

## The Graduate Centre

About us	Research	Graduate Programmes	Events	Support
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## International PhD Programme Literary and Cultural Studies

**IPP Application Form - Deadline: February 1, 2024 (Applications Closed)**



International PhD Programme  
Literary and Cultural Studies

The IPP offers a clearly structured and research-oriented three-year doctoral programme of high academic standards. Its curriculum, comprised of both academic and practical course offerings, is tailored to suit the needs of doctoral researchers. Participating departments include English and American Studies, German Studies, Romance Studies, Slavic Studies, Comparative Literary Studies and Theatre Studies. The languages of instruction are English and German.

Set in an intellectually stimulating and international context, the IPP provides ample opportunities for developing an academic profile and acquiring transferrable skills in close cooperation with the GGK/GCSC's Career Services and Teaching Centre. Extensive supervision and mentoring structures for German and international doctoral researchers will ensure that your time in the IPP is well spent!

### The programme:

- offers an international curriculum that integrates doctoral researchers into national and international academic communities.
- acquaints doctoral researchers with state-of-the-art theories, methodologies, approaches and concepts in the fields of literary and cultural studies.
- improves the quality of the dissertation while reducing the time needed to obtain the degree.
- encourages independent research from an early stage on (e.g. through international publications and conferences).
- provides ample opportunities to acquire academic and practical qualifications, such as systematic training in academic teaching, as well as other practical and professional skills, in cooperation with the GCSC, Teaching Centre and GGK/GCSC Career Services.

### Research profile:

In the thriving field of literary and cultural studies, the IPP is deeply committed to cutting-edge research in four key areas that illustrate the diversity of contemporary perspectives on and developments in the study of culture.

- **Literary and Cultural Theory, Models, Methodology and Terminology**

This area includes basic research in literary and cultural studies such as approaches in poetics, aesthetics, semiotics, discourse analysis, and hermeneutics, as well as in gender studies, postcolonial theory and narratology. Furthermore, key terms, theories, interpretive models and methodology are discussed here.

- **Genre Theory**

This area encompasses not only recent theories in literary genres and their demarcation but also cognitive, feminist and postcolonial approaches in narratology.

- **Literary and Cultural Historiography**

This area foregrounds diachronic perspectives in literary and cultural studies. It discusses and challenges categorisations and periodisation in literary and cultural historiography, as well as re-conceptualises selection criteria for canonisation processes.

- **Comparative and Interdisciplinary Issues**

This area revolves around comparative issues with special reference to memory studies. It also includes intermediality (such as the relationship between image and text or text and theatre stage). It is enhanced by key topics from literary and cultural studies such as identity and transculturality.

Do you want to know more about our research profile? [Take a look at the research projects of our current doctoral researchers!](#)

## IPP Curriculum:

An integral part of the IPP curriculum is the doctoral colloquium. Each year group meets for three or four times per semester for presentations and discussions of their work in progress. Each member of the IPP presents once a semester and receives feedback from the professors, the IPP coordinator, and her/his fellow colleagues.

Semester	Course	Type of Course	Aim
1 - 6	IPP Colloquium	Obligatory	To ensure steady progress towards the completion of the dissertation
	One workshop and/or master class	Obligatory	To work on specific topics in literary and cultural studies and to exchange ideas with distinguished scholars
	Section meeting (one of the <a href="#">GGK Sections</a> )	Obligatory	To read and discuss seminal texts in literary and cultural studies; to organize workshops or conferences
	IPP/GCSC keynote lectures	Strongly Encouraged	To learn more about current research, to stay informed about approaches other than your own, and to get in touch with renowned scholars
	<a href="#">GCSC Teaching Centre</a> workshops	Voluntary	To gain teaching skills

	<a href="#">GCSC Career Service workshops</a>	Voluntary	To gain professional qualifications
<b>1</b>	Core course	Obligatory	To decide the focus of the dissertation and to identify a methodological and theoretical framework
<b>3</b>	Intermediate course	Obligatory	To deal with compositional issues and to discuss specific questions concerning the dissertation
	One international summer school (see <a href="#">Multilateral Cooperation</a> )	Voluntary	To present research projects/academic papers in an excellent, international context
<b>5 / 6</b>	The PhD Defence Course	Voluntary (5) Obligatory(6)	To assist the doctoral researchers in getting prepared for the doctoral viva

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[Home](#) / [Graduate Programmes](#) / [IPP](#)

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