and basic neurosciences together in a comprehensive educational program. Medical students are provided with a structured education in basic neuroscience, and students of the natural sciences are trained in medical topics and approaches related to the central and peripheral nervous system.

Research Areas

The program takes an interdisciplinary approach to neuroscience, covering basic science like neuro-physiology as well as clinically relevant research topics like stroke or Alzheimer's disease. Students thus investigate the physiology and the patho-physiological disturbances of the nervous system on a broad and in-depth level: from the molecular level to the entire person. The program prepares students for careers at the intersection of bench and bedside in the academic neurosciences, as well as in the application-oriented biomedical industry.

Research Collaboration

The program integrates several neuroscience research groups throughout Berlin:

- Cluster of Excellence NeuroCure
- Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- Freie Universität Berlin
- Max-Delbrück-Centrum für Molekulare Medizin (MDC)
- Forschungsinstitut für Molekulare Pharmakologie (FMP)

Mentoring

Senior faculty is available for academic and scientific advisement as well as career counseling. These mentors are of high standing within the faculty, are very experienced, and have a broad perspective of the field and science in general. In addition, a mentoring system has been established in which senior students guide junior students through the program.

Information about Applying

M.Sc. Program:
The program aims to recruit students interested in cell and molecular biology research in neuroscience with a strong clinical orientation. Applicants must have basic knowledge in biology, chemistry and physics. Above average grades are required. Ideal applicants will already have some laboratory experience and plan to do further research as Ph.D. students.

The admission process is three-fold: submission of application, admission test and admission interview. Deadline for M.Sc. application is usually January each year for the start of the program September. For deadlines and application procedures, see our website.

Ph.D. Program:
Ph.D. and M.D./Ph.D. candidates can apply year round.
Two criteria are essential for admission.

- a solid background in neurosciences (for the Ph.D. program) and medicine (for the M.D./Ph.D.)
- an offer of a Ph.D. project and respective funding by a member of the Faculty.

The solid neuroscience background can be the result of having successfully completed our M.Sc. program or another M.Sc. program focusing on neuroscience. Or it can be obtained by having worked and published in the field. In either case,

the commission will assess applicant's specific scientific background.

Admission to the Ph.D. program is only possible with a well defined research project supervised by a member of the faculty. Interested candidates must obtain a research assistant position (Doktoranden-stelle); they should familiarize themselves with our faculty and get in touch with those members whose labs and research projects interest them. For more information, see our website.

Information about Funding for Ph.D. Students

Tuition fees are not charged for the program. M.Sc. students only rarely receive funding. Ph.D. students are usually financed through a doctoral position in the research group they work for.

Program Structure and Content

The M.Sc. program is made up of five modules and the research project:

Year 1	Lecture Medical Neuroscience 20 ECTS Credit Points	Methods in Neuroscience 6 ECTS Credit Points	Lab Rotations 24 ECTS Credit Points	Individual Focus 5 ECTS Credit Points	Communication Skills 5 ECTS Credit Points
Year 2	Research Project and Master Thesis 50 ECTS Credit Points			Individual Focus 5 ECTS Credit Points	Communication Skills 5 ECTS Credit Points

The Ph.D. program focuses on a 3 year research project, complemented by a small scale curriculum.

Year 1	Ph.D. Project 50 ECTS Credit Points	Ph.D. Curriculum: science topics, communication skills, progress report, Ph.D. Symposium 10 ECTS Credit Points
Year 2	Ph.D. Project 50 ECTS Credit Points	Ph.D. Curriculum: science topics, communication skills, progress report, Ph.D. Symposium 10 ECTS Credit Points
Year 3	Ph.D. Project 50 ECTS Credit Points	Ph.D. Curriculum: science topics, communication skills, progress report, Ph.D. Symposium 10 ECTS Credit Points

Funding of the Graduate Program

As a graduate program of the Cluster of Excellence NeuroCure, Medical Neurosciences is funded by the Excellence Initiative.

Member of



INTERNATIONAL MAX PLANCK RESEARCH SCHOOL FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND IMMUNOLOGY



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Introduction

The International Max Planck Research School for Infectious Diseases and Immunology (IMPRS-IDI) is a collaboration project between the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin which offers outstanding scientific training leading to a doctoral degree (Dr. rer. nat.). The mission of this graduate program is to develop students into creative, responsible and self-confident young researchers. The program language is English. IMPRS-IDI is funded by the Max Planck Society.

Research Areas

The International Max Planck Research School for Infectious Diseases and Immunology unifies a number of internationally recognized, outstanding research groups. The strength of IMPRS-IDI is the diversity of the labs involved and the wide array of state-of-the-art techniques provided. IMPRS-IDI research topics range from microbiology to immunology, from chronic infections to autoimmune diseases and from pathogen escape mechanisms to blood cell development and differentiation. Students are encouraged to conduct independent research using different approaches such as molecular, cellular, and organismal biology. Projects aim to elucidate the genetic, biochemical and organismal basis of infections and immune reactions.

Research Collaboration

The International Max Planck Research School for Infectious Diseases and Immunology collaborates closely with the GRK1121 "Genetic and Immunologic Determinants of Pathogen- Host- Interactions". Both programs make up the ZIBI Graduate School Berlin, which is associated with the Center for Infection Biology and Immunity (ZIBI), which was founded by scientists working in this field. The scientists are affiliated with well-known institutes such as the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, the Robert Koch Institute, the German Rheumatism Research Center, the Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, and the institutes of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, the Freie Universität Berlin and the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin.

Courses

In a "tailor-made" program of courses, students are introduced to modern scientific practice and to advanced methodology. Particular emphasis is placed on the active participation of the students. All students meet regularly to present and discuss their projects and are highly encouraged to invite international guest speakers and to communicate science to the public. The students attend at least one international conference to actively present and discuss their data.

The IMPRS-IDI faculty offers a number of practical courses to introduce the techniques used in the lab and discuss current projects. Faculty members also teach several lectures, e.g. a seminar based on current publications in the field. Soft skill courses support the students in their development. The program offers courses on topics such as scientific presentation and writing, and on general presentation and communication skills. Foreign students have the opportunity to attend German classes. The school also prepares students for their scientific life after they graduate. Several workshops introduce career opportunities and funding options. IMPRS-IDI has an active and lively student community. The collegial atmosphere assures that everyone has a productive and memorable time at the institute. The annual retreat organized by the students is a particular highlight. For examples of curricula please refer to our website: www.zibi-graduateschool-berlin.de

Information about Applying

Application is only possible online using the online application form on our website. Every winter, the online application platform is open for the applicants. The deadline for application is usually at the end of January. After a first round of selection, short-listed candidates will be invited to Berlin for an assessment week which takes place in April. Candidates will be selected based on academic qualifications, motivation, suitability for the program and referee's evaluations. During the assessment week, applicants will be introduced to the different research groups, interviewed by faculty members and have to give a presentation about their scientific work.

Since IMPRS-IDI is an international program, we strongly encourage students from all over the world to apply. Applicants must hold a Master, a German Diploma or equivalent degree in biology, biochemistry, bioinformatics, chemistry, or other related subjects. In rare instances we may accept applicants holding a Bachelor's degree (4 years of study including a thesis); such applicants must be outstanding. Strong English language skills are essential.

Please visit our website:
www.zibi-graduateschool-berlin.de

Funding for Ph.D. Students

The program covers a period of three years. Successful applicants will receive a fellowship. Projects within our graduate program usually start in October.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The International Max Planck Research School for Infectious Diseases and Immunology is funded by the Max Planck Society (MPG).

SEX- AND GENDER-SPECIFIC MECHANISMS IN MYOCARDIAL HYPERTROPHY
RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 754



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Introduction

An impaired cardiac function, heart failure (HF), is one of the most common health problems in our contemporary society. The Research Training Group “Sex- and Gender-Specific Mechanisms in Myocardial Hypertrophy” provides an interdisciplinary approach to study gender differences in this disabling syndrome.

Research Areas

Myocardial hypertrophy is the most frequent precursor of HF. Until now, sex- and gender-specific aspects in the clinical features, genetics, pathomechanisms and molecular phenotypes in the myocardium have been underestimated. Under the same level of mechanical stress and neurohumoral stimulation, women develop less cardiac hypertrophy and less systolic dysfunction compared to men. However, severe cardiac hypertrophy has more adverse consequences for women than for men.

The molecular basis of sex differences may be related to the effect of sex hormones on the myocardium. Experimental results point to an impact of estrogen or testosterone on NO-synthesis, on the endothelin system, the renin-

angiotensin system, lipid and glucose metabolism, expression of contractile proteins, proliferation, growth and aging processes. The scientific aim of this graduate program is to analyse the mechanisms of sex-specific differences in the pathophysiology of myocardial hypertrophy. This focus is the basis for a very close collaboration among all working groups. The program collaborates with outstanding partners in the molecular medicine groups as well as the new institute of gender in medicine in Berlin.

Due to the complexity of these phenomena, all scientific approaches are organized in an interdisciplinary manner. A detailed and carefully elaborated study programme teaches sex and gender aspects in cardiology, nephrology, pharmacology, physiology, biology, and health sciences, genomics und proteomics. This creates significant added value for the students.

The participating medical students learn principles and methods of basic research, while participating scientists acquire the basics of medical science. The programme has the goal to educate highly qualified young scientists for interdisciplinary research projects as a prerequisite for international competitiveness.

A number of projects have been designed for Ph.D. students, all of which are integrated in ongoing projects supported by external funding.

The subject and the focus of the group are in accordance with the goals of the “Charité” and are therefore generously supported by the faculty.

Facilities

Most of the groups in the graduate course are located in the Center for Cardiovascular Research (CCR), Hessische Str. 3-4, 10115 Berlin. Some groups are also located at the Campus Benjamin Franklin, the Campus Mitte, Campus Virchow and the Campus Buch of the Charité.

Training

We offer weekly seminars, monthly lectures by outstanding internationally recognized speakers (BI-Lectures), laboratory visits, hospital visits, practicals and courses. Soft skill courses will also be provided.

Information about Applying

Applications are not being accepted at the current time.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

In general, funding for Ph.D. students follows the funding rules of the DFG (German Research Foundation). Please see their website for more information (www.dfg.de).

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Research Training Group is financed by the DFG (German Research Foundation).

THE IMPACT OF INFLAMMATION ON
NERVOUS SYSTEM FUNCTION
RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 1258



Contact Information

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Introduction

The Research Training Group 1258 “Neuroinflammation” has the goal to train Ph.D. students in the neurosciences in the special subject of neuroinflammation. The students are recruited both from Germany and internationally. The language of communication is English. The graduate program provides an excellent platform to acquire training on the theoretical level as well as on technical skills. The training group is in close association with the International Masters – M.D./Ph.D. Program in Medical Neurosciences and will train students for a career in science.

Research Areas

Inflammation is a central mechanism in the most relevant neurological diseases, namely stroke, multiple sclerosis, brain trauma as meningitis, and contributes to the generation of pain. We are now beginning to understand the impact of the immune system on different nervous system functions and diseases, ranging from damage through tolerance to modulation and repair. Conversely, the immune system receives signals from the nervous system, such as those responsible for immune suppression after injuries to the brain. The fate of immune cells within the nervous system is dependent on their interaction with the cells of the nervous

system. Our newly created network on underlying mechanisms of immune/nervous system crosstalk under physiological and pathological conditions will not only have an impact on each participating group, since common pathways are studied with different approaches, but will also serve as an excellent forum of education for students.

- In particular, the following are the major topics of this school program:
- the invasion and fate of immune cells in the brain responding to trauma,
 - the immune mechanisms of ischemia,
 - innate immunity: its molecular triggers and its effect on neural damage in acute brain inflammation,
 - continuous images of T cell/neuronal interactions and blockade of the processes leading to chronic brain inflammation,
 - the impact of regulatory cells of the adaptive immune system on damage in chronic brain inflammation,
 - the communication of the nervous system with its “immune cells”, especially the microglia,
 - the modulation of sensory nerve function by immune mechanisms,
 - the influence of the immune system on neuronal plasticity.

Research Collaboration

The faculty of the Research Training Group is based at the Charité – Universitätsmedizin and the Max-Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine. At the Charité, the departments of anatomy, neurology, psychiatry, anesthesiology, rheumatology, neuroimmunology, and microbiology are involved. All faculty members are internationally connected and have common projects with many labs worldwide.

Facilities

Academic Affiliation

The Ph.D. students are enrolled in the “International Masters – M.D./Ph.D. Program in Medical Neurosciences”, which covers the wide spectrum of the neurosciences. Students thereby have the opportunity to complete an international Ph.D. degree with broad neuroscience training. M.D. students receive their degree from the Charité.

Personal Tutors/Mentors

All students have a personal adviser from the faculty and are integrated in her/his research group. In addition, students have a mentor from a different institution, and will report to her/him on the progress of their work.

Training Program and Meetings

The students present and discuss their work at a bimonthly meeting. There is a regular seminar program by established outside experts which is integrated in the seminar program organized at the Charité and the Max-Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine. All the members of the faculty hold local lab meetings, in which the students and postdocs of the lab report on the progress of their work. The students also attend symposia and conferences in and outside of Berlin. We also provide special skills training.

Practical Teaching Experience

The students receive their training in the research facilities of their advisor. All labs have a state of the art equipment.

Lab Rotations within Berlin

We expect students to spend periods of time in other labs. In the past, all faculty members have interacted closely, and students frequently go to other labs to learn new techniques or to use equipment which is not available on their own premises.

We expect students to spend an average of three months at a different site.

International Lab Rotations

Each faculty member is involved in collaborations outside Berlin, and there is an exchange of students and know-how. We have contacted a number of prominent labs working in similar fields to that of the graduate school, and many have agreed to host visiting students as part of a collaboration project.

Courses

Lectures and seminars of the Neuroscience Seminar Series program at the MDC, the Neuroscience Colloquium program at the Charité, of the Medical Neuroscience Ph.D. program, of the Berlin Neuroscience Forum are obligatory for the students of the graduate school. Each faculty member of the graduate school offers courses and lectures related to the theme of the graduate school. The graduate students also attend the seminars of the Medical Neuroscience Master’s program.

Information about Applying

Admission Requirements

Applicants must hold a master’s or diploma degree in biology, biochemistry, bioinformatics, chemistry, physics or a related subject. They should send their application by mail or email with CV, reference letters and a summary of the master’s thesis.

Admission Procedure

Participants will be selected on a competitive basis. They have to pass a multiple choice test first and then present their master’s project to the faculty and scholarship holders.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

The graduate training group has a number of full scholarships for medical and science Ph.D. students. There is no tuition.

Funding of the Graduate Program

Funded by the DFG (German Research Foundation).



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Introduction

The TransCard Ph.D.-program trains excellent young researchers in translational medicine with the goal of explaining genetic and molecular mechanisms that underlie cardiovascular and metabolic diseases and transferring these findings from bench to bedside.

