

Call for Applications
Research Fellowships (China/Hong Kong/Taiwan) 2021/22

“Epochal life worlds:

Man, nature and technology in narratives of crisis and change”

Application deadline: January 24, 2021

Against a backdrop of global political power shifts and faced with the environmental crisis and social injustice, the Joint Center for Advanced Studies “Worldmaking from a Global Perspective: A Dialogue with China” explores existing notions of “world” and approaches to worldmaking from transnational and transcultural perspectives. The Center is jointly organized by researchers at universities in Berlin, Göttingen, Heidelberg, Munich, and Würzburg. It is funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

In order to promote knowledge exchange, dialogue, and cooperation between Chinese and German scholars, the Center has established a visiting fellowship program for researchers to visit the Center in Germany and a research fellowship program for researchers based at a German university to conduct fieldwork or archival work in China, Hong Kong or Taiwan.

The research fellowship program provides short-term stipends for researchers interested in conducting fieldwork or archival research abroad. Research fellows will be supported in carrying out their own research projects, preferably in cooperation with scholars at the Center’s partner institutions or in dialogue with the Center’s visiting fellows. They also will be given the opportunity to discuss their research during short-term stays at the Center. Both early career and senior researchers are eligible to apply.

Within the framework of the Center, the project **“Epochal Life Worlds: Man, nature and technology in narratives of crisis and change”**, located in Heidelberg (Prof. Dr. Barbara Mittler) and conducted in cooperation with the Carson Centre and LMU Munich, studies epoch-making moments of crisis, examining their emotional repercussions, their representation in the media and their institutional effects. The project investigates different narratives accompanying such periods of crisis of change—in the form of climate data and statistics on technical and demographic developments as well as in the form of cultural products such as music, film, literature, art and film. What effects do such epochal catastrophes have for concepts of worldmaking? Heidelberg University is looking for applications for fellowships with research topics that contribute to this broader question, addressing a relevant theme or sub-topic within this framework.

About the research fellowships:

This call invites applications for (tandem) research fellowships in 2021 or 2022 supporting fieldwork or archival research in China, Hong Kong or Taiwan as well as short-term stays at the Center’s locations in Germany.

For the research trip abroad, the Center will be able to grant up to three one-month stipends of € 4.000 (applications for shorter trips are also eligible) per year. The monthly stipend for stays at the Center's locations in Germany is € 2.000/month.

About the application:

(Tandem-)Fellowship applications are open to all outstanding early career and senior scholars based at German universities who might want to team up with Chinese colleagues for their project. The project **“Epochal life worlds: Man, nature and technology in narratives of crisis and change”** is open to all fields in the humanities and social sciences but particularly encourages applications from the following fields: history, literature, art history, cultural studies, anthropology, sociology, environmental humanities.

All applications should be submitted electronically **in one PDF-file** to: Ms. Susanne Ebermann: susanne.ebermann@fu-berlin.de

Application materials include:

- Letter of motivation
- Curriculum vitae including a list of publications
- Project outline (1 page)
- Preferred time and duration of your research stay

The diversity of our project should also be reflected in the fellowships. We therefore welcome applicants irrespective of their cultural and social background, age, religion, world view, disabilities or sexual identity.

Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee at the end of January. All applicants will be informed of the outcome of the selection process in February.

While we are still closely monitoring the ongoing implications of the coronavirus pandemic on the safety and mobility of people, we would like to pursue the fellowships as announced in this call.

In case of any questions, please contact Prof. Barbara Mittler (Barbara.mittler@zo.uni-heidelberg.de)