

DOING A PHD

GRADUATE SCHOOL

GLOBAL AND

AREA STUDIES LEIPZIG

WITH THE DAAD FUNDING
PROGRAMME
IPID4ALL 'GLOBAL AREAS'

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The Graduate School Global and Area Studies (GSGAS) at Leipzig University invites young scholars from all over the world to join a fascinating project that is global in scope and inter- as well as post-disciplinary in its orientation.

We are looking for original contributions by excellent PhD candidates from all kinds of area studies, history, the social science as well as international studies searching for a comprehensive answer to the general question of how societies across the globe react to the dialectics of de- and re-territorialization. What we are interested in is the persistence of long-lasting and the emergence of new spatial formats and orders for social interaction within and between cultures, nations, and regional clusters of states.

The approach the Graduate School is based upon has been developed over the past ten years. It is unique in its emphasis on a combination of global and transnational history on the one hand and international, area, and transregional studies on the other, including the investigation of commodity chains, international organizations, migration systems, and cultural transfers in the study of critical junctures of globalization.

What we provide is a well structured teaching programme and competent individual supervision as well as the opportunity to interact with a group of more than 120 other PhD candidates and Post-docs in the same field of interest.

This brochure provides an overview on the research agenda, the study programme, and the supports offered by the Research Academy and offers a first insight into the overall aims of the research focus and the organization of the Graduate School. Please feel free to contact the team of the Graduate School in case you need further information. We look forward very much seeing your application or advising you further on how to enter an academic career.

Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell – Spokesperson of the Graduate School



UNIVERSITÄT LEIPZIG

X INTERNATIONAL
SUMMER SCHOOL OF
THE GRADUATE CENTRE
HUMANITIES AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Globalization has become a buzzword of political communication. In many discourses it appears as the ultimate causation of today's processes and conflicts — as if the world would have entered a totally new stage. Our point of departure is different!

Global connections have a history as long as reactions by societies towards the profitability or feared losses of sovereignty have far reaching historical roots. It is worth investigating the different historical forms of these entanglements and the ways human beings dealt with them.

Global flows of people, goods, ideas, capital etc., challenge existing formats of social selforganization and territorialization around the nation-state. But they don't lead to a completely borderless and flat world. On the contrary, we observe again and again processes of re-territorialization yet not necessarily the defense of its historical forms but an innovative search for new regimes of spatialization — thus the interest in the differences between empire and nation, or between nationalization and transnationalization as well as in the role of regionalizations (within and beyond the level of nation-states) or of networks and chains across continents and oceans.

While de- and re-territorialization are permanently ongoing dialectic processes which are determined by the various global flows on the one hand and the search for ways to tame them, to re-establish sovereignty, there are historical moments when conflicts concerning new spatial frameworks of social interaction and integration on which occur at very different places actually coincide. These global moments and their causation by critical junctures of globalization are of particular interest to our Graduate School.

We are interested in mechanisms that make the interaction between societies a source for innovation and development instead of taking societies as containers for granted. Development, however, doesn't mean necessarily that global inequality will be reduced per se. On the contrary, new

spatial formats that help territorializing property, political control, and cultural belonging are introduced to profit even more from growing global exchange and are thus related to the exercise of power and dominance. Our research is critically engaged with all actors of power relations. Forms of resistance to such search for hegemony can be observed both at a transnational and even global level, by actors using national institutions and at the local and regional level. While activists often describe and label their efforts as anti-globalist they are in fact part of the dialectics of de- and re-territorialization described above searching for alternative ways of spatially framing social action.

Places, institutions, but also symbolic entities generating social and cultural capital can develop the capacity to function as portals of globalization. By portals we mean those concrete sites that historically have been centres of world trade or global communication, have served as entrance points for cultural transfers, and were institutions and practices for dealing with global connectedness. Such places have always been known as sites of transcultural encounter and mutual influence. They are not only places through which economic and military dispersion has taken place and global networks have been created, but they are also where a whole range of social forms and symbolic cultural constructions (of the 'own' and the 'other', of home and locality) challenge national affiliation in communities of migrants, merchants, and travellers from distant places. This allows for analysis of how global connectedness challenges a seemingly stable territorial order by extending it to other spheres, and it invites us to look at the various means by which elites try to

channel and therefore control the effects of global connectivity (among others, by the creation of political structures and social control).