Currently, there are 59 Ph.D. students engaged in research projects in the laboratories of the participating faculty at the MDC, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and Freie Universität.

TransCard provides an excellent environment for aspiring Ph.D. students with:

- Excellent and challenging research projects ensured by high quality faculty;
- Constant mentoring of Ph.D. progress through established Ph.D. committees;
- A core lecture series to provide necessary background on concepts and methods;
- Guaranteed attendance of an international scientific meeting plus an advanced course;
- Opportunity to develop “Soft skills” through external courses and teaching on site;
- Personal development through interaction with peers, influence on the curriculum, and organization of a retreat / research meeting; and
- Opportunity to obtain a “TransCard” fellowship for three years (only for the top students of the yearly selection).

Research Areas

The research areas covered by TransCard include cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, with a strong focus on transferring findings from the laboratory to clinical application. This includes basic research utilizing cellular systems, model organisms, systems biology and high throughput approaches as well as clinical projects – preferably in combination with each other.

Research Collaboration

The TransCard faculty has several collaborations with international research groups. Within TransCard as a Ph.D. program, we also have collaborations with the University of Arizona in Tuscon Ph.D. program, the Hubrecht University in the Netherlands and a new collaboration with a Ph.D. program on cardiovascular diseases at the Louis Pasteur Institute in Paris.

Facilities

The TransCard program routinely introduces new graduate students to a unique portfolio of the state of the art technological platforms which serve as juncture points for interdisciplinary research projects. These include:

1. Animal models cardiovascular and metabolic phenotyping
2. Genome Technologies
3. Imaging
4. Pharmacology and small bioactive molecules
5. Biomaterials

Courses

TransCard offers a wide range of training activities that are aimed at providing a basic education in cardiovascular and metabolic disease and translational medicine, as well as at increasing the student's independence in the third year of the curriculum.

These activities include:

- Advanced methods courses (max. 38 students each, lasting 23 days) which are held in specially designed training labs at the MDC communications center, local core facilities, or at the computer pool at the MDC library. These courses cover areas of scientific strength in the local facilities and involve senior faculty members, heads of the core facilities, and guest lecturers. Courses that are currently offered include confocal microscopy, medical statistics, expression profiling, and cardiac phenotyping.
- Extended methods courses abroad, lasting 13 weeks at collaborating institutes or international training sites (travel stipends for individual students are provided). Other training options include courses at EMBL, Cold Spring Harbor laboratories, and Woods Hole.
- Seminars and lectures, including lectures by student invited speakers and students.
- Student organized international meetings.
- Participation in the science day (Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften).

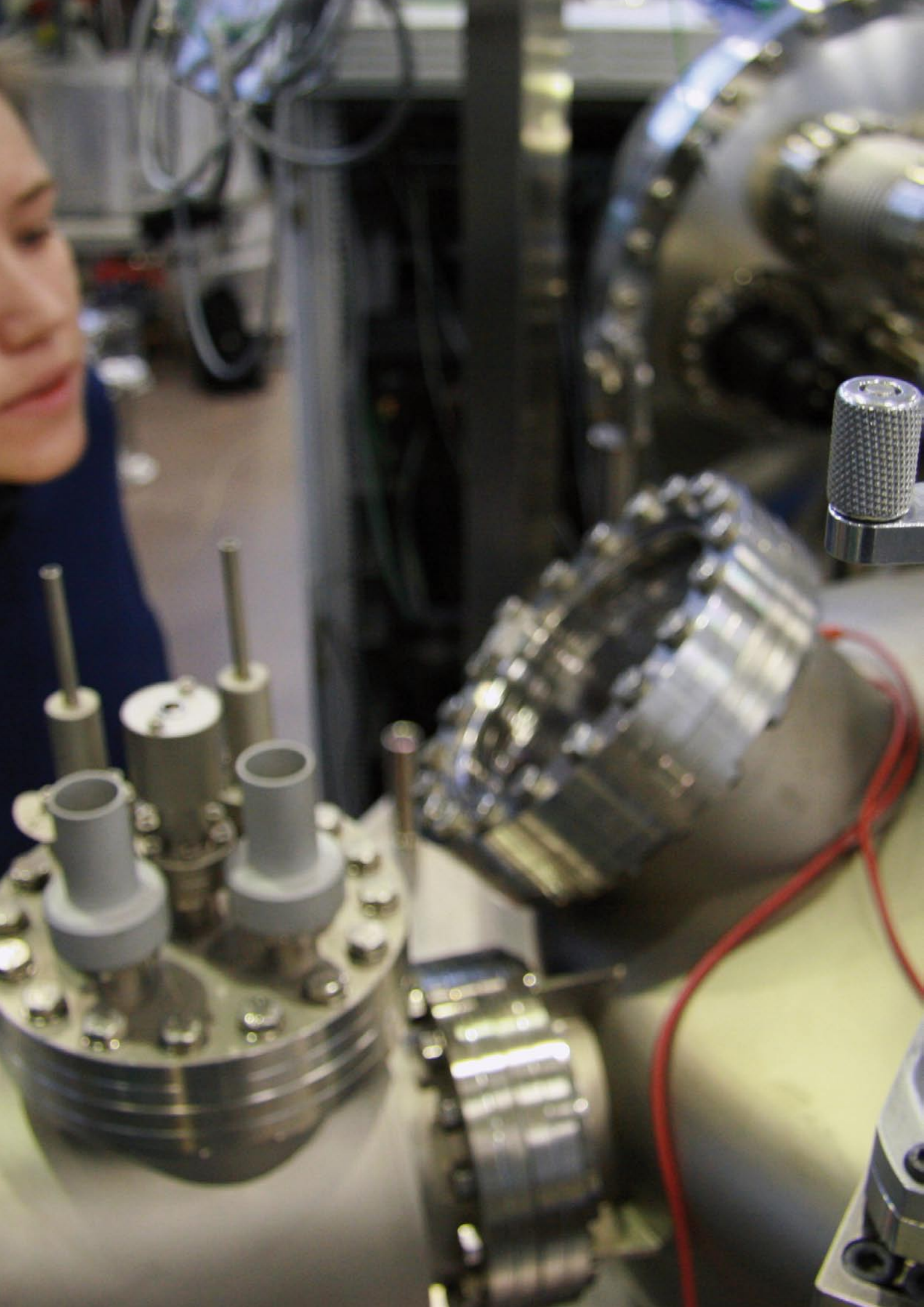
Information about Applying

We follow the general application procedure for Ph.D. students at the MDC, with a new round of applications beginning each year in October. The deadline for applications is the 31st of December. For more detailed information, please check the MDC website at www.mdc-berlin.de/phd beginning in October.

Funding for Ph.D. Students and Funding of the Graduate Program

TransCard is a Research School (Kolleg) that was awarded funding by the Helmholtz Association in 2008 and began operation in February 2009.

TransCard has a budget of 300 000 € a year for 6 years and aims to provide infrastructure for its students (travel grants, lecture series, E-learning) as well as Ph.D. positions for its faculty (2-3 per year).



NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS

**Contact Information**

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Introduction

The “Berlin International Graduate School of Natural Sciences and Engineering” (BIG-NSE) was founded in May 2007 at the Technische Universität Berlin. It is part of the DFG-financed Cluster of Excellence “Unified Concepts in Catalysis” (UniCat – see www.unicat.tu-berlin.de) which was founded by the Technische Universität Berlin and five additional Institutions in the Berlin area within the framework of the German government’s “Excellence Initiative”. The prestigious Research Cluster “UniCat” covers a broad range of topics related to the field of catalysis, from natural sciences to engineering. The success of this research programme, which is unique in Germany, relies heavily on the active participation of highly-qualified and motivated young researchers in the Cluster’s different projects. In order to facilitate the recruitment of excellent Ph.D. students from all over the world for the Cluster, the “BIG-NSE” graduate school was founded. It offers its students an attractive structured Ph.D. programme, allowing them to finish their Ph.D. under excellent conditions within three years.

Research Areas

The research programme of the UniCat Cluster is divided into three scientific areas:

- In research area A, “Complexity in Catalysis by Bridging the Materials Gap”, structure-property-function relationships of catalytic systems are being investigated to explain the interplay between the reactivity of catalytic sites and the molecular environment.
- Research area B, “ ‘ Intelligent ’ , Natural and Artificial Enzymes”, is dedicated to the investigation of natural catalysts at different levels of complexity, with the aim of gaining a deeper understanding of the underlying enzymatic reaction mechanisms as well as the design of novel semi-artificial biocatalysts.
- Research area C, “Complex Reaction Engineering”, focuses on the development of new catalyst and interface science

In addition to the founding partners listed above, a number of partnerships exist between the UniCat research groups and institutions in industry and academia. Many of these partnerships have been formalized by a memorandum of understanding signed between the UniCat board and the heads of the involved institutions (a full list of partners is available at <http://www.unicat.tu-berlin.de/Organisation.50.o.html>).

Facilities

In order to perform their research, all members of the School and the Cluster have access to the excellent equipment available at the Cluster’s six founding institutions. The BIG-NSE itself has several rooms at the Technische Universität Berlin.

Courses

The BIG-NSE study programme is limited to three years. Students who are admitted to the program first pass through an “initial phase”, usually lasting three months, in order to integrate the different branches of science and engineering and establish a common scientific language. The students not only attend the same lectures and courses, but also work together in a large “work pool” during the initial phase. Each student prepares a research proposal as a guideline for his/her future Ph.D. In a final workshop, each student presents his/her project in front of the UniCat Cluster faculty. Subsequently, the students join their research groups for the individual research project. Annual reports and frequent meetings with their advisory committee provide guidelines for the successful continuation of their work. The programme of the School includes Summer and Winter schools that are open to external researchers and students to help develop new ideas, and transfer knowledge to research partners and industry. Training in “soft” skills (e.g. presentations, project management) and visits to private industry are offered regularly.

Information about Applying

The requirements for admission to the BIG-NSE are:

- a Master’s degree or German diploma in chemistry, biology, physics or engineering;
- a certificate of English proficiency (TOEFL with a minimum of 550, or equivalent); and
- two letters of recommendation.

Applications are accepted by the board once a year. The BIG-NSE Ph.D. programme usually starts in October each year. The deadline for applications is March 15 for applicants who wish to be considered for a BIG-NSE scholarship (“Scholars”), and May 31 for applications without a scholarship (“Fellows”).

Funding for Ph.D. Students

The BIG-NSE offers scholarships (approx. ten/year) to the most promising candidates. However, excellent Ph.D. students who are about to start their Ph.D. in one of the UniCat research groups from which they are eligible for financing, can also be accepted as “Fellow” members of the BIG-NSE (approx. ten/year).

Funding of the Graduate Program

The scholarships of the School are principally financed the DFG through funding for the UniCat Cluster of Excellence. Most of the necessary equipment (rooms, devices) and consumables are provided by the hosting university (Technische Universität Berlin) and partner institutions.



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Introduction

The BERLIN MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL (BMS) was founded in the summer of 2006. The BMS is a joint graduate school of the mathematics departments of the three major Berlin universities: TU Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. It offers a uniform setting for graduate studies in mathematics in Berlin, a coordinated course program in English (Phase I, from Bachelor to Qualifying Exam) covering broad areas of “pure” and “applied” mathematics, access to all math research groups in Berlin for a Ph.D. (Phase II), in particular, to the DFG Research Training Groups (Graduiertenkollegs) and other ongoing research projects, intensive mentoring during the whole duration of studies, and support in non-mathematical issues ranging from housing to visas and from child care to language courses.

Research Areas and Research Collaborations

Mathematics Graduate Education Programs

- International Research Training Group “Stochastic Models of Complex Processes”
- Research Training Group “Methods for Discrete Structures”
- International Max Planck Research School “Computational Biology and Scientific Computing”
- International Max Planck Research School for Geometric Analysis, Gravitation and String Theory

Research Training Groups that will be closed 2009:

- International Research Training Group “Arithmetic and Geometry”
- Research Training Group “Analysis, Numerics, and Optimization of Multiphase Problems”

Further Institutes and Research Programs

- Zuse Institute Berlin (ZIB)
- Weierstraß Institute for Applied Analysis and Stochastics (WIAS)
- DFG Research Center MATHEON “Mathematics for Key Technologies”
- DFG Collaborative Research Center “Space – Time – Matter”
- Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute, AEI)
- Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)

University Institutes

- Freie Universität Berlin, Institute of Mathematics, Arnimallee 14, 14195 Berlin-Dahlem
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Institute of Mathematics, Johann von Neumann-Haus, Rudower Chaussee 25, 12489 Berlin-Adlershof
- Technische Universität Berlin, Institute of Mathematics, Straße des 17. Juni 136, 10623 Berlin-Charlottenburg

Events

BMS colloquium program (and many other workshops and events) on Fridays during term time and once per semester the Kovalevskaya Colloquium that gives female students the chance to discuss career paths with a leading female professor.

Courses

The BMS Phase I is the course phase:

- Typical entrance level: bachelor’s degree
- Phase I takes usually 3-4 semesters
- BMS basic course program in English coordinated between the three universities
- Completion requirement: five basic courses, at least two advanced courses, including a seminar
- Qualifying Exam (oral)

The BMS Phase II is the Ph.D. research phase:

- Typical entrance level: Qualifying Exam, or Master’s Diplom degree.
- Each student is registered as a Ph.D. student in mathematics at one of the three universities. He/she has an advisor at the same university, and an additional mentor.
- Phase II takes usually 4-6 semesters.
- Research work on the dissertation takes place in one of the research groups at the university institutes or at the other institutes.
- Completion requirement: according to the Ph.D. requirements at the respective university.

Application Information

Applications to the BMS should consist of:

- Personal statement of purpose (motivation, scientific interests)
- Course transcript (listing of courses taken/ completed)
- GRE score (if available)
- Two letters of recommendation
- English language certificate (TOEFL or equivalent)
- Statement of financial situation (scholarship not necessary/desirable or necessary)

Note: Please submit your applications online, via the online submission form. In order to access the application form, you first have to register. Only mail or email your application if you have no possibility to generate PDF versions of it.

More detailed information about the application requirements and procedures can be found here: <http://www.math-berlin.de/applications/>

There is no tuition – only the registration fee at one of the three Berlin universities. Registration at the universities can be done upon starting studies at the BMS: No advance application to the universities is necessary.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

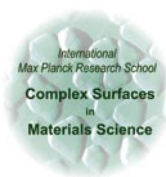
The BMS offer scholarships for Phase I and for Phase II students.

Typical Phase I scholarships are granted for 18 months (extendible by 6 months), and amount to 800 Euro per month, tax-free (no insurances included).

Phase II scholarships are typically granted for 24 months (extendible by 12 months), and usually amount to about 1350 Euro per month, tax-free (no insurances included). There are extra funds reserved for BMS students who take care of children.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The BERLIN MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL obtains major funding as a graduate school in the framework of the German Excellence Initiative.

