Core Research at the Faculty of Humanities
The Eberhard Karls University Tübingen is one of Germany’s oldest universities, with a history extending over 500 years. For centuries, it has been writing intellectual history. Since its foundation in 1477, great figures in the history of ideas have left their mark on the university, among them Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, Friedrich Hölderlin and Friedrich Schelling.

Today, Tübingen remains a city of research and education. Almost 5000 academics currently teach and do research at the university’s seven faculties. The Faculty of Humanities encompasses 28 different institutes and sections including a wide range of disciplines from History to Philosophy, from Modern Languages to Archeology, from Asian Studies to Musicology.

The international reputation of the Eberhard Karls University is based to a large extent on its Humanities. Internationally, Tübingen has been and continues to be associated with the work of top researchers in all areas of the Humanities and Cultural Sciences. Rankings for individual disciplines as well as for the Faculty as a whole show that it is among the five strongest research centers in Germany in this area. Witness to this is the large number of third party funded large research projects, among them several Collaborative Research Centers, Research Training Groups and Advanced Research Centers funded by the German Research Foundation. Yet, the strength and relevance of the research in the Humanities in Tübingen is also due to the diversity of the research carried out by every single researcher. Thus, high-ranking publications are an equally important pillar of the excellent research record of our Faculty.

The Faculty’s disciplines cover nearly the entire spectrum of research areas in the Humanities, both with regard to the geographical regions covered as well as the variety of methodological approaches employed. The members of our Faculty are doing fundamental research in the areas of History, Philosophy, Philology and Linguistics. They analyze culture and societies of past and present in Europe, Near and Far Asia and both Americas. They often work at the interface of Humanities and Social Sciences, with an increasing interest in the border between the Humanities and Sciences.

Research benefits from encounters. The Faculty of Humanities and its departments collaborate closely with research institutions and universities all over the world. We welcome many guest professors, international research fellows or postdocs within the Teach@Tuebingen program.

With this brochure, we want to give you a survey of the diversity and quality of the research in the Humanities and Cultural Sciences at the Eberhard Karls University Tübingen. We hope that it will arouse your interest in scientific exchange and a deepened cooperation with our faculty and researchers.

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Leonhardt
(Dean)

Prof. Dr. Sebastian Schmidt-Hofner
(Vice-Dean of Research)
CONTENTS

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 9

RESEARCH FOCI
ARCHEOLOGY 10
ARTS, CULTURE AND LITERATURE 12
ASIAN STUDIES 14
HISTORY 16
LANGUAGE AND COGNITION 18

CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE
MACHINE LEARNING: NEW PERSPECTIVES FOR SCIENCE 20

GRADUATE SCHOOL AND RESEARCH NETWORK
LEAD 21

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTERS (CRC)
CRC 833: THE CONSTRUCTION OF MEANING 22
CRC 923 THREATENED ORDER. SOCIETIES UNDER STRESS 24
CRC 1070: RESOURCE CULTURES 26
CRC 1391: DIFFERENT AESTHETICS 28

CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES
WORDS, BONES, GENES, TOOLS 30
MIGRATION AND MOBILITY IN LATE ANTIQUITY AND THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES 31

RESEARCH TRAINING GROUPS
RTG 1662: RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE IN PRE-MODERN EUROPE 32
RTG 1808: AMBIGUITY - PRODUCTION AND PERCEPTION 33
CULTURE AND CONFLICT 34
THEORIES OF BALANCE 35
ENTANGLED TEMPORALITIES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH 35
ADDITIONAL LARGE SCALE PROJECTS

CLARIN 36
COST ACTION 15101: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF CONSPIRACY THEORIES 37
TÜBINGEN INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTRE FOR GLOBAL SOUTH STUDIES 38
PRIORITY PROGRAM 1727: XPRAG.DE (EXPERIMENTAL PRAGMATICS) 39

PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE HEIDELBERG ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

THE TEMPLE AS THE CANON OF EGYPTIAN RELIGIOUS LITERATURE 40
CHRONOGRAPHIA OF JOHN MALALAS 41

ERC GRANTS

CROSSLINGERENCE: CROSS-LINGUISTIC STATISTICAL INFERENCE USING HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODELS 42
WIDE INCREMENTAL LEARNING WITH DISCRIMINATION NETWORKS 43
POPULISM AND CONSPIRACY THEORY 44