This research agenda cannot be addressed without strong competencies on various world regions. For this reason the Graduate School combines efforts from all the area studies represented at Leipzig University (ranging from East Asian Studies to Near East and African Studies, from North to Latin American Studies, but also including Eastern European and Western European Studies). Candidates are invited to develop projects that bring developments in at least two different world regions together. At the same time a historical approach is related to systematic analytical categories from the social sciences including evidently human geography. Candidates are expected to take up the challenge of such inter- and post-disciplinary reading and to develop during the taught part of the programme appropriate skills.



The research agenda of the Graduate School has been developed over the past decade. Today it combines the experience of six international doctoral programmes that were established since 2001.

The first focused on Transnationalization and Regionalization from the 18th Century to the Present.

The second was established and funded by the German Research Council as a research training group that introduced the category of Critical Junctions of Globalization.

The third unfolded in 2010 around an interest in The New Europe which emerged after 1989 and on East-Central Europe in Transnational Perspective (fourth).

The fifth was launched in 2012 as a bi-national programme Global and Area Studies with a special emphasis in Peace and Security in Africa, offered together with the University of Addis Ababa.

The sixth research training group was established in 2016 within the collaborative research centre 1199 'Processes of Spatialization under the Global Condition'.

Over the past twelve years more than 50 PhD candidates completed their dissertation and got a PhD in:

African Studies
 American Studies
 Comparative Cultural History of Europe
 Economics
 European Studies
 Global Studies
 History
 Oriental Studies
 Political Science
 Romance Studies
 Sociology

Currently more than 120 PhD candidates are enrolled, coming from around 30 countries.

More than 30 professors are supervising at the Graduate School. They come from around 20 institutes and research centres across the campus of Leipzig University.

With more than 50% of its PhD candidates coming from abroad, the Graduate School has already reached a high level of internationalization, which it aims to further expand. A visiting scholar programme and a dozen of international workshops every year contribute to the strong international exposure of all PhD candidates.

A growing number of dissertations co-supervised with scholars from foreign universities and formal co-tutelle-procedures indicate that the School is a model for the transnational character of the training of a new generation of scholars in the humanities and social sciences. The Graduate School holds numerous bilateral agreements with research universities at all continents which are the basis for close cooperation that facilitates for example field work of our PhD students.

A joint PhD programme is currently offered in cooperation with Addis Ababa University (Global and Area Studies with a special emphasis on Peace and Security).

Framework agreements for the co-tutelle de these model have been signed with the University of Stellenbosch and Macquarie University Sydney. They pave the way for further cooperation with universities with which the Graduate School has already successfully completed formalized co-supervision:

Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris
 Macquarie University, Sydney
 Masaryk University, Brno
 University of Bratislava
 University of Stellenbosch

The Graduate School has attracted resources to fund regular exchange opportunities for PhD candidates with the following universities:

Addis Ababa University
 Charles University, Prague
 Dalhousie University
 Duke University
 Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris

Fudan University, Shanghai
 Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
 Roskilde University
 University of California at Santa Barbara
 University of Hanoi
 Université de Lyon II
 University of Stellenbosch
 Macquarie University Sydney
 University of Vienna
 University of Wrocław
 Université Yaoundé I

The Graduate School is part of Leipzig University's Research Academy and its Centre for Area Studies building a framework for the very close cooperation with the Centre for History and Culture of East Central Europe (GWZO) and the Leibniz-Institute for Regional Geography Leipzig as well as the Max-Planck-Institute for Anthropology in Halle.



The taught part of the PhD programme lasts six semesters/three years. The curriculum includes the participation in foundational courses introducing the research agenda and relating it to the individual PhD projects, interdisciplinary research seminars, and doctoral colloquia as well as working groups.

Foundational courses and research seminars serve the interdisciplinary qualification of the PhD candidates, and are often co-taught by lecturers from different disciplines.

