

Application

The PhD program HCS is admitting up to 10 doctoral students each year in the winter semester.

We usually publish a new call for applications in mid-September and the application deadline is in mid-November.

Applications can be submitted in German or English exclusively via the application platform of the Dahlem Research School.

Application documents

- Statement of motivation
- Dissertation proposal
- Curriculum Vitae
- One reference from a university professor/lecturer
- A work sample (e.g. from the Master's thesis)
- Copies of certificates: university entrance qualification; university degrees
- Language certificates for German and or English (one language at least at level C1, the other at least at level B2), unless these languages are your native languages.
- Depending on your chosen subject, further language certificates may be necessary. Please find out in advance whether you fulfil the foreign language requirements in your chosen subject as per the rules and regulations governing foreign language skills.

Funding

Where successful applicants do not bring their own funding, they will be supported in applying for scholarships.

Contact

Fachbereich Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften
Doctoral Studies Program History and Cultural Studies

Address

Koserstraße 20
14195 Berlin
Germany

Website

www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/hcs

E-Mail

hcs@geschkult.fu-berlin.de

Coordination

Franziska Lesák
+49 30 838 56667
franziska.lesak@fu-berlin.de



Doctoral Studies Program

History and Cultural Studies



Fachbereich
Geschichts- und
Kulturwissenschaften



Member of
**DAHLEM
RESEARCH
SCHOOL**

About HCS

The doctoral studies program offers doctoral candidates a curriculum-based program that promotes independent research work and is designed to enable the completion of the dissertation project within three years. The courses on offer are designed to ensure a balance between interdisciplinary and research related modules. The aim is to deepen the knowledge of scientific methods and to promote professional exchange in a research-rich environment. Courses are taught in English and German.

You can do your PhD in one of the subjects of history and cultural studies listed below:

- Egyptology
- Ancient Oriental Studies
- Arabic Studies
- Chinese Studies, Sinology
- History
- Didactics of History
- Iranian studies
- Islamic studies
- Japanese Studies
- Jewish Studies
- Classical Archaeology
- Korean Studies
- Art History of Europe and America, East Asia, Africa
- Prehistoric Archaeology
- Religious Studies
- Semitic Studies
- Turcology
- Near Eastern Archaeology

The disciplines represented in the HCS program work historically, dealing with material, visual and written cultures. They research antique cultures as well as the present, examining literatures, textual traditions, and languages in the Near and Middle East, different regions in East Asia, religions, and cults. The doctoral program brings these subjects together in the common interest of combining broad approaches of cultural studies with subject-specific knowledge and competence and of forming a practice of interdisciplinary work.

HCS considers both the tradition of *Kulturwissenschaften* taught in Germany and the Anglo-American cultural studies approach to (socio-)political questions. The program gives doctoral students the opportunity to develop and regularly discuss their own research on the basis of these discursive traditions. Participation in HCS requires both well-founded subject knowledge and a profound interest in theoretical and methodological issues on an interdisciplinary level.

The doctoral candidates are also members of the Dahlem Research School, whose aim is to provide them with soft skill courses in addition to their academic qualifications. These include project management, presentation techniques, and academic communication in German and English. The course on good scientific practice is obligatory for all doctoral candidates.

Location

The workspace for HCS doctoral students is located in the building Koserstraße 20, which also houses the joint library of History and Art History. The other institutes and the campus library are within walking distance at Fabeckstraße 23-25. The university library, the Botanical Gardens and the university canteen are close by, as are the Forschungscampus Dahlem, Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz (SPK), the Museum Europäischer Kulturen (MEK), the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (MPIWG) and the Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preußischer Kulturbesitz.

What We Offer

The Department of History and Cultural Studies is one of the largest departments at Freie Universität Berlin. With its 17 institutes, it is internationally oriented, and research focused. Here, you will find a unique spectrum of subjects in terms of content and methodological diversity, ranging in historical time from antiquity to the present and dealing with regions in East Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the Americas, and Europe.

The city of Berlin is a centre of science and scholarship. Numerous university and non-university research institutions are based here, and renowned museums, collections, archives, libraries, and rich cultural offerings provide an ideal environment for academic work.

The doctoral student is usually supervised by a team of two professors. At least one of them, the first supervisor, must be a member of the Department of History and Culture Studies to ensure intensive and optimal scientific advice and guidance.

In addition, research networks and projects at the department, at the Freie Universität and at other institutions in Berlin enable an intensive exchange on site as well as networking opportunities with international guest researchers.