EMMY NOETHER PROGRAM

RESEARCH COOPERATION WITH EAST ASIA
TÜBINGEN CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES IN KYOTO 48
EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR CHINESE STUDIES 49
TÜBINGEN CENTER FOR KOREAN STUDIES AT KOREA UNIVERSITY 50
EUROPEAN RESEARCH CENTER ON CONTEMPORARY TAIWAN 51

SELECTED MONOGRAPHS

RESEARCH TOPICS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT 1: ARTS AND ANCIENT STUDIES 56
DEPARTMENT 2: ORIENTAL AND ASIAN STUDIES (AOI) 60
DEPARTMENT 3: HISTORY 62
DEPARTMENT 4: MODERN LANGUAGES 64
DEPARTMENT 5: PHILOSOPHY, RHETORIC, MEDIA STUDIES 67
The historic building of the Hohentübingen Castle houses the unique cluster of archeological disciplines at the University of Tübingen. Archeology at Tübingen covers the complete temporal range from the paleolithic to the medieval period and encompasses several world regions: The Institute for Ancient Near Eastern Studies (IANES) including sections in Egyptology, Ancient Near Eastern Philology and Near Eastern Archeology, the Institute of Prehistory, Early History and Medieval Archeology, as well as the Institute of Classical Archeology. All these institutes boast excellent libraries and outstanding collections, which are part of the Museum of the University of Tübingen. In particular, it is home to Tübingen’s important Antiquities collection, as well as its teaching, numismatic, and academic replica collections. The numismatic collection of the Institute for Classical Archeology is among the largest and most significant collections held by a university in Germany.

In Tübingen, researchers use a broad variety of methodologies from the Humanities and Natural Sciences to understand the Prehistoric and Ancient Period. The Tübingen Inter-Faculty Center for Archeology brings together scholars from the IANES and the Institute of Scientific Archeology including Archeobotanics, Archeobiology, Geoarcheology and Paleoanthropology. The chair of Archeometry, being part of the Faculty of Humanities, plays also an important role at the interface between Humanities and Natural Sciences. The Curt-Engelhorn-Centre for Archeometry delivers, in its capacity as a close cooperator with the University of Tübingen, important contributions to archeological research, such as through analysis of materials.

The Collaborative Research Center (CRC) 1070 “Resource Cultures” (p. 26-27) investigates the importance and use of resources for the development of human society from prehistory until the modern age. Archeologists, anthropologists, geographers, historians, philologists, and economic historians work together to answer the question of how something becomes a “resource” for societal developments, and what the social dynamics caused by the use of this resource are. The CRC takes as a starting point the observation that societies from different times and places created their own differing views about what they considered to hold particular value for group life.

The sizeable quantities of text from the Greco-Roman temples of Egypt, which can be thought of as “Stone Libraries” are the subject of inquiry for the project “The Temple as the Canon of Egyptian Religious Literature” (p. 40) funded by the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences and Humanities.
In recent times, international interconnectedness has been increasing steadily in all areas of life. Concepts of strict borders between nations, cultures and academic disciplines become less meaningful. The research at the Faculty of Humanities in the areas of arts, cultures and literatures reflect this transition through a high degree of interdisciplinarity and internationality. Literary and Cultural Studies are one of the profile areas of the University of Tübingen.

One of the trademarks is Tübingen’s excellent training in the area of languages, which enables to work closely with original texts and sources. The Faculty of Humanities is proud of offering training and expertise in an unusually broad spectrum of languages. In addition to almost all European languages, we offer Arabic, Malayalam, Sanskrit and East Asian languages.

To complement this expertise, the Faculty and the departments closely cooperate with renowned universities and partners all over the world. The Interdisciplinary Centre for Global South Studies (p. 38) brings together “Global South Universities” (UFF, Brazil; UNAM, Mexico; Wits, South Africa; UCAD, Senegal; JNU, India) with scholars from other universities in the southern hemisphere and beyond (UWA, Australia; SNU, Korea). It also integrates a PhD network exploring literary manifestations of those ‘lateral’ south-south cultural connections (p. 35).

The recently established Collaborative Research Centre (CRC) 1391 “Different Aesthetics” (p. 28-29) examines texts, images and objects from pre-modern Europe and asks for their aesthetic status. The aim is to rediscuss the contribution of 2000 years of cultural history before the eighteenth century to form a better understanding of the aesthetic and of current debates on art and society. To this end, a wide range of disciplines from archaeology, art history, musicology, classical and modern languages, history, and theology work together in a broad interdisciplinary approach.

