

Doctoral School of
philological and cultural
studies: PhilCult

Since 1.1.2024!!!

Restructured Doctoral Programme

The doctoral students

- receive **subject-specific supervision** from leading researchers within the framework of **independently working sections** (disciplinary, thematically and/or regionally orientated sections),
- are involved in **attractive and innovative research areas and projects,**
- and benefit from a **variety of programmes that they can co-develop.**

12 Sections

1. Knowledge, Literature and Media
2. Language Variation, Language Change, Language Contact
3. Digital Humanities & Quantitative Methods
4. Middle Ages and Early Modern Age
5. Theoretical and Comparative Linguistics
6. Globale Entanglements: Frictions and Negotiations
7. Aesthetics of the social and political Imaginary
8. Linguistic, literary and cultural Learning
9. Manuscript Cultures
10. Language, Culture, and Society
11. Musicology, Theatre, and Performance Studies
12. Translation Studies

Size of the Sections

- Between 15 and approx. 30 doctoral students, 10-15 supervisors
- Evaluation after 3 years

Goals

- Formation of thematic clusters, intensified networking and exchange
- Increased peer group formation for doctoral students
- Targeted specialised supervision and academic work opportunities
- Financial support for doctoral students
- Shorter TTF and TTD (Time To Finish/Defend)
- Shorter duration of studies and higher graduation rates
- Targeted support for further career development
- High international visibility and attractiveness of the DS PhilCult

Measurements

- Comprehensive initiatives (mentoring programmes, FÖP preparation courses, onboarding events)
- Events organised by the doctoral candidates or sections themselves (e.g. workshops, guest lectures, lecture series)
- Attractive teaching opportunities via dissertation seminars assigned by the sections themselves
- Closer supervision through the collaboration of several sections
- Data steward supervision
- Dies Doctoralis every two months
- Annual TACs (Thesis Advisory Committees)
- Targeted branding and advertising
- Transparent communication (Doc-Newsletter, PhilCult-Homepage)

Organisational structure I

Management team:

- Spokesperson plus two deputy spokespersons (DSPL and 2 vice-DSPL)
- three spokespersons of the individual sections
- three student representatives
- plus faculty management and coordinator as advisory members

Organisational structure II

Spokespersons of the sections:

Each section has a spokesperson and a vice-spokesperson, who

- are elected for 2 years from the group of supervisors of a respective section
- autonomously manage the budget of the section
- are bound by the budget guidelines approved by the management team when allocating funds
- report to the management of the DS

Organisational structure III

- **General Assembly** (management team, all participating authorised supervisors and all participating students, annually)
- **Advisory Board** (five external experts, nominated by the management team for 4 years, evaluation process)
- **Scholarship Committee** (competitive principle; application twice a year: wrap-up scholarships, longer research stays, award ceremonies)

Quality Control

- Reports from the sections, once a year (assessment of participation and offers, etc.)
- Progress reports from the doctoral students, once a year
- Binding overall evaluation after 3 years: by the Advisory Board based on the reports of the sections and DS management

Internal Allocation of Funds

Decentralised allocation of funds by the sections, upon application by the doctoral students (guest lecture funds, travel funds, etc.) and on the basis of the binding budget guidelines of the DS:

- Support for formats organised by students themselves, such as guest lectures, conference and archive trips, conference organization
- Amount depends on the number of registered doctoral students; distribution per capita of students to the sections

Funds

- Central funds (FÖPs, FÖP preparatory courses, advertising strategy, homepage, as well as larger posts that directly benefit doctoral students such as graduation scholarships, publication funding, prizes, longer stays abroad, panel discussions, onboard meet-up).
- Funds for doctoral students (per capita) for travelling, attending conferences, inviting guests, etc., spent by the individual sections

Qualification/Teaching Programme

- Interdisciplinary diss. seminars (8 ECTS each); NEW: The sections offer targeted courses for their own area on proposal (course planning: DSPL; clarify distribution list with SPL)
- International conference organisation and participation (8 ECTS)
- Excursions/summer schools/workshops (8 ECTS)
- Dies doctoralis
- **Thesis Advisory Committees** - TACs (2 TACs in the course of the programme)
- The sections organise a presentation meeting once a year (for all fellows including supervisors and advisors): Presentation of the dissertation projects