The weekly doctoral colloquia provide the opportunity to present research projects and so far achieved preliminary results to the peer group of PhD students coming from different disciplinary backgrounds. The aim of the colloquium is also to train competencies in the presentation of specialized research to an audience that shares interest in the overall topic but is not in all cases familiar with the state of the art of the author's project. Working groups are smaller in size and bring together PhD students and Post-docs from neighbouring disciplines. Here, PhD students submit first drafts of chapters and get feedback both from professors and their peers on empirical findings and methodological approaches. Working groups combine their efforts also in organizing international workshops to confront the progress they made with what other research centres achieved.

A summer school provides the opportunity to discuss with young scholars from other universities and to organize thematically coherent panels (often with a comparative approach towards one's own subject).

The winter closure in contrast is an internal event where PhD students present to the whole Graduate School and report on the results they made over the past year. It is combined with meetings of the thesis committee.

Part of the teaching programme are also German classes as well as courses in academic writing and a couple of workshops providing familiarity with specialized software needed in social science and human geography for the collection of

data and the 'mapping' of historical and sociological research.

An important part of the didactical concept of the Graduate School is to enable PhD students to make first steps into academic teaching. In coordination with experienced scholars they are invited to offer one semester-long course to BA- or even MA-students and to reflect upon the experience they made in an essay written after evaluation of the course.

WORKING GROUPS

International Studies

dealing especially with the comparison of new regionalisms in Africa and Latin America, with the development of the African Union and the Mercosur as well as with other regional organizations, with the architecture of peace and security as well as with the role of violence in current processes of globalization, and finally with the character of the state in developing countries and the BRICS.

directed by Prof. Dr. Ulf Engel and Prof. Dr. Heidrun Zinecker

Global History

focusing on the historicity of de- and re-territorialization (including the world of international organizations, regimes of migration, imperial and national formats of societal integration, commodity chains, portals of globalization and the revolutionary moments in history when established orders are challenged) and on its reflection in the humanities and social sciences with a particular emphasis on the area studies from the 19th century to the present. The group discusses also the new practices of transnational universities and its historical roots.

directed by Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell, Dr. Steffi Marung and Dr. Katja Naumann

East-Central Europe in a Transnational Perspective

analyzing historical writing between national traditions and the transnational challenge as well as the various dimensions of transnational ties in the history of what is today Poland, the Czech Republik, Slovakia and Hungary.

directed by Prof. Dr. Frank Hadler and Dr. Uwe Müller

The New Europe

which looks also at the development in East Central Europe but integrates it into the construction of the institutionalized 'Europe' that emerged after 1989 and especially after the enlargement processes of 2004/2009/2013.

directed by Prof. Dr. Stefan Troebst

APPLICATION

Applications are to be submitted in English or German and should include:

a formal application (you may find the form to be used for download at the website)

proof of the highest academic degree earned so far

an exposé or thesis proposal of up to 3,500 words containing

a clear statement of your research question

an overview on the state of the art that justifies a thesis in this particular field (including bibliography)

a description of the sources/materials and methods to be used and a detailed working plan