The recently established Collaborative Research Group (RTG) 1808 “Ambiguity – Production and Perception” (p. 33) explores in literary and language studies as well as rhetoric collaborate with linguists to understand ambiguity in language. It combines diverse research approaches surrounding language in order to understand why communication is possible despite, or perhaps even due to, ambiguity, why it fails in some cases, and what the effects produced by ambiguity are.

Included in the efforts of the Faculty of Humanities to cross academic boundaries is the Poetry Lectureship and the Media Lectureship, which strengthen the relationship between the university and the interested public. Every year, exceptional authors and journalists from Germany and abroad are invited to Tübingen to give lectures and workshops. They create forums for cultural exchange including students, lecturers, university staff, and the civic society from Tübingen and surrounding area.

Within the Research Training Group (RTG) 1808 “Ambiguity – Production and Perception” (p. 33) experts in literary and language studies as well as rhetoric collaborate with linguists to understand ambiguity in language. It combines diverse research approaches surrounding language in order to understand why communication is possible despite, or perhaps even due to, ambiguity, why it fails in some cases, and what the effects produced by ambiguity are.

Included in the efforts of the Faculty of Humanities to cross academic boundaries is the Poetry Lectureship and the Media Lectureship, which strengthen the relationship between the university and the interested public. Every year, exceptional authors and journalists from Germany and abroad are invited to Tübingen to give lectures and workshops. They create forums for cultural exchange including students, lecturers, university staff, and the civic society from Tübingen and surrounding area.

Students are able to study a wide variety of languages including Chinese and Malayalam. In addition to teaching languages, the researchers deal with contemporary and historical realities of the area. Their interdisciplinary and inter-regional research focuses especially on religious questions, intellectual history, culture and society, as well as politics and economics. The section for Cultural Anthropology specializes on Indian culture and religion. Scholars of Chinese and Korean Studies also contribute to the Interdisciplinary Center for Global South studies (p. 38) enabling intercontinental comparisons of global processes in literature, culture and societies.

The departments and sections of the AOI cultivate many liaisons with research institutions and universities of the region. To enable continuous and long-term exchange in teaching and research, the University of Tübingen has its own branch offices in Asia. For more than twenty-five years, the Tübingen Center for Japanese Studies (TCJS, p. 48) at the Doshisha University in Kyoto fosters collaboration between both institutions and countries. In 2019, the Doshisha University established its EU-Campus at the University of Tübingen.

Since 2001, the University of Tübingen has been a leading force behind the European Center for Chinese Studies at Peking University (ECCS) (p. 49). In 2010, Tübingen’s third office in East Asia, the Tübingen Center for Korean Studies (TUCKU, p. 50), was opened at the Korea University in Seoul. These three centers facilitate contact between Tübingen and East Asia, not just for the Faculty of Humanities, but for the University as a whole. They function as a locus of cultural and scientific exchange and collaboration with scholars from the countries in which they are located.

Students especially benefit from these close contacts. Bachelor students of Asian languages stay for up to one year at these branches as an integral part of their study program. With Seoul National University, the university also awards a double degree Master in Korean European Studies (MAKES). In addition, the University of Tübingen offers a B.A. program in “China Studies and Chinese Language” recognized by the Ministry of Education as a teacher-training program. Since 2019, Chinese PhD Students can apply for a scholarship of the China Scholarship Council (CSC) to do their PhD full-time or partly at the University of Tübingen.

Taiwan constitutes a further central research area for the University of Tübingen. The European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan (ERCCT, p. 51), a joint project between the University of Tübingen and the Taiwanese Chiang Ching-kuo foundation for scholarly research, consolidates European expertise on the study of Taiwan in Tübingen.

ASIAN STUDIES
A BRIDGE TO THE NEAR, MIDDLE, AND FAR EAST

B.A. program in “China Studies and Chinese Language” recognized by the Ministry of Education as a teacher-training program. Since 2019, Chinese PhD Students can apply for a scholarship of the China Scholarship Council (CSC) to do their PhD full-time or partly at the University of Tübingen.

Taiwan constitutes a further central research area for the University of Tübingen. The European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan (ERCCT, p. 51), a joint project between the University of Tübingen and the Taiwanese Chiang Ching-kuo foundation for scholarly research, consolidates European expertise on the study of Taiwan in Tübingen.

Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies (AOI)
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/1691

Tübingen Center for Japanese Studies (TCJS)
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/6237

European Center for Chinese Studies (ECCS)
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/21860

Tübingen Center for Korean Studies (TUCKU)
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/22463

European Research Center on Contemporary Taiwan (ERCCT)
www.ercct.uni-tuebingen.de
What are the foundations of European culture? How can we conceptualize the transitions from antiquity to the modern and contemporary era? Where are entanglements between regional, national, European, and global history? In order to better understand these fundamental questions, Tübingen’s historians trace the progression from the Greco-Roman antiquity through the European middle ages into the age of the nation-states until the present day societies of Eastern and Western Europe and North America.

Historical research at Tübingen encourages approaches transgressing periodical, disciplinary, and national borders. Scholars specializing in all historical periods – from Ancient Rome to contemporary Russia – are working together on several projects. In the Collaborative Research Center (CRC) 923 “Threatened Orders. Societies under Stress” (p. 24-25), they focus on situations of change, such as revolutions, phases of forced change, or natural catastrophes: How do these things affect the development of a society? How does social order change in reaction to them? Case studies cover relevant phenomena from late antiquity to contemporary societies in many areas of the world.

At the same time, historical research in Tübingen tries to blur boundaries between the transitional phases between antiquity and the middle ages as well as the middle ages and modernity. The Centre for Advanced Studies “Migration and Mobility in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages” (p. 31) brings together researchers from Tübingen and international fellows to analyze the social, economic and ethnic dimension of migration from the 3rd to the 9th Century CE. An Emmy Noether Research Group is working about power and influence on Emperors in late antiquity and the Middle Ages (p. 46). Finally, a long-term project funded by the Heidelberg Acade- my of Sciences and Humanities is dedicated to the writing of histories in the late antique and early middle ages (p. 41).

Historians in Tübingen appreciate interdisciplinary exchanges. They collaborate closely with adjacent disciplines like archeology, art history, sociology, political science, cultural anthropology, the different area studies, or computer science. They also take an active part in the CRC 1070 “Resource Cultures” (p. 26-27) and CRC 1391 “Different Aesthetics” (p. 28-29).

Finally, historians in Tübingen think globally. They are especially interested in the entanglement of global, transnational, and transregional perspectives. Beyond Germany and Western Europe, the researchers focus on the History of Northern America, Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet region as well as the Near-Eastern and Mediterranean Area. The Institute for Central and Eastern European History is complemented by the affiliated Center for Research on German History and Culture in Southeastern Europe. Within the Interdisciplinary Centre for Global South Studies, they work, for example, on traces of colonial heritage.

Consequently, the Department of History has strong relationships with research institutions and universities in Europe and worldwide. It closely collaborates with Aix-Marseille University and offers a French-German dual degree Bachelor and Master program.

Finally, historians in Tübingen think globally. They are especially interested in the entanglement of global, transnational, and transregional perspectives. Beyond Germany and Western Europe, the researchers focus on the History of Northern America, Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet region as well as the Near-Eastern and Mediterranean Area. The Institute for Central and Eastern European History is complemented by the affiliated Center for Research on German History and Culture in Southeastern Europe. Within the Interdisciplinary Centre for Global South Studies, they work, for example, on traces of colonial heritage.

Consequently, the Department of History has strong relationships with research institutions and universities in Europe and worldwide. It closely collaborates with Aix-Marseille University and offers a French-German dual degree Bachelor and Master program.
Humans learn to speak their native language effortlessly, and are able to use language in all kinds of contexts – yet, the complex processes involved are poorly understood. At the Tübingen Center for Linguistics (TüZLi), scholars take an interdisciplinary approach to the study of language, its interpretation, development, and processing.

A guiding idea behind TüZLi is the development of an integrative perspective on language as both a natural and cultural phenomenon. This perspective joins linguistic analysis with research in cognitive and natural sciences on the biological foundations of language on the one hand with approaches from the cultural sciences on the interaction of human language and culture on the other. With this, the center creates a bridge between the Humanities and the Sciences, serving as a platform to coordinate the rich variety of linguistic research in Tübingen.

The Collaborative Research Center (CRC) 833 “The Construction of Meaning - the Dynamics and Adaptivity of Linguistic Structures” (p. 22-23) investigates the emergence of meaning, in linguistic and extra-linguistic context, during language processing and in the specific circumstances of an individual language variety. The joint research group comprises linguists – general linguists, computer linguists and specialists in individual languages – and cognitive scientists, psychologists and neuroscientists.

