APPLICATION

The GPTS welcomes applicants with an excellent qualification in the humanities or social sciences. The proposed doctoral project should approach aspects of transculturality between Asia and Europe in an interdisciplinary manner.

Applicants holding an above average Master’s Degree in a discipline of the humanities or social sciences may submit a letter of intent, a CV, a project proposal, proof of previous degrees, and two references through the online application system.

After a first evaluation, the selection committee invites the most promising applicants to Heidelberg for a project presentation and individual interviews.

The GPTS welcomes applications for doctoral positions until March 15th every year. The programme starts on October 1st.

CONTACT

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Cover pictures by Signe Mähler
OVERVIEW

The Graduate Programme for Transcultural Studies (GPTS) is the structured doctoral programme of the Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context” at Heidelberg University. In line with the Cluster’s research profile the programme focuses on the dynamics of cultural exchange processes between and within Asia and Europe.

As part of a vibrant international scholarly community of about 200 researchers, the GPTS provides an excellent research environment for young scholars. It combines the European model of highly individualised doctoral studies with a tailored course curriculum. Moreover, students receive a monthly scholarship, travel allowance, and administrative support.

The GPTS offers a three-year programme beginning every winter semester. In the first and third year, students attend research colloquia, reading courses and workshops such as academic writing in English and project management. The second year is mainly dedicated to field and archival research.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The GPTS provides a study and research environment of intensive interdisciplinary exchange with senior scholars, mentors and peers. It fosters highly innovative research, dealing with the dynamics of transcultural entanglements between Asia and Europe. About half of all doctoral students come from Asian countries. Doctoral students benefit from a wide range of resources and services:

- comprehensive training in theories and methods relevant for a transcultural approach;
- discussions of projects with supervisors, peers and researchers of the Cluster;
- international network with partner universities in Asia, Europe and the US;
- careers advice and guidance for careers within and beyond academia;
- monthly scholarship, support for conference travels and research trips;
- individual working space and equipment.

DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Lisette Schouten graduated in History from Leiden University in the Nethelands. She works on War Crimes Trials in Indonesia after 1945. The project analyses their impact on decolonization and transnational legal debates by focusing on ‘legal flows’ between Europe and Asia.

Hasan Ashraf studied and taught Anthropology at Jahangirnagar University in Bangladesh. His project’s objective is to understand how industrialisation influences the way of life of women working in the ready-made garment industries in Bangladesh.

Roberta Tontini studied Sinology at the Universities of Rome (Italy) and Xiamen (China). In her doctoral project she focuses on Islam in China. She examines Chinese texts that often describe Islamic issues from a neo-Confucian perspective.

Ievgeniia Bogdanova studied Japanese Studies and Art History in Kiev (Ukraine), Kyoto (Japan), and Heidelberg (Germany). Her project deals with Japanese avant-garde painting. She investigates the encounters of Japanese calligraphers and Euroamerican abstract artists in the 1950-60s.