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Online Information: www.imprs-cs.mpg.de

Introduction

The International Max Planck Research School “Complex Surfaces in Material Science” aims to combine the expertise of several strong research groups at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin and the Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft. The school combines cutting-edge research in an interdisciplinary environment with a thorough training in the methods, concepts, and theoretical basis of the physics and chemistry of surfaces, offering a unique opportunity for foreign and German students alike.

Research Areas

The research covered within this school encompasses a wide range of complex surfaces and interfaces. Surface science has evolved, over the last two decades, from a predominance of studies on highly idealized, single-phase, single-crystalline materials, to address complex multi-phase systems such as nanoparticles, multiply layered systems, and combinations between different material classes such as metal-oxide structures. An excellent example of research in this field relates to chemical processes on surfaces. On oxide surfaces, elementary processes in heterogeneous catalysis are studied, while an understanding of reactions on semiconductors is important for a wide range of applications. In this respect magnetic films and multilayers being studied within the school are exciting topics not least because of their emerging use in magnetic data storage.

Research Collaboration

The school aims at addressing such surface- and interface-related problems from an experimental as well as theoretical point of view. The expertise available at the three universities and the Fritz-Haber-Institut is an excellent basis for research and training in this respect, as evident from the list of groups involved in the research school. The interdisciplinary approach of the research is highlighted by the large number of collaborations of the participating groups both within the Berlin area as well as internationally.

Participating Workgroups

To date 15 workgroups from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, and the Fritz-Haber-Institute participate in the research school. They provide a wide range of experimental and theoretical approaches to the study of the surfaces of complex materials.

Facilities

There is a large number of state-of-the-art equipment – both for experimental as well as theoretical studies – available within the research groups collaborating within this school, ensuring a high quality of the projects being conducted. The research projects are complemented by lecture courses and a seminar program. The students are involved in the selection of the speakers. The close connections between the groups of this school

and the students within the school are important factors which lead to a lively exchange of ideas and an open atmosphere of discussion across the various groups. The interaction, particularly between the students, is further enhanced by meetings in a place outside the participating institutions (e.g. Ringberg Castle, the conference center of the Max Planck Gesellschaft) which are organized by the students themselves.

Courses

The school aims at recruiting chemists and physicists and the curriculum is laid out such that the typical language barriers which exist between these fields will be overcome. The lectures pay particular attention to this aspect. Tutorials are provided by experienced post-doctoral co-workers within the various groups to overcome these barriers if necessary.

Lectures are presented not “from the front” but rather as a discussion on the basis of handouts. The school offers a block course at the beginning of each semester which has two main objectives.

The first objective is to establish a common scientific language by repeating some basic aspects.

Typical topics are:

- Solid state physics
- Elements of material science
- Theoretical methods to characterize surfaces
- Catalysis
- Electronic properties of adsorbates and surfaces
- Kinetics at surfaces

The second class of courses within this block course program addresses more advanced topics. Typical topics of previous courses were semiconductor surfaces, dynamical processes on surfaces, or properties of nanoparticles. In addition, to the block courses regular lecture courses on specialized topics such as group theory, surface analytics, quantum mechanical models and calculations, interaction of radiation and matter will be given during the semesters.

Information about Applying

Requirements: Applicants should hold, or anticipate receiving in the immediate future, a master’s degree or diploma degree in physics, chemistry or materials science. Those students

who hold a bachelor’s degree may join the school to receive a master’s degree or diploma degree from one of the universities before advancing to doctorate studies. For details of admission, please read the current regulations of admission of the respective department at one of the universities. Applications (in English) should include:

- A letter of application describing background and interest in the study subject
- Certificate of academic degrees (copy)
- Curriculum vitae, including relevant material such as lists of achievements, publication list etc.
- Two letters of recommendation, sent by separate mail from persons acquainted with the applicant www.imprs-cs.mpg.de/html/application.html

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Studying at the IMPRS is free of charge and not subject to any tuition or fees. Moreover, financial support in the form of tax-free stipends or Ph.D. positions at the universities is available upon application.

Funding of the Graduate Program

Funded by the Max Planck Society.

FUNDAMENTALS AND FUNCTIONALITY OF SIZE AND INTERFACE CONTROLLED MATERIALS: SPIN- AND OPTOELECTRONICS

RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 1025



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Introduction

The research training group brings together experts to investigate local magnetic and optical properties of size and interface controlled materials with possible applications to spin- and optoelectronics. It offers an interdisciplinary education in the fundamentals of materials science based on individual fellowships for Ph.D. students. The students are actively engaged in cutting-edge research in physics, chemistry, and materials science, in collaboration with faculty members who are acknowledged leaders in their respective fields. Learning takes place within an interdisciplinary curriculum consisting of courses and seminars on basic topics related to spin- and optoelectronics. A program on business management for scientists is also a characteristic part of the curriculum, further promoting professional prospects.

Close interaction between the university, research institutes and high-tech companies located at the “City of Science, Technology and Media” in Berlin-Adlershof will create a stimulating atmosphere allowing students to accomplish the program successfully and in a short time.

Research Areas

Two topical areas dominate the research program of the training group. One of them focuses on the materials for spin electronics. New metal-semiconductor systems consisting of a ferromagnetic layer on top of III-V or II-IV semiconductors as well as Mn-doped semiconductors will be grown by molecular beam epitaxy and characterized with respect to their structural properties by high-resolution electron microscopy. The magnetic properties and the physics of spin injection from the metal into the semiconductor will be studied by optical spectroscopy and in transport measurements. Such experimental studies will be complemented by theoretical work on diluted magnetic semiconductors. The other topical area focuses on the optoelectronics involving metal nanoparticles, semiconductor quantum dots, and molecular charge-transfer complexes. In addition to nano-structuring wide-gap nitride semiconductors, optically induced elementary excitations in semiconductor quantum dots and in metallic/semiconductor nanostructures will be studied in experiment and theory. This includes ultrafast techniques and near-field microscopy. Further theory will concentrate on the dephasing of excitonic polarizations in quantum dots by phonons and on electronic excitations

in supported metal nanostructures as model systems for photostable emitters. As a prototype nanoscopic optical device, a laser consisting of a single semiconductor quantum dot or metallic/semiconductor nanostructure in a microsphere resonator will be realized. Them studies of photoexcited charge transfer and charge transport in composite materials serve as basis for the preparation of an “all-polymeric Graetzel solar cell”.

Research Facilities and Collaborations

The participating departments of Humboldt-Universität and the other participating institutes provide access to all facilities required for performing the Ph.D. work. This includes laboratories with state-of-the-art equipment, computer systems, databases and libraries. Administrative support will be provided by the member institutions. The research training group is located on the Science Campus of Humboldt-Universität within the “City of Science, Technology and Media” in Berlin-Adlershof, already one of the world’s leading technology parks. It offers students access to a variety of methods and expertise from different disciplines, a requirement when addressing open questions in an interdisciplinary research topic. Examples for methods and measurement technologies are highly brilliant synchrotron radiation, scanning probe and ultra-fast optical techniques, optical and electron microscopy, as well as tools of synthetic chemistry.

The participating university groups collaborate extensively with many local non-university institutes, such as the Berlin synchrotron facility (BESSY), the Paul Drude Institute of Solid State Electronics (PDI), the Ferdinand-Braun Institute High-Frequency Technologies (FBH), the Institute of Crystal Growth (IKZ), and the Hahn-Meitner-Institute (HMI).

Doctoral work is performed mainly within the respective participating research group on the topic proposed in the research program. These groups cooperate with other participating groups or with additional national and international partners. If appropriate, the double supervision of Ph.D. projects is possible. Exchange visits and participation in conferences will be strongly supported.

The research training group is embedded in the International Humboldt Graduate School on Structure, Function and Application of New

Materials. In addition to an interdisciplinary training in materials science, the study program includes compact courses on management, technology transfer and business skills.

Courses

The school aims at recruiting chemists and physicists and the curriculum is laid out such that the typical language barriers which exist between these fields will be overcome. The lectures pay particular attention to this aspect. Lectures are organized as block courses complemented by regular seminars as well as ‘hands-on’ classes and are provided by experienced researchers from the participating groups. Inviting outstanding scientists to contribute as lecturers and researchers together with the organization of international workshops will provide an immediate link to cutting-edge research in the field of spin and optoelectronics. Additionally, skills in management and business are provided to prepare graduates for successful competition on the international job market, both for academic and industry positions.

Information about Applying

We are looking for applicants with excellent academic backgrounds from Germany and abroad interested in completing a doctoral degree at Humboldt-Universität. Scholarships will be announced.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Models of funding to cover living expenses will be available for accepted graduate students. There are full scholarships available and the Ph.D. students can also obtain an associated status. There will be no tuition to cover.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Research Training Group is financed by the DFG (German Research Foundation).

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Introduction

The IMPRS on Biomimetic Systems is a graduate program funded by the Max Planck Society and the State of Brandenburg. The school aims to give young motivated students research skills and strong theoretical and experimental background. Its major goal is to provide a common basis of knowledge on biomimetics which transcends the traditional boundaries between disciplines as different as physics, chemistry, and biology.

Research Areas

Biomimetic systems are model systems by which one can mimic certain aspects of the complex selforganization in biological systems. This research school is focused on biomimetics at the supramolecular or colloidal level which covers the nano- and microregime. There are two routes into these regimes.

The bottom-up approach starts from relatively simple building blocks such as water-based polymers and polyelectrolytes, lipid membranes and vesicles, and biological nanomachines. These building blocks are then integrated into more complex systems. One example is provided by transport systems based on molecular motors and filaments. The top-down approach starts from biomaterials and directly addresses their structure and dynamics.

One example is provided by the hierarchical organization of bone. The study of biomimetic systems involves several scientific communities which provide different and complementary tools, namely:

- (bio)chemical methods in order to prepare the systems;
- (bio)physical methods to characterize the building blocks and their supramolecular organization;
- theoretical methods in order to model and analyze these systems.

Biomimetic systems have many possible applications in bioengineering, pharmacology, and medicine. Examples are provided by nanocapsules and biosensors. In order to improve their design, optimize their performance, and increase their reliability, one needs a deeper and more systematic understanding of these systems as pursued in the context of this school.

Research Facilities and Collaborations

The groups participating in the IMPRS on Biomimetic Systems cover a large range of topics, from biology to biochemistry, from colloid chemistry to physical chemistry, from experimental biophysics to theoretical physics. The groups are located at the following institutions:

- Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces
- University of Potsdam
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Polymer Research
- Fraunhofer Institute for Biomedical Engineering

Courses

There are lectures, seminars, practical courses, and compact courses. Please check <http://www.bio-systems.org/imprs/courses> for the actual list.

During the first two semesters, each student attends three general courses which provide the basic knowledge on 'Biomimetic Systems'.

During the 2nd year, the students attend more specialized courses. There are two formats for these courses:

1. semester courses, which are given during the whole semester and
2. compact courses, which run for a shorter time (usually one or two weeks).

The participation of each student in the graduate school is monitored by a credit point system.

The school may organize an introductory course.

This course is compulsory and will be attended by all students and by all members of the school.

The introductory course gives an overview over the activities at the school.

The different groups and institutions which participate in the school offer several seminars and colloquia which are open to all students of the school.

Talks which are of general interest to all members of the school are announced in "IMPRS talks".

Participation in the school implies also that each student gives one IMPRS talk about a general topic and one IMPRS talk about his/her own research before the completion of the doctoral thesis.

Information about Applying

Students interested in applying for the school should first send an enquiry by filling a form providing the key information. After a first evaluation they may be invited to send a full application. Further contacts will follow via email. The evaluation will take into account the students' qualification but also the availability of suitable projects. In case of need, an interview will be conducted.

There are no tuition fees to pay for the IMPRS on Biomimetic Systems. Nevertheless, students enrolled in the school have to enroll at the University in order to get their degree.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Students accepted to enter the school will receive a stipend. The first six months of study are on a trial period basis and would be extended at the end of the six months if everybody is satisfied.

Funding of the Graduate Program

Funded by the Max Planck Society.

MASS, SPECTRUM, SYMMETRY: PARTICLE PHYSICS IN THE ERA OF THE LARGE HADRON COLLIDER

RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 1504



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Introduction

Particle physics is one of the most fundamental disciplines within modern physics and aims to answer some of its most profound questions: What are the fundamental components of matter and which forces reign between them? What defines their properties and masses and what are the most fundamental symmetries in nature? During the last few decades, a fruitful interaction between experimental and theoretical research has lead to the formulation of the Standard Model of elementary particles. The Standard Model provides us with an astoundingly compact theoretical description of the nature of elementary particles in the framework of relativistic quantum field theory, and has been formidably confirmed by experiment with extremely high precision. However, there are also solid experimental results indicating the need of an extension of the Standard Model: The non-zero neutrino masses, the existence of Dark Matter and the matter-antimatter asymmetry in the universe. The start of operations at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at the research center CERN in Geneva opens a new era for discoveries in particle physics. In proton-proton collisions at the highest energies ever reached, the LHC will have access to the mass

generation mechanism (Higgs) of the Standard Model, will provide new search potentials for new particles and for the existence of extra dimensions of space, and will broadly make it possible to test many of the theoretical models developed in recent years. The search for new particles predicted by supersymmetric models at the LHC is closely connected to experimental activities within the field of astro-particle physics searching for dark matter.

Research Areas and Facilities

The challenges emerging from the LHC require close integration and communication among the different experimental and theoretical working areas of elementary particle and astro-particle physics. The key goal of the research training group (Graduiertenkolleg) is to bring together the broad experimental and theoretical expertise in Berlin, Dresden and Zeuthen and to restore the common character of elementary particle and astro-particle physics to the center of the education of doctoral students. The common link of the involved experimental groups is their participation in the ATLAS experiment at the LHC and the topics of research anticipated for the expected data. The

activities at the LHC are ideally complemented by involvement in astro-particle physics experiments such as Ice-Cube and H.E.S.S.. The unifying theme of the theoretical groups is relativistic quantum field theory, which is treated perturbatively and numerically, as well in its generalizations within the context of string theory.

The data analyses at the ATLAS experiment include analysis of the strong electro-weak symmetry breaking, invisible decays and decays into four leptons of the Higgs, and the search for super-symmetric Higgs bosons and quasi stable heavy leptons. The indirect searches for dark matter at Ice-Cube and H.E.S.S. are based on WIMP annihilations and the SUSY searches. The experimental field also includes searches for neutrino-less double beta decays. The main theoretical activities include the LHC phenomenology, including Standard Model processes, tuning of Monte Carlo generators, QCD methods inspired by the string-model, super-symmetric processes, and analyses with CKM-Fitter. Finally, engagement in quantum field theory and string theory encompasses modern aspects of AdS/CFT correspondence and aspects of perturbative quantum gravity.