In the Research Training Group (RTG) 1808 “Ambiguity – Production and Perception” (p. 33), scholars of a wide range of disciplines investigate ambiguity in language. It combines diverse research approaches surrounding language in order to understand why communication is possible despite, or perhaps even due to ambiguity, why it fails in some cases, and what the effects produced by ambiguity are.

The project “CrossLingference – Cross-linguistic statistical inference using Hierarchical Bayesian models” is funded for five years by an ERC Advanced Grant (p. 42). It brings together typological research and research from computational historical linguistics. Another ERC Advanced Grant project, “Wide Incremental learning with Discrimination Networks” (WIDE), elucidates our understanding of how we produce and understand words in everyday speech (p. 43).

The Collaborative Research Center “CrossLingference – Cross-linguistic statistical inference using Hierarchical Bayesian models” is funded for five years by an ERC Advanced Grant. It brings together typological research and research from computational historical linguistics. Another ERC Advanced Grant project, “Wide Incremental learning with Discrimination Networks” (WIDE), elucidates our understanding of how we produce and understand words in everyday speech. Within the Center for Advanced Studies “Words, Bones, Genes, Tools”, linguists collaborate with archaeologists and geneticists to study early stages of humanity (p. 30). The next generation of excellent linguists work in the Emmy-Noether Groups “The Language Dynamics of the Ancient Central Andes” and “Modal systems in historical Slavic languages” (p. 47) treating questions of historical linguistics.

Exploring the recent field of Experimental Pragmatics is the goal of the Priority Program XPrag (p. 39). Experts in linguistics, philosophy, psychology, and neuroscience in several German universities simultaneously formulating formally explicit models of the cognitive mechanisms underlying pragmatics and testing these models using experimental methods.

Linguists also contribute to the Excellence Cluster “Machine Learning”, employing machine learning to develop tools for language learning and linguistic analysis (p. 20), as well as to the LEAD research network (p. 21).
The Cluster of Excellence “Machine Learning: New Perspectives for Science” is one of the latest additions to the scientific landscape of the University of Tübingen. It is the result of the cooperation between the University of Tübingen, the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems (MPIIS) and the Leibniz-Institut für Wissensmedien (IWM). The cluster is part of the most influential line of funding by the German Research Foundation with a runtime of 7 years, starting in 2019. The cluster’s aim is to enable machine learning to take a central role in all aspects of scientific discovery and to understand how such a transformation will impact the scientific approach as a whole.

The cluster’s diverse team of principal investigators consists of researchers in machine learning and its applications in various disciplines, including medicine, neuroscience, bioinformatics, vision, cognitive science, physics, geosceince, linguistics, and social science, as well as experts in philosophy and ethics. The cluster is based upon the internationally renowned strength of Tübingen as a hub for machine learning as well as on the established excellence in the contributing scientific fields.

One of the cluster’s core research areas is targeting philosophy and ethics of machine learning in science. The fact that machine learning algorithms will play a central role in the process of scientific discovery challenges our traditional understanding of the scientific process and raises fundamental questions about concepts of scientific discovery and the role of the scientists. The cluster established an Ethics & Philosophy Lab as one of the first means to study these questions from the perspective of philosophy and ethics of science.


---

**CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE**
**MACHINE LEARNING: NEW PERSPECTIVES FOR SCIENCE**

Speakers: Prof. Dr. Ulrike von Luxburg & Prof. Dr. Philipp Berens

www.ml-in-science.uni-tuebingen.de | Funding Period: 2019 - 2025

---

The LEAD Graduate School & Research Network brings together scientists from a wide range of disciplines to work on key questions related to Learning, Educational Achievement, and Life Course Development in five core research areas: (1) Language and Education, (2) Learning in Core Domains, (3) Self-Regulation in Education, (4) Technology-Enhanced Teaching, and (5) Theory Testing in Educational Field Trials. Founded in 2012 in the framework of the German government’s Excellence Initiative, LEAD has developed into a flourishing network with over 160 members and a rich context of international partners. It integrates close collaboration with the Leibniz-Institut für Wissensmedien (IWM) and the German Institute for Adult Education (DIE).

