



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Doctorate

Understanding Written Artefacts



Universität Hamburg • Hamburg

Overview

Degree	Dr phil / Dr rer nat (depending on the discipline)
In cooperation with	Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing (Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung), German Electron Synchrotron (DESY Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron), Hamburg University of Technology (TU Hamburg), Helmut Schmidt University of the German Federal Army (Helmut-Schmidt-Universität der Bundeswehr), Institute of Information Systems at the University of Lübeck, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf (Universitätsklinikum Eppendorf)
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">English
Languages	All lectures, workshops and colloquia in the curriculum of the doctoral programme are held in English.
Programme duration	6 semesters
Beginning	Only for doctoral programmes: any time
Application deadline	New doctoral candidates are recruited through job postings at the "Understanding Written Artefacts" Cluster of Excellence. The individual application deadline for each doctoral position is announced in the posting: https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/about/vacant-positions.html
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	Yes
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	<p>The doctoral programme is part of the "Understanding Written Artefacts – Material, Interaction and Transmission in Manuscript Cultures" Cluster of Excellence, which seeks to develop a global framework for the study of all written artefacts from the beginning of writing to the present day and from all African, Asian and European regions that have produced such artefacts.</p> <p>Written artefacts are examined in an interdisciplinary setting of a broad range of subjects from the humanities, the natural sciences, computer science, and cognitive psychology (see list below).</p> <p>Research is organised thematically in eleven research fields:</p> <p>Artefact Profiling, Inscribing Spaces, Creating Originals, (Re-)Shaping Written Artefacts, Archiving Artefacts, Data Linking, Keeping Note(book)s, Exploring Multilingual Written Artefacts,</p>

as well as [six working groups](#):

The Palm-Leaf Manuscript Profiling Initiative; Theory and Terminology (TNT); Facing New Technologies (FNT); Asian Highland Manuscripts; Ethics Working Group; Permanent Seminar on Manuscript Analysis, Description, and Documentation

Participating disciplines include:

- African Languages and Linguistics
- Ancient History
- Archaeometry
- Art History
- Assyriology
- Austronesian Studies
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Classical Archaeology
- Computer Science
- Coptology
- Cultural Anthropology
- Ethiopian Studies
- Experimental Psychology
- Finno-Ugrian Studies
- German Language and Literature (Theatre Studies)
- Church History
- Indology/Southeast Asian Studies
- Iranian Studies
- Islamic Studies
- Japanese Studies
- Jewish Philosophy and Religion
- Medieval and Modern History
- Mineralogy
- Musicology
- Performance Studies
- Physics
- Radiology
- Sinology
- Southeast Asian History
- Tamil Studies
- Thai and Lao Studies
- Turkish Studies
- Vietnamese Studies
- Zoology

Course Details

Course organisation

For each candidate, the main focus of the doctoral project is the work on his or her individual research question, framed by one of the research fields of the Cluster of Excellence (see description in the "Description / content" section).

This individual project is accompanied by a variety of structured elements, the actual doctoral programme. It takes three years (six semesters) to complete, and it consists of the following:

- an introductory workshop
- two alternating series of lectures (on histories and typologies of written artefacts)
- comparative and methodological workshops
- the doctoral colloquium with own contributions in the first, fourth and sixth semester.

In addition, many talks, workshops, study days and conferences are organised at the CSMC and abroad, serving as platforms for scholarly and scientific exchange to researchers of all career stages: doctoral and postdoctoral researchers, professors, visiting fellows, etc.

International elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist literature in other languages • Courses are led with foreign partners • Projects with partners in Germany and abroad • International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context • Content-related regional focus
Teaching/work obligations or opportunities	<p>Doctoral candidates with positions in the Cluster work in a specific project and are part of the research field, with all activities involved.</p> <p>There is no teaching obligation.</p>
Special promotion / funding of the programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFG (e.g. Research Training Groups)
Course-specific, integrated German language courses	No
Course-specific, integrated English language courses	No

Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Semester contribution	There is a semester contribution of approx. 340 EUR per semester. This includes a semester ticket covering public transport in the Hamburg metropolitan area.
Costs of living	We recommend that single students budget at least 900 EUR per month to meet personal expenses (accommodation, living, health insurance, books).
Funding opportunities within the university	Yes
Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university	Doctoral candidates can enter our programme on working positions as Research Associates.

Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements	<p>Academic qualification</p> <p>Applicants must hold a degree (e.g. Master's degree, "Magister", "Diplom", state exam) from a university or equivalent higher education institution in one of the academic disciplines represented in the "Understanding Written Artefacts" Cluster. The performance in the subject that is to become the discipline of doctoral study has to be above average (at least "good" in the German system or</p>
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equivalent).

Only doctoral subjects from the Faculty of Humanities or the Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Natural Sciences at Universität Hamburg can be chosen.

Fast-track option

Exceptionally qualified applicants can enter the doctoral programme directly with only a Bachelor's degree (that is materially relevant to the dissertation project). The corresponding Master's degree and the doctoral degree are then pursued at the same time.

Language requirements	<p>We expect excellent skills in spoken and written English, as it is not only the working language at the research centre, but also the language in which the dissertation is written and defended. Applicants are therefore asked to provide appropriate evidence of their English language proficiency.</p> <p>The programme does not require any German skills. However, doctoral candidates are encouraged to participate in our free German course to make communication and interaction in their daily life in Hamburg easier.</p>
Application deadline	<p>New doctoral candidates are recruited through job postings at the "Understanding Written Artefacts" Cluster of Excellence. The individual application deadline for each doctoral position is announced in the posting: https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/about/vacant-positions.html</p>
Submit application to	<p>Doctoral positions in the Cluster are announced on our website.</p> <p>Candidates who would like to apply for the doctoral programme with their own funding (e.g. a scholarship) are asked to get in touch with the coordinator of the Graduate School for further information: merryl.rebello@uni-hamburg.de.</p>

Services

Accommodation	<p>Accommodation is available through the "Studierendenwerk" (student services) or on the private market. The "Studierendenwerk" provides rooms in halls of residence, most of which are single rooms with shared kitchens and showers/WCs. We strongly advise students and researchers to arrange accommodation prior to arriving in Hamburg, as demand for affordable accommodation is sometimes larger than supply.</p> <p>For more information on how to find accommodation and how to plan your first steps in Hamburg, please see: https://www.uni-hamburg.de/piasta/beratung/doc/willkommen.pdf.</p>
Structured research and supervision	Yes
Research training / discussion	Yes
Career advisory service	<p>Doctoral students benefit from soft skill trainings and mentoring schemes offered at the research centre.</p> <p>Individual consultations provide orientation and help doctoral students plan their careers, be it within academia or in other sectors.</p> <p>Career talks and workshops for developing professional skills are also available through the Hamburg Research Academy to doctoral and early career researchers.</p>

The university's [career centre](#) helps with checking application documents. It also organises events such as a career day and job fairs.

Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Specialist counselling

General services and support for international students and doctoral candidates

The [Department of International Affairs](#) offers comprehensive international student support. In addition to professional advising and counselling during all stages of the course of study, there is close cooperation with other advisory and counselling services at Universität Hamburg. International students will thus receive the necessary support and advice at any point during their studies.

Universität Hamburg's [Welcome Service](#) supports international researchers, including doctoral researchers, who wish to stay for at least one month at Universität Hamburg. The Welcome Service provides information, advice, and help with several administrative issues such as: entering Germany, health insurance, the housing search, dealing with authorities, and even looking for a suitable kindergarten.

Contact

Universität Hamburg

Cluster of Excellence "Understanding Written Artefacts"

Dr Meryll Rebello

Warburgstraße 26
21031 Hamburg

Tel. +49 40428389418

✉ meryll.rebello@uni-hamburg.de

🌐 Course website: <https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/study-at-csmc/dr-phil.html>

● https://twitter.com/csmc_hamburg

Last update 20.05.2024 19:20:10

International Programmes in Germany - Database

www.daad.de/international-programmes
www.daad.de/sommerkurse

Editor

DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e.V.
German Academic Exchange Service
Section K23 – Information on Studying in Germany
Kennedyallee 50
D-53175 Bonn
www.daad.de

GATE-Germany

Consortium for International Higher Education Marketing
www.gate-germany.de

Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

The publication is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and by contributions of the participating German institutions of higher education.



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research