Contents/Services of the programme

- Welcome and presentation events for new fellows (onboarding meet-up)
- Award ceremonies
- Mentoring programme (including writing training, methodology training, FÖP preparation course)
- Lecture series, retreats, stays abroad, summer schools, international conference organisation
- Workshops, guest lectures, panel discussions
- Translations, professional editing

Target group

- Participation is voluntary for doctoral students and supervisors. The Doc-School is inclusive and open to all doctoral students.
- All courses, activities and discussion events are open to all doctoral students of the Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies (subject to availability).
- The activities associated with costs such as retreats etc. are only intended for Fellows of the DS. Financial support via the DS is only available to affiliated fellows of the DS.
- Guest status for doctoral students from other faculties who wish to take part in activities.

Admission

- Admission is possible for all admitted and enrolled doctoral students. But: Application for funding only from FÖP or for employees (please note: here as well, funding only for FÖP in standard period, e. g. 13 months).
- Admission is possible at any time, no deadlines.
- Students decide which section they belong to in consultation with their supervisors and with the agreement of the section spokespersons.

Current Status

- A total of 287 doctoral students; approx. 120 supervisors
- Founding contract has been available since last week (essentially corresponds to PhilCult's application, very generous allocation of funds)
- Official start 1.1.24; now it's time to get to work:
- Constitute governing body: 20.3.2024

Current Status II

- **Start the sections** (meeting for section spokespersons before Easter, online, concrete allocation of funds)
- Fill coordination position (numerous good applications, selection in progress)
- Set up cost unit
- **Kick-off event: 21 May 2024 from 5.30 pm, Sky Lounge** (in the presence of VR Manuela Baccarini)

Current Status III

- **Start of the allocation of funds** (prerequisite: approval of the budget guideline)
- **Budget guideline:** All information is subject to the decision of the management committee and approval by the Rectorate!
- Also use other funding opportunities - **avoid double funding!!!!!!**
- For example, you can find all funding opportunities for doctoral students to study abroad at the following link: <https://grants.at/de/>

1. Graduation Scholarship

- For the completion of the dissertation.
- The scholarship amounts to 1,050 euros per month. The duration of the scholarship is up to six months.
- **A call for applications is issued twice a year via the management team.**
- **Submission deadlines: 31st of May and 30th of September** (transitional regulation in calendar year 2024).

2. Travel grant

- Travel subsidies (for travel expenses, accommodation, conference fees, etc.).
- **Max. 300 euros** for destinations up to 750 km away, **max. 600 euros** for destinations further than 750 km away.
- **Applications are submitted twice a year via the section spokespersons** (submission deadlines 31st of May and 30th of September).

3. Support of Stays abroad at Partner Universities

- Support for costs such as travel, accommodation and local travel.
- Maximum of three months; **per month** a lump-sum support of max. 1000 euros (i.e. a maximum total of 3000 euros).
- **Call for applications is issued twice a year by the management team.**

4. Event Funding

- Financing of lecture invitations, workshops, lecture series, smaller conferences: Covering travel and accommodation costs for guest speakers, material resources.
- **Application for funding of less than € 1,500 on an ongoing basis** via the section spokespersons (small conferences, workshops, guest lectures, etc.).
- **Applications for funding of € 1,500 or more are submitted twice a year** via the management team of the Doctoral School PhilCult (large events, conferences, retreats, etc.), whereby the amount exceeding € 1,500 is taken from central funds.

5. Acquisition of Research Materials

- Funding for materials required for writing the dissertation (e.g. digital copies, reproduction costs, funds for data collection, archive costs, interviews).
- Funding amount: max. 400 euros.
- **Applications can be submitted on an ongoing basis via the section spokespersons.** The costs of research materials can only be approved once per year.

6. Publication Funding

- Proofreading of texts, image rights or printing costs for publications in peer-reviewed journals and anthologies.
- Form of funding: Grant for publication funding (one-off during membership of the Doctoral School PhilCult).
- Funding amount: max. 500 euros.

7. Awards

- Honouring outstanding graduates.
- Funding amount: 2000 euros, max. 3 awards.
- Time frame: The award decision is made by a selection committee.

Homepage

<https://ds-philkult.univie.ac.at/>