Research Collaboration

The Research Training Group is a collaboration between the “Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin”, the “Technische Universität Dresden” and the “Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY)” at Zeuthen and is hosted and coordinated by the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Seven research teams from Humboldt-Universität are collaborating with four working groups at DESY and four teams at the TU Dresden. In addition to the broad spectrum of the involved research groups, which is unique for the eastern part of Germany, the Research Training Group is characterized by a large number of participating junior researchers.

Courses

The curriculum is targeted to excellent doctoral students, who will be trained through lectures and seminars offered at Dresden and Berlin and alternate every second week. Additionally, there are intensive block courses twice a year during the semester breaks. Further features of the research training group include a secondary advisor concept,

a midterm report as well as a fast track to Ph.D. opportunity for excellent Master's students.

Information about Applying

It is recommended that applicants contact prospective supervisors and discuss their dissertation proposal, which conforms to the research topics of the Research Training Group prior to submitting a formal application. There is also the possibility to apply directly for the fast track Ph.D. for excellent Master's students who have completed their first year. Applications are accepted in German or English and should contain a letter of application, the names, addresses, and e-mail addresses of two persons (typically professors) who would be willing to send a letter of reference, a CV with emphasis on the academic career, a short essay describing the research interest, a copy of all university certificates and a copy of a written diploma thesis or equivalent. Applications are only accepted on a special online form, which is available from the training group's web page.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Ph.D. students accepted for the Research Training Group receive an employment contract for a maximum duration of three years at the level of Vgr. IIa BAT-O (AnwTVHU) for Berlin and at TVL E13 in Dresden. Since the lectures take place at Berlin and Dresden, all travel costs will be paid by the Research Training Group. Additional travel money is available for participation at conferences and workshops abroad. For Ph.D. students working within the field of experimental particle or astro-particle physics at Berlin or Dresden who are not funded by the Research Training Group, there is the possibility of an associated membership in the Research Training Group. This includes all the benefits in participation at lectures and symposia including travel costs and full access to the benefits of the Humboldt Graduate School.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Research Training Group is financed by the DFG (German Research Foundation).

Member of

|| || | HUMBOLDT | GRADUATE | SCHOOL



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Introduction

The integrated Research Training Group “GKM” is a graduate school for Ph.D. students and part of the collaborative research program SFB (Sonderforschungsbereich) 765. It gives Ph.D. students and postdocs who are participating in the SFB 765 projects interdisciplinary training in the topic area of “multivalent interactions.” In addition to field related activities which are geared toward the scientific targets of the SFB, the integrated Research Training Group makes a point of teaching key skills that will help prepare the alumni of the GKM for their future occupations.

The members of this Research Training Group include the SFB research assistants and scholarship holders who are funded by both the integrated Research Training Group and the university. Additionally, a limited number of research assistants in groups that receive financial support from the SFB may also apply for admission at the integrated Research Training Group. Through its Ph.D. studies in molecular science, the integrated Research Training Group is structurally part of the Dahlem Research School (DRS) which also includes a number of graduate schools and research training groups of the Freie Universität Berlin that are supported by the Excellence Initiative.

Research Areas

The collaborative research program SFB 765 is divided into three sections. The synthesis of multivalent architectures and their spatial organisation is located in project area A. Here, the functional properties of novel scaffold architectures for systematic binding studies are investigated. Project area B investigates multivalent conjugates and their impact in selected biological systems. In project area C, the principles of multivalency are investigated by the development of new physical and theoretical methods for the quantitative analysis and description of selected multivalent systems.

Research Collaboration and Facilities

The graduate school “Multivalency in chemistry and biochemistry” and the SFB 765 form a research collaboration network between the Freie Universität Berlin, the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, the Charité Berlin, the Leibniz-Institut für molekulare Pharmakologie and the Zuse-Institut Berlin.

Courses

Frequent scientific presentations from international experts in the area of multivalent research, as well as science-related courses, which cover biological and theoretical backgrounds of multivalent interactions, make up the basic scientific program in this graduate school. Additionally, a lecture series is organized in which the participating research groups introduce specific methodologies and techniques used in their research activities (“Ringvorlesung”). Finally, language courses as well as training in soft skills (e.g. conflict management, project management, communication skills) are offered.

Information about Applying

Further information about application procedures can be found on the webpage or can be requested from the coordinator Mrs. Katrin Witting (gradmult@chemie.fu-berlin.de).

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Ph.D. students can apply for up to a twelve month scholarship for conducting internships and doctoral projects within the participating research groups. For a list of these groups and detailed application procedures please consult the website of the SFB 765 or the coordinator Mrs. Katrin Witting (gradmult@chemie.fu-berlin.de).

Funding of the Graduate Program

The graduate program is funded by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft - DFG) as part of SFB 765. Additionally, it receives support from the Dahlem Research School of the Freie Universität Berlin.

MODEL-BASED DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES
FOR SELF-ORGANIZING INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN
APPLICATION FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT
RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 1324



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Introduction

Each year natural disasters cause a loss of life and property all over the world. This is why the United Nations designated the 1990s as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) which became the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). Its goal is to use scientific and engineering know-how to reduce disasters within Disaster Management (DM) measures.

DM encompasses all measures taken to reduce the damages caused by disasters. These measures take place in phases: collecting knowledge to prepare for a disaster, establishing prophylactic, preparative and preventive measures based on this knowledge, response-activities during an event are followed by reconstruction measures. Information and communication technology (ICT) can greatly help in collecting, preparing and disseminating information as well as establishing reliable communication.

Recent progress in basic research has lead to visions how to use new self-organizing networks for advanced information systems. These networks function without central administration – all nodes are able to adapt themselves to new environments autonomously and independently. The addition of

new nodes or failure of individual nodes does not significantly impact the network’s ability to function properly. Information systems and underlying technologies for self-organizing networks, in the context of disaster management, are the central topic of research for this graduate school.

Research Areas

The graduate school emphasizes the use of techniques, methods, and concepts for designing and implementing disaster management systems. Such a system combines self-organizing geographic information systems and workflow management techniques on top of dynamic, highly flexible, self-organizing networks.

We consider self-organizing wireless networks (SWN) as a technological basis. Their comparably small costs and short deployment times make them a good candidate to collect data through attached sensors and provide reliable, dedicated communication and information services in the disaster area.

The research focuses on the important technologies needed at each individual network node of a SWN. Research challenges within

METRIK include: finding a path through a network with the help of new routing protocols and forwarding techniques, replication, effective gathering and processing of decentralized data, automated deployment and update of software components at runtime as well as work-load balancing among terminal devices with limited resources. Furthermore, nonfunctional aspects such as reliability, latency and robustness will be studied.

To manage the complexity of data, information, and services and to make them available for the user, it is extremely important to hide (as much as possible) the difficulties and the complexity of such an environment. Only if we succeed in shielding the user from internal errors and/or changes, will such systems be accepted.

Research in the suggested application domain is interdisciplinary by nature. METRIK conducts basic research in applying workflow management technology to disastrous events, such as earthquakes, based on the developed network protocols and information service concepts. The goal of this work is to support decision makers in making better informed decisions by using the complete range of available options. The system relies on domain specific knowledge from different fields of geo-sciences, government agencies, emergency response organizations and computer sciences.

A development process for DMSs must guarantee correctness and dependability of the crafted systems while respecting the technological parameters of self-organizing networks. On one hand, ongoing research in self-organizing wireless networks and information systems suggests an integrated development spanning all technological levels to satisfy resource constraints. On the other hand, available hardware and accessible services for geographic information systems are constantly changing while different scenarios require different functionalities: there cannot be an all-purpose DMS.

We therefore research the development and use of domain specific languages for modelling different aspects of the system by experts. Complementing with model-coupling, verification and testing techniques, METRIK aims at providing a development methodology for disaster

management systems.

Research Collaboration and Facilities
The project combines researchers from computer science and geography. It is carried by five institutions:
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Fraunhofer Institute for Software Architecture and Engineering, the Zuse-Institute for Scientific Computing, the Hasso-Plattner Institute for Software Engineering, and the Geospatial Research Centre Potsdam.

The project is funded by the German Research Council.

Courses

Metrik-Workshops, colloquia and guest lectures:
<http://metrik.informatik.hu-berlin.de/grk-wiki/index.php/Veranstaltungen>

Information about Applying

We are seeking a number of talented and enthusiastic Ph.D. students in the following areas:

- distributed and heterogeneous databases
- network algorithms and routing
- workflow, especially ad-hoc and scientific workflow
- geospatial information systems.

We require an excellent master’s (equivalent to a German diploma) in computer science or in geography with a specialization in geospatial information systems. Candidates must have a profound knowledge of German and must provide references from at least two internationally renowned researchers. Successful candidates will be granted a fellowship of approximately 1300 Euro per month for 2-3 years.
<http://metrik.informatik.hu-berlin.de/grk-wiki/index.php/Bewerbungsprozedur>

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Several fellowships funded by the DFG will be available. The qualifying scholarship amounts to 800 Euro per month for one year.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Research Training Group is financed by the DFG (German Research Foundation).



SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES



Contact Information

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Introduction

“The Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences” (BGSS) mission is to train and promote doctoral and pre-doctoral researchers from Germany and the world in social sciences. It offers a structured doctoral training curriculum and intensive individual advisement. With its strong network of non-university research institutions and international partner universities, the BGSS is Berlin’s regional and international platform for doctoral training in the social sciences.

Research Areas

Research at the BGSS is focused around the comparative analysis of contemporary problems of social inclusion and democratic performance: 1) whether and how modern societies are able to address contemporary problems of inclusion and exclusion, discrimination and diversity, and heterogeneity and individualization (“varieties of inclusion”); and 2) on the conditions of the establishment, stability and development of democratic structures and the problems they currently face (“varieties of democracy”). The BGSS offers research seminars, advanced courses on social science methods and theory, as well as colloquia to foster critical debate and discussion on individual doctoral projects.

Research Collaboration

Partner Institutions

- Social Science Research Center Berlin (WZB)
- German Institute for Economic Research (DIW)
- Centre Marc Bloch (CMB)
- Hertie School of Governance (HSoG)
- Institute for Research Information and Quality Assurance (iFQ)

Partner Universities

- European University Institute, Florence (Italy)
- Middle East Technical University, Ankara (Turkey)
- Duke University, Durham (USA)
- Universities of the European Ph.D. in Socio Economic and Statistical Studies
- Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane Florence (Italy)

The BGSS offers

- Research training in sociology and political science (doctoral program and introductory year)
- Intensive academic advice for doctoral projects
- Guest lectures and workshops
- Financial support for research stays abroad
- International doctoral exchange programs
- Comprehensive student services
- Doctoral offices
- Access to libraries
- German language courses
- Support in the acquisition of scholarships

Facilities

Academic Advising

The BGSS offers intensive academic advising by the first advisor and a supervision committee with faculty of the BGSS and abroad. Their goal is to provide doctoral researchers with the excellent professional feedback and support needed to complete a successful dissertation within three to four years.

Training Curriculum

The curriculum of the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences is two-fold. It consists of an introductory year for young researchers in need of additional training in basic social science methods and theories before starting their doctoral research. The three-year doctoral training program is composed of courses on advanced theory and methods, of tailor made courses on the design and implementation, of doctoral projects on research colloquia and lectures by faculty and guest-lecturers.

Visiting Scholars

Doctoral candidates from abroad who are interested in conducting research at the BGSS for one to two semesters are welcome to apply as visiting scholars. Visiting scholars have access to our libraries and facilities, participate in research seminars and workshops, receive academic advising as needed and gain contact to numerous German and international doctoral candidates.

Student Support

All doctoral candidates receive support and advice, especially in the beginning stages, to get settled in the country, city and within the university culture. Visiting Scholars are supported in all steps necessary for realizing their stay at the BGSS. They have the opportunity to take part in intensive German language courses during the semester.

Information about Applying

The BGSS seeks applications on topics closely related to the two research topics of either varieties of inclusion or varieties of democracy. Especially welcome are projects which try to link both topics. The applicant should have an excellent academic background in social sciences from Germany and abroad.

Minimum Requirements

M.A. degree or equivalent (Magister, Diplom) in the Social Sciences (Sociology, Political Science, International Studies) and excellent English language skills.

Please apply using the online application platform on the BGSS or HGS websites. You will be asked to submit the following materials (in English): Statement of purpose, Curriculum Vitae, Copies of degrees and certificates (official transcripts, diplomas, including translations into German or English, if necessary) proof of language ability, Exposé of your doctoral project (5-10 pages), and two letters of recommendation.

Deadlines

March 15th for the following winter semester.
Guest doctoral candidates: no deadline.

Funding for Doctoral Candidates

The BGSS supports its doctoral candidates with scholarships of 1200 €/month for up to three years, contingent on the successful completion of milestones in each year. Members of the Introductory Year may be supported with scholarships of 800 €/month. In addition, the BGSS funds doctoral candidates through teaching assistantships and write-up fellowships. There is no tuition fee.

Funding of the Graduate School

The BGSS is funded by the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal and State Governments via the German Research Foundation (DFG).

Member of





Contact Information

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Introduction

The Doctoral Certificate Program in Agricultural Economics offers the first permanent, structured training of doctoral students in the field of agricultural and food economics in Germany.

The aim of the program is to increase educational quality and efficiency in dealing with dissertation topics through systematic instruction in relevant theory and methods.

Following bachelor’s and master’s studies, this doctoral program represents a third step in a consecutive education in agricultural, food and environmental economics.

Research Areas

Agricultural and food economics.

Research Collaboration and Facilities

The Doctoral Certificate Program is conducted jointly by the Faculty of Agriculture and Horticulture of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, the Agricultural and Nutritional Science Faculty of Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel, the Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe, Halle, the Agricultural

Faculty of Martin Luther Universität Halle-Wittenberg, and the German Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL), Agricultural Economics Section, Braunschweig.

Through cooperation by numerous faculties and research institutes, a comprehensive set of modules can be made available that provides access to all relevant agricultural and nutritional research areas.

Courses

The doctoral certificate program is made up of modules and includes a total of 30 credit points (CP). (One credit point corresponds to 30 hours of work for students, of which ten are contact hours with the lecturer.) Modules are offered in block format. A one-week block is worth 3 credits, a two-week block 6 credits.

Credit points must be collected in the following areas:

- 1. Methodological-theoretical modules: 18 CP
- 2. Soft skills: 6 CP
- 3. Colloquia: 6 CP

The methodological-theoretical modules are organized into the following areas:

- “Theory” (T)
- “Empirics” (E)
- Focus topics (F)

At least 6 CP each must be collected from modules in the areas of “Theory” and “Empirics.” A listing of module offerings is provided on the web pages. The selection of modules is made in individual consultation with the dissertation supervisor. There is no prescribed sequence of modules. The following overview presents a sample course of study where, for reasons of simplification, it is assumed that two-week (6 CP) modules are attended.