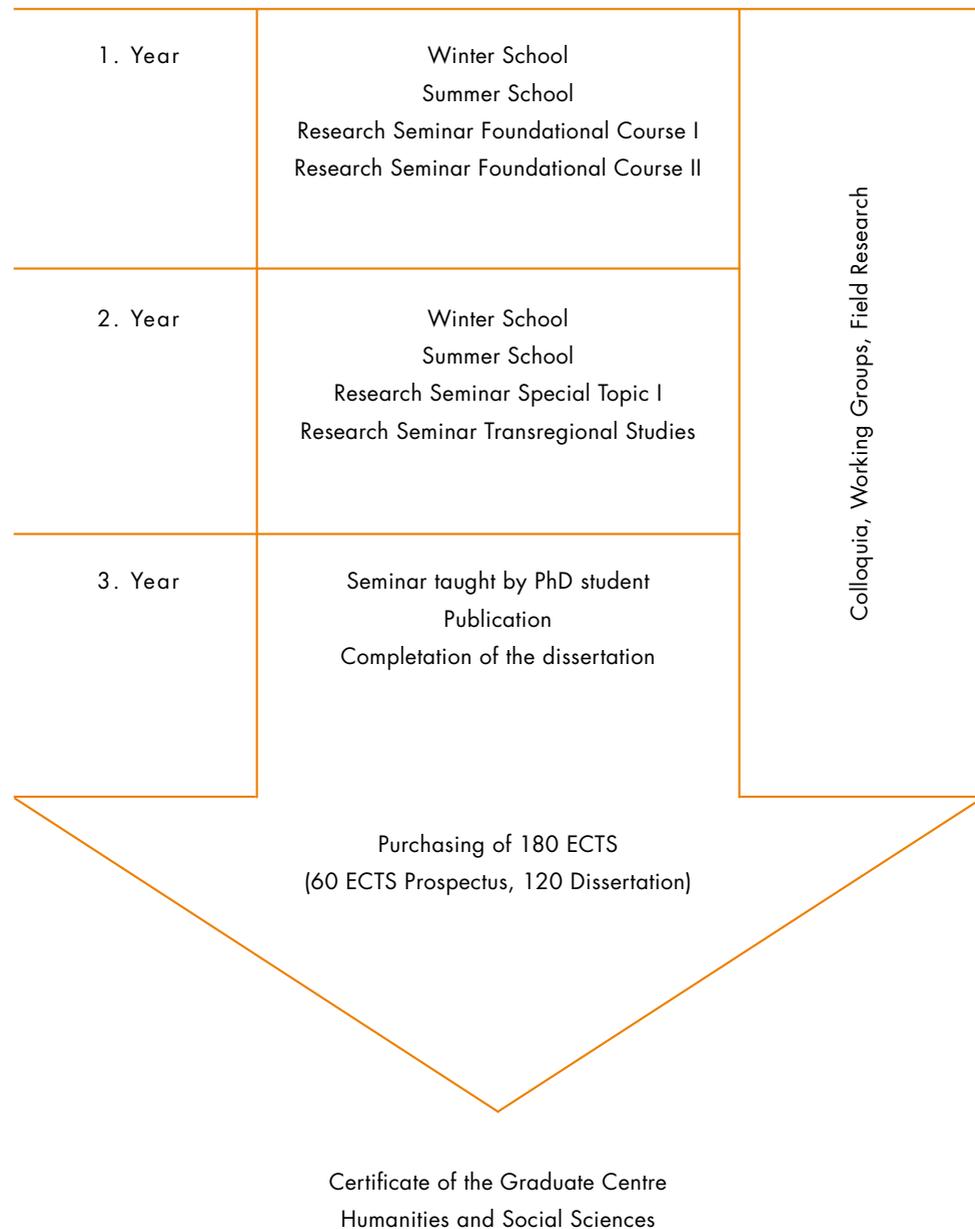
CV

two letters of reference from qualified academics

Application deadline for the summer semester (i.e. April to September):
applications have to be submitted before 1st of January.

Application deadline for the winter semester (i.e. October to March):
applications have to be submitted before 1st of July.





Support offered by the Research Academy and the Graduate School

Childcare

It is possible to book for children from 0 to three years a place at a day care person via the Research Academy.

Conference Support

The Graduate School provides support in the preparation and performance of workshops designed and organized by PhD students.

Financing

With a view at the complexity of the German funding system for PhD candidates, the Graduate School offers to all applicants assistance in identifying appropriate ways of financing the PhD-project to be submitted. Candidates should not hesitate to ask for this support.

Language Training

The Graduate School offers German language courses for PhD students from abroad.

Travel Grants

The Graduate School provides funding for extended research or archival trips as well as for the participation in international conferences.

Workspaces

It is possible to get an office space in one of the various locations of the Graduate School.

Having successfully been granted the DAAD-programme IPID4all 'Global Areas' funds, the Graduate School Global and Area Studies is now able to support their members with travel grants for field work and conference participation abroad. The programme is aimed at all outgoing PhD candidates of the Graduate School, as well as at incoming international PhD candidates from abroad.

Members of the Graduate School can apply for the following three funding lines:

- travel grants for research periods abroad (up to 3 months)
- scholarships for conference travel (up to 5 days)
- travel grants for fieldwork (up to 3 month)

For PhD candidates and Master students from abroad the Graduate School can offer:

- paid internships (max. 3 month) with a travel allowance and a lump sum to facilitate a period of stay within which a personal meeting is set up with a prospective supervisor
- travel and accommodation expenses will be covered in accordance with the IPID4all travel allowance (depending on the country of origin and the duration of the stay).