Language, as a central theme of the Faculty of Humanities, plays a particularly strong role in LEAD given that language permeates teaching and learning in a wide range of ways. Teaching in most subjects relies heavily on language-mediated information and tasks, and in second language learning, language also constitutes the subject matter itself. Reading comprehension, language production, and issues of language awareness and social identity are crucial building blocks for students to succeed academically. Accordingly, they are key issues in evidence-based education and in LEAD.

LEAD Co-Directors: Prof. Dr. Benjamin Nagengast, Prof. Dr. Katharina Scheiter, Prof. Dr. Ulrich Trautwein

Coordinator of the Core Research Area "Language and Education":
Prof. Dr. Detmar Meurers — www.lead.uni-tuebingen.de

---

**GRADUATE SCHOOL AND RESEARCH NETWORK LEAD**

Research strands in LEAD include adaptive multimedia, intelligent tutoring systems and web-based learning environments, automatic input enhancement of authentic materials for language learning, and the interplay of linguistic and mathematical factors in word problem solving.

Current LEAD research links linguistic and cognitive measures of textbook complexity, investigates the effectiveness of presentation trainings for youth, analyzes the impact of the linguistic form of questionnaires used in large-scale assessment in education, and advances the understanding of embodiment in second language learning to better support children learning German as a second language. The first randomized controlled field study in German schools using an intelligent tutoring system highlighted the conditions under which such digital tools can support effective learning in regular English classes.
How does the meaning of linguistic expressions arise? This is the central research question of the CRC 833 “The Construction of Meaning: The Dynamics and Adaptivity of Linguistic Structures”. Focusing on the fact that meaning emerges as a function of time and situation, the CRC’s joint research goal is a better understanding of linguistic meaning and its dynamic adaptation to the various factors that impact it. The central question of how meaning arises is investigated

(a) in context (Section A “Context”),
(b) during cognitive processing (Section B “Cognition”),
(c) according to the grammars of individual languages (Section C “Variation”).

Our research program is an interdisciplinary one, and accordingly the CRC 833 is a joint project including linguists – theoretical linguists, specialists in particular languages and computational linguists – as well as cognitive scientists and literary scholars. Traditionally, linguists have focused on the structural aspects of the language system while cognitive scientists have concentrated on language related processes. Investigating the construction of meaning opens the door to a more integrated view of structure and process. This, we believe, is essential for a more realistic investigation and interpretation of language data. It is part of our general vision of integrated theoretical and empirical research. The CRC 833 uses diverse types of empirical evidence (corpus data, questionnaires, psycho- and neurolinguistic experiments, crosslinguistic and diachronic studies) to contribute towards a theory of the construction of meaning.

Section A: Inbuilt Dynamics – Context Dependence and Variability of Meaning
The meaning of linguistic entities displays a high degree of variability and openness. In language usage, this uncertainty of meaning is dissolved by context-sensitive interpretations in favour of very little variance. Especially for the domain of sentences, it is not yet clear how this identification of specific meaning takes place. Which linguistic mechanisms are responsible for these context sensitive interpretations? How do combinatory principles of sentence meaning interact with pragmatic strategies in an evaluation of meaning?

Section B: Dynamics of Cognitive Processes in Sentence Comprehension
A lot is known in syntax about the characteristics of cognitive processes that are triggered by linguistic structures; the sub-processes of online interpretation, in particular the composition of meaning, are far less well-understood. One central question is how the supposed incrementality of cognitive processes can be related to theories of compositional processing. Existing interpretations of Frege’s principle of compositionality are based on the sentence as a whole and ignore the temporal dimension of semantic processing almost completely. The size and nature of sub-sentential units to which the various aspects of an incremental computation of meaning refer, and the processes that control the actual composition of meaning in time, are therefore unresolved issues.

Section C: The Grammar as a Dynamic System – Semantic Variations and Variability
Research in crosslinguistic variation has traditionally focused on morphology and syntax. Mechanisms of interpretation have commonly been regarded as universal. However, linguistic structures describing the same state of affairs often seem to differ substantially in individual languages. It is therefore reasonable to also expect variation within the semantic component of grammar. What are the possibilities and limitations of such semantic variation? Where and how is semantic variation located in a given grammar? How did it develop, and what possibilities are there for language change? In how far does language change obey universal laws or tendencies?

OUTREACH
The Linguistic Evidence conference series is held by the CRC 833 every two years. It has become an established conference that attracts national and international experts in the field of experimental linguistics. It provides a crucial forum for the synthesis of theory and data-driven research. Beyond that, the CRC 833 organizes numerous workshops and conferences every year.