Examples of Provided Courses

Efficiency and Productivity Analysis I (Deterministic Approaches); Efficiency and Productivity Analysis II (Stochastic Approaches); Microeconometrics and Time Series Analysis: Applications in Agricultural and Food Economics; Empirical Methods in the Agribusiness; Theory and Models for an Integrated Evaluation of Land Use; Risk Analysis and Risk Management in Agriculture: Theory and Applications; Equilibrium Models in the Analysis of Agricultural Markets and Policies; Political-Economic Modelling Approaches to Agricultural Policies; Household Behaviour: Theory and Applications; Global Trade Analysis Using the GTAP Model; Agent-based Modelling in Agricultural and Resource Economics; Scientific Writing.

Information about Applying

Detailed information, i.e. descriptions of the modules, is provided on the website. At present about 20 methodological-theoretical and soft skills modules are offered. The organization of research colloquia and seminars is provided individually by the cooperating partners.

Registration for the Doctoral Certificate Program

Registration for the Doctoral Certificate Program takes place through the contact person at the institution at which the candidates are registered, listed on the website. Use the provided registration form of the website www.agraroekonomik.de/Doctoral_program/registration.htm and follow the instructions described there.

Registering for modules

To help us plan and prepare the modules, it is important that you register at least four weeks in advance with the provided registration form of the program website. Organizational details for the individual modules (i.e., accommodation, location and time schedules, participation limitations and methods of examination) can be obtained from them instructor in charge.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

There is no student funding available from the doctoral program. However, we will help you with finding external sources of funding to cover living expenses.

There will be no tuition to cover.

Funding of the Graduate Program

No funding. There is no tuition to cover.

EUROPEAN PH.D. IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL STUDIES (SESS)



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Introduction

The European Ph.D. in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies, co-ordinated by Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, is an international, interdisciplinary graduate programme that cooperates with eight partner universities. After the completion of the program the doctoral degree Doctor Europaeus is awarded.

The objective of the European Ph.D. in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies is the scientific training of scholars who intend to dedicate themselves to academic careers or to serve as experts in national or international organisations, in which they must analyse and address social issues in an encompassing perspective. The programme's didactic principle and explicit scientific aim is the development of knowledge regarding the interplay of economic and social phenomena based upon empirical research, adopting the most appropriate and advanced statistical methods. Sess.EuroPh.D. is thus guided by the socio-economic paradigm, as first proposed by Max Weber, and its application to empirical social science research. Disciplinary specialisation in the social sciences on the one hand and economics on the other tend to disregard the coherence underlying the structure and functionality of modern societies. The socio-economic paradigm is focussed on overcoming this disciplinary fragmentation when studying societies and the dynamics of interpersonal relationships.

Mission

Sess.EuroPh.D. strives to attain the following:

- to strengthen European and international research through the transnational promotion of young scientists;
- to harmonize doctoral education through a common curriculum, a semester abroad, the transfer of credit points, coordinated counselling, and the reciprocal recognition of the degree;
- to advance interdisciplinary research through a common educational strategy;
- to stimulate intercultural and comparative research along these lines; and
- to develop a specific Ph.D. culture, resembling the Anglo-American system of graduate schools, but preserving the specific national European traditions typical for the participating countries.

Research Areas

As dissertation projects seven major areas of research, to be pursued in an interdisciplinary approach, are favoured:

1. The interrelationship between economic and social structure
2. Processes of change of economic organisations and institutions
3. Markets understood as social structures and networks
4. Labour markets, employment and conflict
5. Welfare state analysis and social security
6. Economic and social inequality and perceptions of social justice
7. Social ethics of the market in face of globalization

Program

In line with the Bologna reforms, Sess.EuroPh.D. is designed for a period of three years of study. A preparatory phase of six to twelve months in the form of a Preprogram Academic Training is optional, depending on the qualification levels of the individual applicants. An essential part of the curriculum is the experience gained through the study at partner universities abroad. Ph.D. candidates are obliged to spend at least one semester as well as a shorter research stay of four to six weeks at other partner universities. Courses of the structured curriculum include research colloquia, special methods seminars, literature review seminars, courses on research design and implementation, project seminars, and annual seminars, organized on a rotating basis by partner universities, that are dedicated to topics relevant to the socio-economic and statistical program.

Research Collaboration

The following partner universities are currently admitting and tutoring Sess.EuroPh.D. candidates:

- Universitat de Barcelona, Facultat de Ciències Econòmiques y Empresariales
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Institut für Sozialwissenschaften, Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences
- Université Libre de Bruxelles, Faculté des Sciences Sociales et Politiques, Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management
- University of Haifa, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, U.F.R. de Géographie et d'Aménagement
- Sapienza Università di Roma, Facoltà di Economia, Facoltà di Sociologia, Facoltà di Scienze Statistiche
- University of Southampton, School of Social Sciences
- University of Tampere, Faculty of Economics and Administration

More than 40 academic teachers of the eight partner universities and associated national research institutions share in teaching and supervising the doctoral students.

Information about Applying

Admission is based upon academic excellence and is open to students with an economic or social science background who meet the admission requirements of their home university. Candidates may be citizens of countries other than those of the partner universities. The application procedure is identical in all Sess.EuroPh.D. partner universities. Applicants should decide at which university his or her research interests are represented best and should direct their application to the respective university. Candidates must have completed an academic education with above average results of a minimum of five years in the fields of social sciences or economics. They should meet the degree requirements equivalent to a Master of Arts as established by the respective national grant authorities or laid down in the guidelines of the respective university. The degree must be obtained by the beginning of the academic year they want to apply for. English proficiency at an academic level is assumed. The application deadline is April 15th for the following winter semester. Applicants who proceed to the second round of applications will be interviewed in late June. The deadline might vary depending on the university being applied to; therefore the deadline should be checked with the respective contact person. For admission details go to www.europhd.org/admission where you can submit your application electronically.

Funding

Many of the participating universities award scholarships to candidates who have successfully applied. In Berlin, for example, doctoral students have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship for up to 36 months based on an annual assessment of their progress. In addition, funding for teaching and research assistantships as well as first-year and write-up fellowships is available. Facilities such as office space and computers are provided to each candidate. Research travel grants and means for conference participation are normally provided. Language courses can be financed as well.

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Contact Information

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Introduction

The goal of the Research Training Group is to investigate gender studies as an interdisciplinary field of research and knowledge. For several decades, this field has made an extraordinary contribution to the analysis of discipline-specific conceptions of gender, and the doctoral program “Gender as a Category of Knowledge” seeks to take up this interdisciplinary approach to explore characteristic formations of gender within disciplines as well as to examine the structure of knowledge and science under the aspect of gender. The increasingly discernible areas of overlap between the theory and history of science on the one hand and gender studies on the other serve as a starting point for the program.

The Research Training Group aims at bringing the critical potential of gender studies to bear upon the different discipline’s approaches to its epistemological basis of knowledge. At the same time the transdisciplinary agenda of the program intends to provide a solid methodological foundation for gender studies.

Research Areas

The research program conceptualizes gender as a basic category for the formation of science and scientific knowledge. Therefore, the Research

Training Group focuses on the question of the significance of gender for the production of scientific knowledge, its role in the formation of scientific concepts and categories and the ways in which it inscribes itself into orders of knowledge. For this task it is of crucial importance not to refer too quickly to the heuristic separation of “sex” and “gender”.

Rather, the central goal is to consider the distinction between a cultural conceptualization of gender and a biological-natural gender duality as the departure point from which the numerous cross-connections between physiological, cultural, historical and socially developed notions of gender can be highlighted.

Facilities

The research school, with its doctoral program “Gender as a Category of Knowledge” allows for highly qualified graduate students to work on their dissertations together. The individual research projects are thus integrated into a larger context of research. The students participate in a general program, and they are also offered the possibility to teach, to participate in conferences, to conceptualize and organize work shops. They are also invited to publish the results of their research in the series GenderCodes published by Transcript.

Courses

The study program consists of the following courses; participation is obligatory:

1. The research colloquium which takes place on a weekly basis during the semester (October-February; April-July) for the whole of the three year program. In the colloquium, the students regularly present and discuss their research projects and establish links between the different fields of research with a focus on theoretical as well as methodological questions.
2. A lecture program with guest lecturers on a weekly basis focuses on the interdependence of gender, the history of science, and the history of knowledge.
3. Work groups in which questions of epistemology, methodology and concepts of gender are discussed. The groups also conceptualize public workshops and conferences.

Informations about Applying

The Berlin Research Training Group “Gender as a Category of Knowledge” offers a limited number of doctoral and post-doctoral tax-free fellowships to German and foreign students who want to write their dissertations in the field of gender and humanities/ science. The fellowships are granted for a maximum of three years. Students working in the same field who already have a scholarship can be associated with the program and can participate in it. The number of positions are limited.

A precondition for application is an excellent university degree (master’s, German diploma or equivalent). The dissertation project must fall within the field of gender studies and be conceptualized in an interdisciplinary manner. The supervisors are chosen from the faculty members of the Research Training Group. Dissertations can be written in German or English and are submitted at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Open fellowships are announced on the website: www2.hu-berlin.de/gkgeschlecht/aktuell.php.

Studying in the program is free of charge and not subject to any tuition or fees.

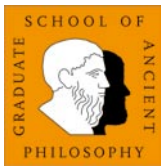
Funding of the Graduate Program

The Research Training Group is funded by the DFG (German Research Foundation).

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Contact Information

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Introduction

The Graduate School of Ancient Philosophy is a structured doctoral program in ancient philosophy. Students in the program write dissertations in German or English on ancient philosophy, which may be philosophical or philological in character and may focus on original Greek or Roman sources, or on later interpretation and appropriation of ancient perspectives. The program involves research courses, reading groups, tutorial supervision, international workshops, and intensive short courses. Every candidate is supervised by a team of academic teachers and has the opportunity to spend a semester or year at one of the School’s international partner institutions. Moreover, the School’s affiliation with the Excellence Cluster “Topoi – The Formation and Transformation of Space and Knowledge in Ancient Civilizations” fosters collaboration with scholars and research groups on multifaceted topics in antiquity ranging from geology and archaeology to linguistics and the history of science. The Graduate School of Ancient Philosophy has a teaching staff of several full professors as well as many additional faculty members and an advisory board consisting of internationally renowned experts from Europe and America. Each year up to eight doctoral students are accepted into the School.

Research Areas

All areas of research within the School’s field of research are welcomed and encouraged. The current faculty members have particular interests in metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, ancient theories of the soul (including moral psychology and action theory), logic, philosophy and history of mathematics, and philosophy and history of science. A certain emphasis is put on Plato and Aristotle, the Old Academy, the Presocratics, Hellenistic philosophy and Neo-Platonism. Participants in the Graduate School may pursue independent research projects, or join a collaborative project of the Graduate School or the Excellence Cluster.

Research collaboration

The School collaborates with the Freie Universität Berlin, the August Boeckh Center for Antiquity of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, the Interdisciplinary Center “Alte Welt (Old World)” of the Freie Universität Berlin (IZAW), the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (BBAW), the German Archaeological Institute in Berlin (DAI), and the Max Planck Institute for History of Science (MPIWG).

Facilities

The Graduate School of Ancient Philosophy is located on the main campus of Humboldt-Universität in the central district of Berlin. Facilities include office space for faculty, doctoral students and staff as well as seminar rooms, a welcome and lounge area and a service desk for students and guests. Doctoral students have a separate work space for the completion period of their theses and for meetings.

Supervision

Each student has a dissertation committee composed of two faculty members. Moreover, the student, the dissertation committee, and the Graduate School’s academic director reach a written agreement about how supervision and training of the student will proceed.

Mentoring

A mentor is assigned to each student. The mentor, who shall not be a member of the dissertation committee, provides an independent source of advice on intellectual as well as personal and professional development. Mentors are experienced faculty or persons of public standing and integrity.

Courses

First year

A foundation course for all students in their first year provides training in analytical, theoretical and methodological skills. After completion of this course, students have the opportunity to participate in reading groups connected with their research. One to four reading groups are offered each semester. Additionally, students can join a research seminar, dedicated either to a piece of recent literature or to a central problem of ancient philosophy.

Second and third year

During the second and third year, students focus on the completion of their dissertations. Candidates have the opportunity to present their projects to the whole faculty and discuss it with the members of the School and invited international guests. The Graduate School offers advanced text-seminars, research seminars and soft-skills courses on topics such as oral and multi-media presentation or writing grant applications.

Information about Applying

To apply for the Ph.D. program, applicants must have successfully completed a Master’s Degree, Diplom, Staatsexamen, or Magister in philosophy, classics, or a related field such as ancient history. Students are admitted on the basis of an international, multi-stage application procedure. In the first step, applicants must submit a research proposal including timeline, writing samples, personal statement, CV, and letters of recommendation. Complete applications are reviewed by a commission of the faculty and members of the advisory board.

In the final round, applicants invited to campus for an interview, in which they make a presentation of ten to fifteen minutes on their recent academic work and their proposed research project within the Graduate School of Ancient Philosophy.

Prospective graduate students are invited to turn in their applications by January 15 of each year.

Transition Program (“Pre-doc”)

This program is for students who are generally excellent and promising, but lack some crucial qualification for dissertation work in the Graduate School (e.g., language skills or background in philosophy).

The program prepares these students to enter the regular doctoral program described above.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Many sources of funding are available to cover living expenses for accepted graduate students. There are no tuition fees.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The program is funded by the Humboldt-Universität and is part of the Excellence Cluster “Topoi – The Formation and Transformation of Space and Knowledge in Ancient Civilizations”, funded by the German Excellence Initiative.



HERRSCHAFT IM 20. JAHRHUNDERT.
GESELLSCHAFTSGESCHICHTLICHE PERSPEKTIVEN



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Introduction

The Center for Contemporary Historical Research (Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung – ZZF) is an independent and interdisciplinary research institute focusing on German and European contemporary history. Established in 1996, the ZZF became a member of the Leibniz Association (WGL) in 2009.

The graduate research group “Herrschaft im 20. Jahrhundert. Gesellschaftsgeschichtliche Perspektiven” (“Herrschaft” in the 20th Century. Socio-Historical Perspectives) focuses on the problem of “governmentality” and power in the “short” 20th Century. The graduate research group is organised by the ZZF, Universität Potsdam, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Stifterverband für die deutsche Wissenschaft.

Research Areas

During the short 20th Century (1914-1990), opposing political and social orders competed for leadership in Europe. The enforcement, assertion and dissolution of “Herrschaft” is therefore a central theme for contemporary history. The main aim of the research training group is to enhance historical knowledge about “Herrschaft”,

“governmentality” and power in different political and social orders of the 20th century. “Herrschaft” is thereby understood as a sphere in which power is not only possessed, but also enforced and practised. The aim is to explore the mentalities, rationalities, techniques and bargaining processes of “Herrschaft” and power in different political and social orders of the 20th Century.

A variety of methodological approaches are used in the research projects, drawing on cultural history, social history, praxeology and discourse analysis, in order to analyse the history of everyday life, political institutions, political culture, and transnational change.

