



Graduate School „Berlin School of Mind and Brain“

Abstract of the Draft Proposal for the Excellence Initiative 2006

Neuro-XXX and the Convergence of Disciplines

Although the prefix "neuro" is commonly in use in many various scientific fields such as Neurophilosophy, Neuroecology and Neuroeconomics, it is usually unclear which scientific approaches these fields have in common. In addition, themes such as "free will", "justice" and "equity" and "ethics" are increasingly being addressed by leading researchers in a transdisciplinary manner. However, addressing such themes in a transdisciplinary way remains uncommon in the training of young scientists and scholars.

The "Berlin School of the Mind and Brain" is a common initiative of the social and life sciences and the humanities at Humboldt-Universität. This graduate school will serve as a transdisciplinary platform for the multifaceted relationship between the various scientific cultures, thereby promoting their convergence. Under the leadership of Humboldt-Universität, integrated in the existing dense network of graduate schools and special research programmes and in cooperation with university and non-university research institutes, the graduate school will train the next generation of scholars and scientists.

These young scholars and scientists will no longer be limited by the traditional borders of individual disciplines. Within the framework of their doctoral studies, they will receive a broad fundamental education, enabling them to become familiar with commonalities and differences with other scientific cultures and to understand the value of these differences in their research.

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Fields of Study

- Psychology
- Medicine (Neurology, Neurochirurgie, Psychiatrie, Physiologie)
- Biology
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Law
- Linguistics

Existing Research Associations

- Berlin NeuroImaging Center
- Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience Berlin
- Research Training Group 1123: "Cellular Mechanisms of Learning and Memory - Consolidation in the Hippocampal Formation"
- Research Training Group 429: "Doctoral Program on Neuropsychiatry and Psychology of Aging"
- Research Training Group 238: "Damage cascades in neurological disorders - studies with imaging techniques"
- Research Training Group 780: "Perspectives of Urban Ecology - the Example of the European Metropolis of Berlin"
- Research Training Group 837: "Functional Insect Science"
- Research Training Group 268: "Dynamics and Evolution of Cellular and Macromolecular Processes"
- Research Training Group 275: "Economy and Complexity of Language"
- Collaborative Research Center 507: "Role of Non-Neuronal Cells in Neurological Disease"
- Collaborative Research Center 515: "Mechanisms of experience- and development-dependent plasticity of the nervous system"
- Collaborative Research Center 618 for Theoretical Biology: "Robustness, Modularity and Evolutionary Design of Living Systems"
- Collaborative Research Center 665: "Developmental Disturbances in the Nervous System"
- Collaborative Research Center TR3: "Mesial Temporal Lobe Epilepsies"
- Collaborative Research Center 632: "Information Structure: The linguistic means of structuring utterances, sentences and texts"
- Collaborative Research Center 644: "Transformations of Antiquity"

Further Information on this Project

<http://www.exzellenz.hu-berlin.de/>