In order to apply for funding, members of the Graduate School need to submit the following documents:

application form (<http://home.uni-leipzig.de/ral/gchuman/klassen/graduate-school-global-and-area-studies/foerderprogramm-ipid4all/>)

for research trips:

- a reference letter from the supervising university teacher or an invitation letter from the target institution
- timetable of the research trip
- preferably a detailed overview of the travel costs

for conference trips:

- an official confirmation of acceptance of the contribution by the conference chair
- timetable of the conference programme
- preferably a detailed overview of the travel costs

Contact for prospective PhD candidates from abroad:

ral.humanities@uni-leipzig.de

Prof. Dr. Ulf Engel, Institute for African Studies, Global and European Studies Institute

International Studies (Africa's peace and security architecture, Africa in globalization processes), new topographies of power and sovereignty (practices of space-making; process of de-/re-territorialization in/around Africa), the changing knowledge order of area studies

Prof. Dr. Frank Hadler, Centre for History and Culture of East Central Europe

transnational and cultural history of East-Central Europe since the 19th century, history of historiography, history of the Czechoslovak Republic Profile

Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell, Global and European Studies Institute

regimes of territorialization in a historical perspective, history of cultural encounters and cultural transfers, history of the humanities and social sciences under the global condition

Prof. Dr. Ursula Rao, Institute for Anthropology

urban citizenship and practises of transnationalism, e-governance, neoliberalism and the new welfare state in India

Prof. Dr. Stefan Troebst, Global and European Studies Institute, Centre for History and Culture of East Central Europe

European studies in a cultural-historical perspective, history of Eastern Europe and its international relations

Prof. Dr. Ute Wardenga, Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography

history of spatial practices and knowledge, 19th and 20th century history of geography, history of research and journeys and expeditions, histoire croisée Europe and other continents (currently: specially Africa)

Prof. Dr. Heidrun Zinecker, Institute for Political Science

violence, peace and conflict research, transformation research, development theories, Latin America

The board of the Graduate School currently consists of the following executive members:

Academic Events Committee

The academic events committee prepares the annual summer school, the academic programme of the winter closure and the workshop and conference series of the Graduate School.

Head of the committee

Prof. Dr. Frank Hadler, History of East-Central Europe

Prof. Dr. Stefan Troebst, Study of the Culture of East-Central Europe

Curriculum Committee

The curriculum committee discusses the development of the didactical concept and the selection of courses offered to the members of the Graduate School and reports on changes to be made to the board which will take decision.

Head of the committee

Prof. Dr. Ursula Rao, Anthropology

Prof. Dr. Heidrun Zinecker, Political Science

Finance Committee

The finance committee administrates the funding that is made available by the University via the Research Academy and it submits a proposal for priorities in funding to the board in case the applications for support from the Graduate School transcend the financial means of the school.

Head of the committee

Prof. Dr. Ulf Engel, African Studies

Selection Committee

The selection committee supervises the whole process of application and selection of PhD students, it helps candidates to find the appropriate supervision and reports to the board about the result of selection twice a year.

Head of the committee

Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell, Global Studies

Thesis Committee

The Thesis committee meets once a year with each Phd candidate and receives reports from both the supervisor and the student about the current status of the thesis, the achievements from the taught part of the programme and eventual obstacles to a completion of the dissertation on time.

Head of the committee

Prof. Dr. Ute Wardenga, Geography

Prof. Dr. Heidrun Zinecker, Political Science

Spokesperson of the Graduate School

Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell, Global Studies

Coordinator of the Graduate School

Dr. Martina Keilbach, Cultural Studies

PhD Representatives

The representation of the Graduate School consists of 3 to 4 speakers, elected by the PhD candidates for the period of one year. These represent the PhD candidates in the board of the Graduate School and in the PhD candidate representation of the Research Academy.

CONTACT

Coordinator

Dr. Martina Keilbach

www.uni-leipzig.de/ral/gchuman

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