The graduate research group is embedded in the five current research areas at the ZZF:

- History of Communism;
- Economic and Social Upheavals in the 20th Century;
- The Transformation of Politics: Rights, Norms, and Semantics;
- Provinces and Metropolises in the Age of Dictatorships;
- Contemporary History of Knowledge in Media- and Information Societies.

Research Collaboration

The Berlin-Brandenburg region offers excellent opportunities for pursuing doctoral studies and academic research in the field of contemporary history. The graduate research group network includes the departments of contemporary history at Universität Potsdam and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Facilities

The graduate research group allows highly qualified graduate students to work together on their projects. Individual research projects are integrated into the broader research areas at the ZZF. Doctoral researchers participate in a general colloquium and specific research groups. Furthermore, students have the possibility to teach, to participate in conferences, and to organize workshops.

Courses

The research colloquium takes place on a weekly basis during the semester (October-February; April-July), providing students with regular opportunities to present and discuss their research projects. Within a broad focus on theoretical and methodological questions, doctoral candidates develop their research projects and establish links between their different research topics.

The participants are associated with the five current research areas at the ZZF as mentioned above and conceptualize and organize a yearly public conference.

Information about Applying

The graduate program “Herrschaft im 20. Jahrhundert. Gesellschaftsgeschichtliche Perspektiven” offers a limited number of doctoral fellowships to students from Germany and abroad at irregular intervals. Open fellowships are announced on the institute’s website: www.zzf-pdm.de. A precondition for application is an excellent university degree (Master’s, German diploma or equivalent).

Graduates who already hold a scholarship can be associated with the program and participate in it, if their work is related to the issues of the graduate research group and the research areas at the ZZF. The number of associated students is limited.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Studying in the program is free of charge and not subject to any tuition or fees.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The program is funded by Alfred Freiherr von Oppenheim-Stiftung, Dr. Egon und Hildegard Diener-Stiftung, Universität Potsdam and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.



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Introduction

The area of business science has experienced major scientific progress over recent years. In order to be prepared for a successful career in academia, business doctorate students need not only high-quality guidance, but also internationally competitive training. However, most German institutions currently do not offer structured doctoral programs in business science. Striving for excellence and embracing international competition in doctoral education, the Humboldt Graduate School of Business is trying to fill this gap. The school follows an open network approach, establishing and maintaining cooperation with leading researchers and institutions, both nationally and internationally. The first group of doctoral students was enrolled in the fall of 2009.

Research Areas

The structured doctoral program of the Humboldt Graduate School of Business offers courses in the areas of accounting, finance and management. Taken together, these courses cover a wide range of business topics. In accordance with the nature of business administration as an applied economic discipline, the offered courses present different methodological paradigms reaching from neo-classical analyses to psychological behavioural approaches. Research conducted at the Humboldt Graduate School of Business aims to meeting the standards set by the top academic journals in the respective fields.

Research Collaboration

Following the open network approach set out in its mission statement, Humboldt Graduate School of Business maintains close ties to the Collaborative Research Center 649 “Economic Risk” and the interdisciplinary research institute CASE: Center of Applied Statistics and Economics. Also, it cooperates with the Berlin Doctoral Program in Economics and Management Science (BDPEMS). The school is also open for new research collaborations with national and international institutions and individuals.

Facilities

The main building of the School of Business and Economics is ideally located in the heart of Berlin-Mitte, at Spandauer Straße 1, and close to the S-Bahn station “Hackescher Markt”. The main building contains faculty offices, computer labs as well as lecture halls and seminar rooms. Additional facilities are located at Dorotheenstraße 1 and Ziegelstraße 13A.

Courses

The two-year program consists of first-year courses which provide the students with a solid methodological foundation in econometrics and micro-economics as well as with scientific writing skills. In the second year, students have the option to choose one of the three fields of specialization:

- **Accounting:** Accounting research is an applied economic discipline, investigating the impact of accounting information on firms and markets. This program has an emphasis on financial accounting and empirical archival research, but other areas (managerial, tax and auditing) and other methodologies (analytical, behavioral) are also covered.
- **Finance:** Finance research aims to understand the financial decisions of individuals and firms, how financial markets work, and how asset prices are determined. This specialization consists of courses in corporate finance and asset pricing.
- **Management:** Research in Marketing, Management, and Entrepreneurship generally investigates behaviour of consumers, managers, and entrepreneurs. Using quantitative methods and investigating concepts from economics, economic psychology, and consumer behaviour, it aims at understanding and improving the decision making of firms under competition, based on a better understanding of the relevant decision makers.

Students who successfully complete the required courses of the two-year program will receive a certificate of doctoral education indicating their grades and course program. In addition, it is planned to give students who are concurrently enrolled in a Master's program of the School of Business and Economics can the opportunity to have their doctoral program courses count towards earning their respective Master's degree.

Information about Applying

Applicants are expected to hold a Master's degree or Diplom in business administration, economics or a related area. Outstanding candidates with only a Bachelor's degree will also be considered. The application deadline for the doctoral program starting in October is March 31.

To apply, students should submit the following documents

- A current CV
- Certified grades and copies of all relevant academic qualifications and degrees (for non-German or non-English language materials an official translation may be required)
- At least one letter of recommendation
- A two page research proposal, outlining the research interests of the applicant and a potential research project
- GRE or GMAT test scores
- Proof of English language skills (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS) for non-native English speakers

Before applying, students are strongly encouraged to visit the website of HGSB for updated information.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

There are no tuition fees at the moment but students must secure sufficient funding to cover their living expenses. A rough estimate for monthly living costs in Berlin is around 800€ per month. Thanks to corporate sponsors, the Humboldt Graduate School of Business is able to offer a limited number of scholarships to students based on merit. In cooperation with the School of Business and Economics and the Collaborative Research Center 649 “Economic Risk”, a limited number of research assistant positions may also be available.

Funding of the Graduate Program

Currently, the program is funded predominantly by resources from the School of Business and Economics and the Collaborative Research Center 649 “Economic Risk”. Further financial support is provided by corporate sponsors and the Society for Economics and Management at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Member of



**Contact Information**

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Introduction

Kollegium Jüdische Studien (Jewish Studies Program) is a network of scholars interested in Jewish life in Germany and the interdependence of Jewish and non-Jewish culture. Berlin and Prussia are the focal point of study as a center of the Jewish enlightenment/haskalah since the late 18th century; the KJS also investigates the current situation in Berlin and Germany. Names like Moses Mendelssohn, David Friedlaender and Eduard Gans and their demands for equal rights and civil liberties were the starting point for a new Jewish identity, culminating academically in the “Wissenschaft des Judentums” which reached far beyond Germany’s borders. Jewish women such as Rahel Levin-Varnhagen, Fanny Lewald and Hedwig Dohm contributed to the development of a new emancipated women’s identity in Germany. Berlin was the German center of a new intellectual, political and academic culture which manifested itself, for example, in the Mosse and Ullstein publishing houses as well as in the works of Walter Rathenau, Walter Benjamin, Albert Einstein, Magnus Hirschfeld and Georg Simmel or Lise Meitner, Alice Salomon, Jenny Hirsch, Rosa Luxemburg, Else Lasker-Schueler, Mascha Kaleko and Gertrud Kolmar.

Research Area

The question of what role Jews have played in the social and cultural life of Berlin since the 19th century is of growing interest. Kollegium Jüdische Studien has the objective of studying the time when Christian-German and Jewish-German traditions confronted each other, interacted and came to mutual fruition. The shoah will not and cannot be excluded, but the Kollegium Jüdische Studien wants to focus on what kept the German-Jewish context going: the contradictory cultural experiences and reciprocal competing appropriation and approximation of urban and regional cultures. The influx of Jews from the Eastern parts of Germany and Eastern Europe and their influence on the process of modernization is, for example, a topic that deserves further scrutiny and investigation. During the 19th and early 20th century, Berlin and Prussia were important places of these encounters, and the same is true again today. Berlin is therefore the proper place for an examination of these themes.

The Kollegium Jüdische Studien (KJS) was founded in 2009, and is organized across disciplines and connected to the Institute for the History and Theory of Culture. It is headed by Professor Dr. Christina von Braun and Professor Dr. Julius H. Schoeps. As a research institute, KJS is devoted to scholarly study of topics in Jewish culture, philosophy and history in Germany with focus on the documentation of history and culture of Berlin Jewry. It is also aiming at networking international scholars and academic institutions that are involved in the study of Jews in Berlin and Prussia with those in the Berlin-Brandenburg region. In addition, KJS will offer courses, lecture series, conferences as well as graduate studies in a structured and cross-disciplined way in order to give more academic emphasis to this field of inquiry.

Course

In the 2009-2010 Winter Semester, the Research Colloquium will take place on December 4, 2009 and January 25, 2010 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Humboldt Graduate School, Room 220.

In the colloquium, the students regularly present and discuss their research projects and establish links between the different fields of research with a focus on theoretical as well as methodological questions.

Information about Applying

A precondition for application is an excellent university degree (Master’s, German diploma or equivalent). The dissertation project must fall within the field of Jewish Studies and be conceptualized in an interdisciplinary manner. The supervisors are chosen from the faculty members of the Research Training Group. Dissertations can be written in German or English.

Students interested in applying for the doctoral program should first send an enquiry with a short CV and an exposé to the coordinator.



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Introduction

The Berlin Research Training Group “Constitutionalism Beyond the State: European Experiences and Global Perspectives” addresses law enforcement and constitutionalism at the global level, against the backdrop of European experiences.

The Research Training Group establishes an academic discourse where the experience of distinguished experts meets the creativity of young doctoral students. Our thematic focuses include constitutional theory, comparative constitutionalism, constitutional history, European and international public law, political science and modern theories in these diverse disciplines. The principal issues of the Research Training Group are the legal consequences stemming from the increasingly interdependent relations between human beings in a globalised world, and the role of law as an instrument for the preservation of peace between persons, peoples and their states. When analysing the development of the European Union as a collective based on the rule of law, the question arises whether the concept of such a collective could be carried forward to the global level, and to what extent. Europe could either be the model or the contrast to the evolution of an international legal order.

The role of states as central regulative factors seems indispensable even in a global multilevel governing system. Yet this role may be subject to change in the light of the model of multilevel constitutionalism or of other theoretical approaches.

Course Program

The course program supports the fellows in obtaining methodological and substantive knowledge. It prompts discussion and debate within the group and with visitors from academia and practice and it prepares the young scholars for their future career.

Research Group Meetings

Regular meetings of the research group are at the heart of the course program, comprising progress reports of the fellows, discussion rounds with visitors and practitioners as well as substantive and methodological workshops, some conducted amongst the scholars and some with the patrons.

Key Qualifications

When doing research on European and international law, key qualifications are of utmost importance. The focus is on the methodology of interdisciplinary and comparative work. Our fellows are to extend and improve their language skills and learn to work with foreign scholarly literature in complementary courses. Also, fellows acquire softskills such as rhetoric and communication. These key qualifications contribute to their ability to work in academia, the civil service or with political consultancies after the completion of their Ph.D.

Research Period Abroad

The fellows are to gain an insight into scientific methods and research systems of other countries and into the practical workings of international organizations. A fundamental component of their studies is their six-month research period abroad.

Dialogue between Academia and Practice

Through the dialogue between the scholars and practitioners of European and international politics and law-making, scholars are made aware of existing practical problems and are thus inspired during their discussions, the development of their theses and their case studies.

Additional Courses

Humboldt-Universität and other universities in Berlin offer a large number of courses which can be of value to the fellows of the Research Training Group. In order to improve their interdisciplinary capabilities, the fellows are expected to participate in two of these additional courses, to be chosen from the courses held by the patrons or other lecturers.

Publications

The Research Training Group supports the publication of the doctoral theses and conference papers on its website. Publication of the doctoral theses and conference papers in relevant German and international publication series, e.g. the monograph series “European Constitutional Law” published with the NOMOS publishing house, will be promoted as well.

Information about Applying

The Berlin Research Training Group is made up of fellows receiving a scholarship from the German Research Foundation (DFG) and associated fellows who are funded from other sources. The application requirements are identical for both groups. For current openings please refer to our website, where existing openings and deadlines are mentioned.

- Applications are open to graduates of law, political science, history and related disciplines. Applications from foreign students are welcome, however sound German languages skills are required. Application requirements
- Writing a dissertation within the framework of the Berlin Research Training Group,
 - Excellent academic history (above average or better in law, top 10 % in other subjects),
 - Prior knowledge in the area of research of the training group, having dealt with the topic during M.A. degree (magister, diploma), term papers or European and international public law specialization,
 - Excellent English language skills, other languages and stays abroad are an advantage,
 - Age limit to start with the dissertation is 28 (exceptions: civil and military service, legal clerkship and child-rearing),
 - Active participation in the course and research program,
 - Permanent residence in Berlin or in close proximity to Berlin,
 - Presentation of an exposé in the area of research of the training group, no more than 1,500 words and a selection of bibliography,
 - Mentoring by one of the patrons of the Research Training Group is not a mandatory requirement, as a mentor may be allocated after application from within the circle of patrons.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Berlin Research Training Group consists of fellows receiving a scholarship from the DFG (German Research Foundation).

PERSPECTIVES ON URBAN ECOLOGY – THE EXAMPLE OF THE EUROPEAN METROPOLIS BERLIN

RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP 780



Contact Information

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Introduction

During the first three years of funding (2002-2005), the Research Training Group (GRK 780) was dedicated to more general perspectives of urban ecology in large cities such as Berlin.

Between 2005 and 2008, the program's work centered on the contemporary processes of the shrinking city. The subprojects were assigned to one of two work-packages: the natural and the social systems of the city.

The work of the program focussed on investigating the effects of the shrinking process, while determining the opportunities and risks of nature in an urban environment, and its meaning for city dwellers. The ecological, social, and economic potential of urban fellow space was investigated as a basis for different optional users. A fundamental goal of this effort was the recognition of natural and social mechanisms and their consequences, which accompany structural changes in cities. In addition, conclusions were drawn for the development of new planning instruments which could be applied to the shaping of novel processes of shrinking cities.

During its third period (2008 – 2011), the program aims to optimize strategies for urban nature development and its functions, with a focus on the quality of life for city dwellers and the evaluation from an interdisciplinary point of view. Scenarios

will take into account the profound changes of climate, city shrinking, and the demographic and economic developments with all its consequences for nature and environment in metropolitan areas. The microscale of test plots, the mesoscale of the surrounding quarters and the macroscale of Greater Berlin have to be taken into account.

Research Areas

The research concept of the present training group includes the following three key questions.

1. How can the effects of shrinking-processes in urban environments be understood and characterized, especially in their ecological dimensions?
2. What chances do they give for the development of urban nature?
3. In what way can the change of urban structure improve the living conditions for urban residents?

Research Collaboration

The complexity of the central idea requires for an interdisciplinary approach because the main research tasks can only be completed through cooperation among different science branches. The program is designed to draw the heads of the different science departments closer together and streamline them to the research topic.

