PhD Program between the Freie Universität Berlin (FUB) and the China Scholarship Council (CSC)

Open PhD Position at Freie Universität Berlin, offered only to Chinese CSC scholarship candidates 2020

Please Note: this PhD position is only offered to Chinese PhD candidates for the application in the framework of the FUB-CSC PhD Program.

Department/Institute: Department of History and Cultural Studies; Department for Political and Social Science

Subject area: Islamic Studies, Arabic Studies, Social and Cultural Anthropology, History of Arts, History, Political Science, Semitic Studies, Human Geography

Name of Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Schirin Amir-Moazami; Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Dilger; Prof. Dr. Regula Forster; Prof. Dr. Ulrike Freitag; Prof. Dr. Beatrice Gründler, Prof. Dr. Cilja Harders; Prof. Dr. Konrad Hirschler; Prof. Dr. Gudrun Krämer; Prof. Dr. Birgit Krawietz; Prof. Dr. Kai Kresse; Prof. Dr. Margrit Pernau; PD Dr. Stefan Schütte; Prof. Dr. Wendy Shaw; Prof. Dr. Shabo Talay; PD Dr. Isabel Toral; Prof. Dr. Torsten Tschacher

Number of open PhD positions: 2
Type of the PhD Study: Full Time or Sandwich
Project title: Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies

PhD Project description:

The Graduate School is a joint project of Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient, which brings together scholars in the humanities, social sciences, and area studies. It investigates the plurality, changeability, and global connectedness of Muslim cultures and communities in the Middle East, Asia, Africa, Europe, and North America, with a focus on strategies of negotiating diversity, difference, and distinction, both among Muslims and between Muslims and non-Muslims. Our Graduate School offers a structured, research-oriented training programme based on the principle of discipline-based multidisciplinarity.

The Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies examines, in a systematic and comparative way, texts, objects, and practices variously understood as Islamic. Special attention is given to strategies of dealing with diversity, difference, and distinction, among Muslims as well as between Muslims and non-Muslims. This includes negotiating plurality
and pluralism, making our research programme deeply relevant to scholarly interests as well as pressing societal concerns in both Muslim and non-Muslim contexts. The area of study ranges from the Middle East, Africa, and Asia to Europe and North America.

**Language requirements:**

As **English** is the primary language of communication at BGSMCS, you are expected to have advanced English-language proficiency. Please hand in one of the following certificates as proof of proficiency in English:

- ETS TOEFL certificate (minimum score of 600 for the paper-based test, 250 for the computer-based test and 100 for the internet-based test)
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English, CPE (any grade)
- Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English, CAE (grade A or B)
- IELTS test (level 7.0)

In addition, we ask you to list the **language(s) relevant to your dissertation project** (e.g. Arabic, Turkish, Urdu etc.). As proof of your proficiency, you may hand in a transcript of records from your university, a certificate from a language school or the like.

**Academic requirements:**

The formal prerequisite for application to the programme is a university honours degree reflecting a level of attainment that is above average (typically an M.A., or diploma degree, with a grade of “very good”; with ranking, where applicable). A Bachelor’s degree is not sufficient. The degree should be in one of the disciplines represented at the Graduate School (Arabic Studies, Art History, Central Asian Studies, History, Human Geography, Islamic Studies, Political Science, Semitic Studies, Social and Cultural Anthropology, South Asian Studies, Southeast Asian Studies, Southeast European History, and Turkic Studies). Candidates are expected to submit an outline of their proposed dissertation project (maximum 6 pages, with a summary of no more than half a page), to include a short description of the topic, the current state of research, and its theoretical and methodological orientation, as well as a preliminary work schedule and an indication of whether the work is to be conducted via archival or field research.

As English will be the primary language of communication, students are expected to have advanced English-language proficiency. In addition, students must demonstrate proficiency in the language(s) relevant to their projects. It is assumed that language skills can be improved over the course of the doctoral programme.

**Information of the professor or research group leader (website, awards etc.):**

**Director:** Prof. Dr. Konrad Hirschler, Islamic Studies

([https://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/en/e/islamwiss/staff/Professors/Hirschler/index.html](https://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/en/e/islamwiss/staff/Professors/Hirschler/index.html))
Vice Director: Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Dilger, Social and Cultural Anthropology

Further Principal Investigators: Prof. Dr. Schirin Amir-Moazami (Islamic Studies, Social Sciences); Prof. Dr. Regula Forster (Arabic Studies); Prof. Dr. Ulrike Freitag (Islamic Studies, History); Prof. Dr. Beatrice Gründler (Arabic Studies); Prof. Dr. Cilja Harders (Political Science); Prof. Dr. Kai Kresse (Social and Cultural Anthropology; Prof. Dr. Margrit Pernau (History); PD Dr. Stefan Schütte (Human Geography); Prof. Dr. Wendy Shaw (Art History); Prof. Dr. Shabo Talay (Semitic Studies); PD Dr. Isabel Toral (Arabic Studies); Prof. Dr. Torsten Tschacher (Islamic Studies)


Please Note: In a first step, the complete application should be submitted to csc@international.fu-berlin.de for evaluation by January 4th, 2020. Please do not contact the professor before. He/she will get in contact with you after having received the complete application via the Beijing Office in January.