Scientists come from different disciplines like geography, biology, planning sciences, hydrology, psychology and soil science. The cooperation of three universities in Berlin, most of which took place between Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Technische Universität Berlin, has proven very successful.

The same success was reached with the cooperation of a large-scale research institute, such as the Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries. The head scientists work together with associated scientists who are drawn from the matching science departments and who, as the new generation, already have experience with scientific but also organizational and administrative matters.

The Research Training Group “Perspectives on Urban Ecology” (GRK 780) has strong international relations. Its partner is the National Science Foundation (USA) funding the IGERT-Program (Integrated Education and Research Traineeship) on Urban Ecology at the University of Washington in Seattle.

Existing cooperation offers the opportunity for international research work including the possibility for joint publications with Seattle (USA), Warsaw (Poland) and Buenos Aires (Argentina). The Research Training Group is planning to intensify its cooperation to create a truly international research and study program for postgraduates.

Facilities

The staff of scientists associated with the GRK 780 includes three Junior Professors as well as two private lecturers and professors who recently took office.

Outstanding graduate students are encouraged to approach the key questions of the program. The scholarship holders of the program are expected to autonomously define topics in their research and teaching of undergraduate students.

Supervision and support within the program is regularly evaluated. It is intended that the supervision of a dissertation shall be conducted by either two head scientists or one head scientist and one associated scientist. Each can contribute with their respective field of expertise. In addition,

the students of the program work closely together within the work-packages and meet with the head scientists on a biweekly basis to discuss research results.

A report to be published will summarize all of the dissertations in the program and show the specializations of our Research Training Group.

Courses

The study program consists of lectures, field trips and soft skill courses. Once a week, all of the doctoral students in the program come together for a meeting at the Department of Geography at Humboldt-Universität. During a public lecture series the head or the associated scientists introduce the students to their specific research areas. After a joint lunch break, students have the opportunity to discuss different topics with the lecturers.

For the rest of the day, the students practice certain applicable skills and techniques needed during research, laboratory work, and presentations.

Information about Applying

Our website www.stadtoekologie-berlin.de/index.html provides you with more information about our Research Training Group.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Thirteen Ph.D. scholarships (for a period of three years) and two postdoc scholarships (for a period of two years) are available. They are posted on the homepage mentioned above. Applicants should have an appropriate final university degree or a superior Ph.D. degree and good knowledge in both of the languages spoken in the Research Training Group (German and English). Applications are expected from the following disciplines: ecology, geography, biology, environmental and planning sciences and psychology. Ph.D. students must to be younger than 28 and postdocs no older than 35 years.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Research Training Group is funded by the DFG (German Research Foundation).

DAS WISSEN
DER LITERATUR

Contact Information

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Online Information: www2.hu-berlin.de/wissen-literatur

Introduction

The Ph.D.-Net “Das Wissen der Literatur“ is a bi-national doctoral program hosted at the Department of German Literature (Institut für Deutsche Literatur) at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and offered in cooperation with three partner institutions in the United States. The focus on the relationship between knowledge (“Wissen”) and literature is a response to recent methodological considerations in literary studies and forms the basis for the doctoral exchange. Starting in October 2008, the Ph.D.-Net “Das Wissen der Literatur” offers German and international doctoral students a stimulating environment for joint academic education, research, and discussion. Doctoral candidates in the Ph.D.-Net study abroad at the partner institution for up to two terms, during which time they participate in the Ph.D. programs while being supervised by an international faculty member. This supervision can be extended until the completion of the dissertation project. Eleven full professors belong to the core faculty of the Ph.D.-Net; an additional faculty of renowned European and US scholars complement the program as mentors. The program is conducted in German and English.

Research Areas

Literary studies have lately benefited from inquiries into the historical transformations of knowledge, which as drawn attention to the need to interpret references and allusions in literature to various discourses and themes. These include discourses interwoven with the history of scientific and technological knowledge; fields of knowledge which are informed by social and cultural practices; and modes and operations pertaining to aesthetics and a logic of representation. This opens up a field of research with four focal points:

- I) The relation between literature and canonic fields of knowledge and intelligence,
- II) the functions and effects of recording, storing, processing, retrieving, communicating, and circulating different forms of knowledge in literature,
- III) the medial and institutional conditions under which diverse literary discourses and – even more fundamentally – a system of literature are constituted, and
- IV) the consideration of methodological and theoretical questions.

Research Collaboration

The Ph.D.-Net collaborates closely with the Department of German at the University of California, Berkeley, the Department of German at Princeton University, and the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University. Furthermore, the Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte and the Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, both in Berlin, are affiliated with the program as research partners.

Facilities

The Ph.D.-Net “Das Wissen der Literatur” is hosted by the Department of German Literature and located in close proximity to the main campus of Humboldt-Universität. Facilities at the host institution include office space for faculty and staff as well as seminar rooms and equipment. The Humboldt Graduate School provides offices for the doctoral students, including computing facilities.

Supervision and Mentoring

In addition to a primary dissertation advisor at the home institution, a secondary supervisor and/or a mentor are assigned to each candidate during his or her stay abroad. The mentor provides independent advice on the intellectual and personal development of the candidate, while also outlining prospective professional career options.

Courses

The structured curriculum ranges from coursework to subject-specific classes and methodological training. The study program consists of five basic training units: a master class, subject-specific courses, workshops and working groups, a qualification track, and project-specific events. The classes taught and the topics explored vary according to the emphasis on the subject for each year: “Knowledge and Symbolic Form” (1st year), “Science & Fiction” (2nd year), and “History and Theory of Curiosity” (3rd year). In addition, the Humboldt Graduate School offers a general training and qualification track which helps provide candidates with rhetorical and scientific writing skills as well as competence in academic management.

Information about Applying

The Ph.D.-Net is open to candidates who are already part of a doctoral program at the participating institutions, or who are planning to pursue a doctoral degree at Humboldt-Universität. Six German candidates and six international Ph.D. students are accepted into the program per year, two from each of the three American partner institutions. In a first step, the German applicants are required to hand in a CV (in table format), an outline of their academic background, a statement of interest in the program, and a concise proposal for their individual research project. Submitted applications are reviewed by a faculty committee. In a second step, potential candidates are invited to visit the Humboldt campus to elaborate on their individual research project in 15-20 minutes and answer questions. The international candidates apply with their home departments in the US. All candidates must show an excellent command of both German and English.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Studying in the program at Humboldt-Universität is free of charge and tuition fees at the US-American departments are waived or reduced. The program supports the doctoral candidates in applying for grants and open fellowships. The Ph.D.-Net guarantees full access to the academic infrastructure of all participating institutions and provides workspace, including computing facilities on the premises of the Humboldt Graduate School.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The Ph.D.-Net is funded by the DAAD.

Member of

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THE LIFE COURSE: EVOLUTIONARY AND ONTOGENETIC DYNAMICS (LIFE)
INTERNATIONAL MAX PLANCK RESEARCH SCHOOL



Contact Information

Faculty member: Prof. Dr. Jens B. Asendorpf
Institute: Max Planck Institute for Human Development
Coordinator: Dr. Imke Kruse
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Max Planck Institute for Human Development
Lentzeallee 94
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Host Institution: Max Planck Institute for Human Development,
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and others
Telephone: +49 (0)30 2093 9430
Email: jens.asendorpf@rz.hu-berlin.de
Online Information: www.psychologie.hu-berlin.de/prof/per

Introduction

The goal of the research school is the study of the systematic changes in human behaviour over evolutionary and ontogenetic time. The general approach is aimed at advancing the behavioural and social science of human development. LIFE takes an integrative and interdisciplinary approach to understanding human development in a changing world, connecting evolutionary, ontogenetic, historical, and institutional perspectives. The focus is on the evolution and interaction of individual and institutional development. The target group of the research school are post-diploma or post-master's graduate students who intend to pursue a doctorate in one of the relevant disciplines (biology, psychology, sociology, anthropology, educational science).

Research Areas

Since the inception of the notion of human development in the 18th century (e.g., the two major works by Tetens, published in 1777, that are considered the forerunners of modern developmental psychology) and the 19th century advancement of fields such as biological evolution and child development, researchers have wrestled with how to combine processes of evolution with processes of ontogenesis. Earlier attempts, such as the classical "ontogenesis as recapitulation of

evolution" hypothesis, were typically one-sided in emphasis. Work in recent decades, however, with advances in evolutionary anthropology, cultural psychology, evolutionary psychology, developmental behaviour genetics, gerontological biology, developmental, and life-course psychology, as well as historical sociology, suggests a new and more integrative orientation. Theories and methods have become available that permit a more systematic analysis of the evolution-ontogeny interface in human development than has been the case until now. The International Max Planck Research School LIFE aims to make a contribution to these new transdisciplinary developments and opportunities.

Research Collaboration

In October 2004, the University of Virginia, Charlottesville joined the four institutions collaborating in the International Max Planck Research School "The Life Course: Evolutionary and Ontogenetic Dynamics (LIFE)." The institutions involved up to that point were the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, and the University of Michigan.

The LIFE program is a collaboration between the following institutions: Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin,

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, USA, University of Zurich, Switzerland.

Facilities

As a collaborative Research School, LIFE offers students unique training in the dynamics of human behaviour on different time scales and includes opportunities for research abroad at a cooperating institution. The training program involves courses (in English), a series of summer schools, and collaborative supervision of research training.

As events, LIFE Fall und Spring academies take place each year at different partner universities (University of Michigan, Berlin, Virginia, and Zürich).

Courses

There are two parts to the academic program of the students. A first consists of the program of study that the home institutions with their respective specialties require. In addition, specific LIFE training is offered and required. Three modules constitute the specifics of the program. All courses are taught in English.

Participation in academies on life course research and theory. These are offered twice a year with varying topics. The location alternates between Germany and the United States. Successful completion of semester courses or seminars on research and theory in biological, psychological, sociological, educational, and anthropological/cultural aspects of the life course. Participation in a transatlantic research exchange program between the participating institutions, typically for a period of three months.

Information about Applying

The LIFE Research School is intended for graduate students who intend to pursue an academic research and teaching career. Maximum length of study is three years. To ensure international representation, no more than half of the students admitted to the research school should have a German passport. There are two procedural sources of admission for LIFE students. One is admission through direct application to LIFE after the announcement of

stipends. The other is through recommendation by a LIFE faculty member to the steering committee of an already active doctoral student from one of the participating universities or institutions. In each instance, it is expected that the student is or will be in good standing at the sponsoring institution. Pre-admission requirements are a master's degree or its equivalent such as a diploma in Germany. The primary disciplines involved are: evolutionary biology, developmental and aging biology, developmental and cognitive psychology, sociology, linguistics, anthropology, and education. The Ph.D. will be awarded to the student from his or her home university. The research school will encourage comparability, but will not try to interfere with the requirements for the Ph.D. at the home universities. The requirements and rules will be those of the home universities, and these may differ. Typically, a student will have at least two advisors, one from their home institution and one from another participating institution including the MPI. In addition, successful LIFE students will obtain a certificate from the International Max Planck Research School LIFE.

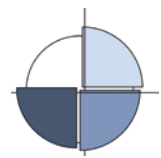
Funding for Ph.D. Students

Fellowships are announced at the Website: www.imprs-life.mpg.de/jobs.htm

Studying at the IMPRS is free of charge and not subject to any tuition or fees. Moreover, financial support in the form of tax-free stipends or Ph.D. positions at the universities is available upon application.

Funding of the Graduate Program

Funded by the Max Planck Society.



Contact Information

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D-10117 Berlin
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Introduction

The researchers at the Collaborative Research Center “Representations of Changing Social Orders” examine representations of changing social orders, with representations being understood as a means to organize and communicate knowledge. Their core aim is to analyse processes of the exchange of representations, in order to determine the origins of social orders; to accomplish this, they undertake studies on a variety of regions and periods of time.

The researchers work in the fields of history, anthropology, social science, and art history. They are interested in how representations create social orders, and how social orders in turn give rise to representations. They analyse situations of crisis and upheaval by means of intertemporal and intercultural comparisons.

Research Areas

The Collaborative Research Center brings together around fifty professors, postdoctoral researchers, and graduate students in fifteen sub-projects. Six working groups promote interdisciplinary academic discussions on subjects such as violence, identity, law, knowledge, visual representation, and space. The center combines a great variety of regional expertise, with researchers working on societies in Europe, Africa, Eastern Europe, Central and Southeast Asia.

Research Collaboration

The Collaborative Research Center cooperates with the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, the Berlin University of the Arts, and the Zentrum Moderner Orient.

Facilities

The graduate program of the Collaborative Research Center supports graduates in planning and shaping their careers. It provides insights into the world of science and supports intensive work on Ph.D. projects. The graduate program brings together Ph.D. candidates with various scientific backgrounds.

Courses

The graduate program at the Collaborative Research Center offers lecture series, reading courses, and practice-oriented seminars. For more details see our website.

Information about Applying

We seek applications from graduates in the humanities and social sciences, including applicants from the fields of history, art history, anthropology, political science, and sociology, among others.

Applicants for doctoral research positions are kindly requested to refer to the participating departments and chairs. Research vacancies are regularly published on the website of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Applicants for research fellow positions are kindly requested to submit the following materials:

- Cover letter (1 page)
- Curriculum Vitae (2 pages)
- Exposé of research project (4 pages)
- Reference letter (1 page)

Funding for Ph.D. Students

We invite promising graduate students to apply for research fellowships. The center offers free accommodation up to two months and covers travel expenses (round-trip ticket). Applications are accepted at any time.

During their term of appointment, research fellows are invited to participate in seminars and workshops held at the center. They receive academic advising according to their needs and gain free library access.

Funding of the Graduate Program

The graduate program of the Collaborative Research Center is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).



Contact Information

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Concept

The Schleiermacher Graduate School for the Study of Christianity (SGS) offers a well structured, internationally competitive, and multidisciplinary program of study and research leading to a Doctor theologiae at the Faculty of Theology at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Research Areas and Collaboration

Students at the SGS will have access to and the possibility to collaborate with all disciplines within the Faculty of Theology (Studies of ancient Israel and early Christianity; History of ancient, medieval and modern Christianity; Christian archeology, epigraphy and art; History of Christian thought, confessions and cultures) and with the departments of Cultural Studies, Philosophy, Classical Philology and History within the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, as well as with Near Eastern Studies, Judaic Studies and Islamic Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin.

Facilities

Candidates who pursue a doctoral degree at the SGS will not only receive supervision by leading experts in their fields, but also access to excellent library and internet facilities.

Curriculum

Doctoral studies at the SGS are organized in four programs covering different aspects of research:

Heritage of the Jewish and ancient Middle Eastern cultures in Christianity (Hugo-Greifmann-Programm), Christianity and the Ancient World (Adolf-Deißmann-Programm), Christianity in Modernity (Karl-Holl-Programm), and Religion and Politics (Ernst-Troeltsch-Programm).

Successful candidates will be accepted in to one of the programs at the SGS for three years, or for four years including a preliminary orientation year. The supervisor(s) and student will agree to meet regularly in order to monitor progress and research results to be presented by the doctoral student. During the course of their studies, students are required to take part in advanced seminars, presentation sessions and scientific meetings.

Information about Applying

The SGS welcomes applications from skilled scientists both from Germany and other countries who wish to study Christianity in an interdisciplinary context and from the perspectives of language and literature, religion, philosophy, history, and culture. An applicable Masters degree in Theology and a sound command of ancient Hebrew and Greek as well as Latin is a prerequisite.

Funding for Ph.D. Students

Limited funding for individuals will be available by application. Funding for the programs is currently in the application process.



Contact Information

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Online Information: www.transcrim.org

The LLM and Ph.D. program “Transnational Criminal Justice and Crime Prevention – An International and African Perspective” is part of the South African German-Centre for Development Studies and Criminal Justice set up in 2008 at the University of the Western Cape (Cape Town/South Africa). The program is based upon long-time cooperation between the Law Faculties of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and University of the Western Cape. It is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of the “African Excellence” initiative of the German Federal Foreign Ministry.

The program aims to educate African and German students for leading positions at both the national and the international levels. The guiding theme of the program is ensuring good governance through a functioning criminal judiciary. The LLM courses will cover the modules “Transitional Justice”, “International Criminal Law”, “Combating Organised Crime and Money Laundering”, and “Combating Corruption”. Subsequent to the LLM course, each year up to three African graduates are offered a scholarship for Ph.D. studies at the University of the Western Cape. The Ph.D. students shall deepen their knowledge from the LLM course by writing a thesis on a topic of their choice in the field of international criminal law or the fight against international economic crime. In addition to the thesis, students will attend Ph.D. classes in Cape Town and Berlin, at which they will present

and discuss their research work and attend lectures on topics in international and comparative criminal law and modern legal history.

The Ph.D. program is restricted to African graduates of the LLM program. The estimated deadline for application to the next round of LLM courses is 31 August 2010.

For more information visit www.transcrim.org

“UNTERSCHIEDE DENKEN: GESCHICHTE ALS OBJEKT
UND ALS REPRÄSENTATION“
DEUTSCH-FRANZÖSISCHES DOKTORANDENKOLLEG



Contact Information

Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Hartmut Kaelble, Iris Schroeder,
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Online Information: <http://dfdk.geschichte.hu-berlin.de>

Introduction

The Franco-German Ph.D. research group “Thinking differences: history as object and as representation” is an integral part of the multi-disciplinary doctoral program of the EHESS (l’École des hautes études en sciences sociales) in Paris and the doctoral programs of the participating Berlin institutes, created with the goal of blazing a binational, bilingual path of research and teaching.

Research Area

“Thinking differences: history as object and as representation“ (“Unterschiede denken: Geschichte als Objekt und als Repräsentation“/ “Construire les différences : l’histoire comme objet et comme représentation”) is an interdisciplinary research group for Ph.D. students. The focus of the group’s research is on the development of comparative approaches and on creating linkages between different fields, while taking the diverse traditions of these fields into account. Fields range from history and art history to literature, ethnology and the social sciences, with research covering historical periods from the Middle Ages to the present. The group was founded in 2006 and support for the program has recently been extended until 2012.

The Berlin scientists responsible for the project are Horst Bredekamp (Art History, Humboldt-Universität), Etienne François (History, Freie Universität Berlin), Johannes Helmuth, (Medieval History, Humboldt-Universität), Hartmut Kaelble (History, Humboldt-Universität), Bénédicte Savoy (Art History, Technische Universität Berlin), and Iris Schroeder (History, Humboldt-Universität). The associated scientists are Dieter Gosewinkel (History, WZB), Wolfgang Kaschuba (European Ethnology, Humboldt-Universität), Rebekka von Mallinckrodt (History, Freie Universität Berlin), Daniel Schönplüg (History, Deputy Director of the Marc Bloch Centre Berlin), and Claudia Ulbrich (Early Modern History, Freie Universität Berlin).

Research collaboration

“Thinking differences: history as object and as representation“ was founded as an initiative of historians from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) in Paris and the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. It’s members now also include university lecturers from the two other Berlin universities, the Freie Universität Berlin and the Technische Universität Berlin, as well as from the Centre Marc Bloch in Berlin and the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin. The coordinators of the Ph.D. program in Paris are Christophe Duhamelle and Falk Bretschneider, both scientists at the EHESS. Other Paris staff members from the EHESSs include Pierre Monnet (Medieval History), Jean-Claude Schmitt (Medieval Historical Anthropology), Georget Schnapper (History), Michael Werner (Literature and History), Laure Schnapper (History of Music), Maria Stavrinaki (Art History), Patrice Veit (History), and Bénédicte Zimmermann (History).

Facilities and Activities

The research group cannot give full time scholarships, but only financial aid to Berlin Ph.D. students for research stays in Paris and France, and to Paris Ph.D. students for stays in Berlin and Germany. Each Ph.D. student who does research in the partner city receives intensive support from the local teaching staff. Ph.D. students meet regularly in Berlin or in Paris and once a year all Ph.D. students meet at a workshop in Paris or Berlin to discuss common topics of all Ph.D. projects. Common topics at the last meeting were representations, case studies, historical comparison and transfers. These workshops are largely organised by the Ph.D. students. The last two meetings in Berlin (2008) and Paris (2009) were highly productive and stimulating for the Ph.D. students as well as for staff members.

Information about Applying

All interested doctoral students are invited to send their application to the representatives of the program: in Germany, Prof. Dr. Hartmut Kaelble at the Institute for Social History at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin; and in France, Prof. Dr. Christophe Duhamelle (CARE) at the EHESS or Dr. Falk Bretschneider, also at the EHESS.

Funding

“Thinking differences: history as object and as representation“ is financed exclusively by the Franco-German University (<http://www.dfh-ufa.org/>).



INFORMATION AND CONTACTS FOR YOUNG INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS

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http://research.hu-berlin.de/visiting_scholars

You are from abroad and want to pursue your research project at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin?
You do not know whom to contact about a specific question regarding your visa or a scholarship application or you are looking for a job at Humboldt-Universität?

The following information might be useful for you.

Please visit at first our Webportal:

for Ph.D. students: www.hu-berlin.de/promovierende-en/standardseite-en

for Visiting Researchers: research.hu-berlin.de/visiting_scholars/?set_language=en&cl=en

How to Gather Information on Scholarships and Project Funding

You can find general information in scholarships and financial aid for international researchers on the web.

Doctoral candidates can find information at:

www.hu-berlin.de/forschung/wiss_nachw/wn_profoerd.html (in German)

www.hu-berlin.de/promovierende-en/finanzierung_promotion-en (in English)

Post-doctoral researchers can find information at:

www.hu-berlin.de/forschung/wiss_nachw/wn_postdok.html (in German)

Adviser:

Dr. Uta Hoffmann

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nachwuchs@uv.hu-berlin.de

How to Deal with the Specifics of Your Scholarship or Project Funding Application

There are several offices at Humboldt-Universität which support international researchers during the process of an application for a scholarship or project funding. Depending on which type of funding or scholarship you are applying for, whether you are applying individually or within the framework of a partnership program of your university, you can contact the following offices:

1. International Office (Amt für Internationale Angelegenheiten for partnerships with other universities, DAAD and Alexander von Humboldt Scholarships)
2. HUMBOLDT-INNOVATION GmbH (for European Union funding)
3. Research Division (Forschungsabteilung for Germany-based research funding)

Among other services, all of the above organizations offer counselling regarding project proposals. You can also contact the individual faculties and their staff as well as single graduate programs directly if you are looking for information on specific program-based scholarships and funding.

1. The International Office

The International Office is responsible for the exchange of scholars and scientists within the framework of Humboldt-Universität's partnerships with other universities.

Its region officers are responsible for handling contract arrangements as well as special programs (such as DAAD and EU scholarship schemes) and for attending to the needs of visiting foreign delegations. In addition, the office assists recipients of DAAD and Alexander von Humboldt (AvH) scholarships.

Contact:

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Region Officer for Central and Eastern Europe
(i.e. for DAAD sponsored partnerships with universities in Eastern Europe)
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Region Officer for Western Europe
Erasmus Coordinator of the University (including staff mobility)
Dr. Dietmar Buchmann
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Region Officer for Africa
Ulrike Brodien
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Region Officer for Asia and Australia
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Region Officer for North America, Latin America
Dr. Anna Steinel
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DAAD-sponsored doctoral candidates (enrollment, counselling)
DAAD-scholars and researchers (scholarship disbursement, counselling)
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annett.peschel@uv.hu-berlin.de

Alexander von Humboldt Scholarship recipients (scholarship disbursement, counselling)
Ulrike Spangenberg
Tel.: +49 (0)30 2093 2154
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2. The HUMBOLDT-INNOVATION GmbH

The HUMBOLDT-INNOVATION GmbH gives advice and support concerning relevant research funding applications to the European Union (EU) throughout all stages of the application process.

Contact:

EU research funding and advice
Renate Ubachs
eu.forschung@uv.hu-berlin.de
Tel: +49 (0)30 2093 1451

3. The Research Division's Office for Young Scholars and Scientists

The Research Division's Office for Young Scholars and Scientists provides information on the various national research funding programs.

Contact:

Research Division, Office for Young Scholars and Scientists
Dr. Uta Hoffmann
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Contacts For International Researchers at Faculties and Departments:

Information about international researchers working at the university's faculties and departments is available from the dean's offices of the various faculties. Addresses are available on the web. Contact information at departmental level is given at: www.hu-berlin.de under "Institutions".

How to Have Your Degree Recognized

Eligibility for a scholarship or project funding is based on evidence of an equivalent academic degree granted abroad. Documentation in the form of certified German translations of foreign transcripts has to be presented to: Department I, Student Affairs (I), Office of Student Administration (Registry), International Admissions. (Abteilung I, Angelegenheiten der Studierenden (I), Referat Studierendenverwaltung, Zulassung für ausländische Studierende). Applications will be considered only after all supporting documentation has been provided.

Contact at Humboldt-Universität:

Student Administration Office (Registrar)
International Admissions
Elke Nuerck
Tel.: +49 (0)30 2093 2627
elke.nuerck.2@uv.hu-berlin.de

Alternatively, the documentation can be presented to the Central Office for Foreign Education (Zentralstelle für Ausländisches Bildungswesen) at the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (Email: zab@kmk.org).

How to Obtain a Visa and How to Register in Germany

Having decided to follow your research at Humboldt-Universität, you are required to register with the local citizens' office (Bürgeramt) on your arrival in Germany.

The registration merely means that you must register your Berlin mailing address. Following the registration you will receive a printed confirmation of your registration, which you will need to present at other local authorities. EU Citizens may apply for a residence permit for EU citizens known as a Freizügigkeitsbescheinigung, which regulates their stay in Berlin. They are no longer required to inform the Aliens Authority (Ausländerbehörde). All non-EU citizens are required to apply for a standard residence permit (Aufenthaltsgenehmigung) at the Aliens Authority.

Address:

Landesamt für Bürger- und Ordnungsangelegenheiten
Ausländerbehörde
Friedrich-Krause-Ufer 24
13353 Berlin
Tel.: +49 (0)30 90269 4000
abh@labo.verwalt-berlin.de
www.berlin.de/lab0/auslaender/dienstleistungen/index.html
Keywords (in German): Zuwanderung, Aufenthaltstitel, Antrag auf Erteilung.

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday 7 am – 2 pm
Thursday 10 am – 6 pm
Appointments must be made in advance by telephone or email.
www.berlin.de/lab0/auslaender/dienstleistungen/index.html

The following materials must be presented when applying for a residence permit:

- Passport
- Two biometric passport photos
www.bundesdruckerei.de/de/service/service_buerger/buerger_persdok/persdok_epassMstr.html
- Completed application form for a residence permit (Antrag auf Erteilung der Aufenthaltsgenehmigung) www.berlin.de/lab0/formulare//formularserver.php?path=/zuwanderung_und_aufenthalt_auslaenderbehoerde
- A work contract, scholarship confirmation or evidence of financial support
- The letter confirming registration (Meldebescheinigung), available from the citizens' office, Link "Anmeldeformular":
www.berlin.de/buergeramt/formulare/index.php?path=/meldeangelegenheiten
- Health insurance
- Marriage certificate, if applicable (if the spouse intends to reside in Germany)
- Birth certificate(s), if applicable (if your children are to reside in Germany)

Visiting scholars and scientists at Humboldt-Universität can authorize the International Office to apply for or extend their residence permit for them ("Visaservice").

Applicants using this service thus do not need to appear at the Aliens Authority in person. However, they should expect a processing period of about three weeks.

Visa Service:

Humboldt-Universität Main Building
International Club "Orbis Humboldtianus"
www.international.hu-berlin.de/an_die_hu/studierende/orbis/visaservice
Unter den Linden 6, Room Number HG 3120
(east wing of the main building, 3rd Floor)
10099 Berlin

Office Hours:

Wednesday 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
visaservice@uv.hu-berlin.de
Information by telephone (only during office hours): +49 (0)30 2093 2221

How to Find Job Opportunities at Humboldt-Universität

The Personnel Division at Humboldt-Universität advertises open positions, and gives assistance in the administrative procedures associated with the employment process.

All open positions currently available at the university can be found on this web site: www.personalabteilung.hu-berlin.de/stellenausschreibungen_neu (in German)

Contact:

Abteilung für Personal und Personalentwicklung (Personnel Division)
Angelika Krüger
Tel.: +49 (0)30 2093 2462/2463
angelika.krueger@uv.hu-berlin.de

Last but not Least: How to Spend your Leisure Time in Berlin

Humboldt-Universität offers more than just an academic environment. Our Sport and Recreation Unit offers sports courses in many disciplines.
http://zeh3.hu-berlin.de/angebot.html

Musical talents can be pursued with our several choirs and orchestras.
www.musikundmedien.hu-berlin.de/umd

Many clubs and initiatives make our university a lively and charming place.
www.international.hu-berlin.de/an_die_hu-en/wegweiser

With your decision to work in Berlin, you have also chosen a multicultural European metropolis where you can participate in an exceptional number of art and cultural activities in your leisure time.

Museums and historic sites can give interesting and informative insights into the past and present of the once-divided city.

The city's many parks and green areas are attractive places for people to rest and relax. Strolling along one of the fine walking paths or cycling on one of the many bike paths is enjoyable at all times of the year.

After a day's work, Berlin's many restaurants, cafes and bars invite the researchers and their families to an evening out to enjoy not only typically German cuisine, but also a great variety of food at a multitude of international restaurants.

As a guest, you have a share in shaping Berlin, whether in your personal or public life.

Welcome to Berlin –
Welcome to Humboldt-Universität!

IMPRINT

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