PROMOTION OF YOUNG SCIENTISTS
The next generation of scientists brings innovative input to the CRC’s endeavour. The CRC 833 is, in turn, determined to provide an inspiring and supportive environment for its young scientists. For example, its own “milestone program” supports PhD students in writing their theses and a colloquium offers them the opportunity to exchange ideas.
The CRC 923 “Threatened Order. Societies under Stress” investigates how social orders cope with crises, catastrophes, and other extreme situations. Its main research aims are: historicizing current crisis diagnostics, investigating modes of rapid social change, renewing categories of time and space within social sciences and cultural studies, and elaborating a platform for the social sciences and cultural studies in an age of globalization.

The CRC’s particular method is to identify the basic patterns of a social order within the brief moment of threat. Its research therefore contributes to current interdisciplinary debates on crisis, social change, security – insecurity, vulnerability – resilience, and emotion. For this purpose, the CRC integrates a wide range of disciplines, including: history, law, political science, ethnology, sociology, theology, multiple philologies, and anthropology.

Since 2011, the CRC combined 59 research projects with a total of 110 individual studies – cases from around the world and throughout history until today. Furthermore, the CRC collaborates with several renowned international research institutions and invited hundreds of guest researchers and conferees to Tübingen.

In times of diminishing trust in the sciences, the CRC also undertakes ambitious measures to make research more accessible to non-scientists by developing the unique digital exhibition threatenedorders.com. Additionally, it is working together with partners in civil society and education such as schools, adult education centers, didactics, museums, or NGOs.

The CRC 923 is funded by the German Research Foundation.

**Cluster E: ‘Diagnosis – Coping Practices’**

**E01 Ordo amplissimus.** The threat to the Eastern Roman imperial elite under Emperor Justinian I.

**E02 Viri absentes.** Re-ordering of gender orders in the context of Roman expansion (2nd - 1st century BC).

**E04 Threat communication, coping practices and financial market speculation.** Stock market booms, crashes and knowledge practices (18th - 19th century).

**E06 Threat and diversity in the urban context.** Ethnically heterogeneous and unequal urban districts in the global South.

**Cluster F: ‘Mobilisation’**

**F01 Transformation through threat.** Threatened Orders and the development of the late Roman monarchy/monarchies.

**F02 From Carolingian order to “société féodale”?** Threatened Order and change in the Carolingian world.

**F03 Craftsmen – farmers – clergymen.** Threats to social-moral systems of order in religious literary discourse (15th - 17th century).

**F04 Colonial order as Threatened Order: the Sangley revolts and Spanish massacres in Manila (1603, 1639, 1662, 1686).**

**F07 The struggle for international order.** On the integration of affected population groups into the United Nations system.

**F08 ‘Threatened Solidarities’.** Mobilising discourses and practices in refugee aid.

**F09 The threatened order of the ‘globalized’ world.** Conceptions of globalization, political awakening and social debate in the USA, Great Britain, and the Federal Republic of Germany (1990s and 2000s).

**Cluster G: ‘Reflection’**

**G01 Platonism and Christianity in late antiquity: literary strategies of threat communication in Porphyrios and Eusebius.**

**G02 Spiritual women’s communities in the 18th century.** Conceptions of order and threat communication during the enlightenment and secularisation.


**G04 End of Empire.** Re-Ordering in Australia, New Zealand, and Canada (1949 - 1960).


**G06 Past Futures of Threatened Orders.** Alternative racial orders in speculative fictions and realities in the U.S.
The interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Center (CRC) 1070 “Resource Cultures” aims to expand the economically biased view on resources and explores how the use of resources triggers social and cultural dynamics. More than 20 projects with over 60 scientists are working hand in hand at the CRC 1070: archaeologists, ethnologists, geographers, historians, classical philologists, and economic historians. The wide spectrum of disciplines within the Collaborative Research Center offers the unique possibility to study how resources are culturally defined and how these processes affect the forming, sustaining and changing of societies with an unprecedented historical depth and on a broad geographic scale. On one hand, tangible resources such as natural raw materials and trade goods play an important role in the making and breaking of societies; on the other, intangible resources such as knowledge or social relations can contribute to the formation of cultural and social identities.

The interrelation between materials, structures, and systems of belief within resource complexes is another focus of research in the Collaborative Research Center. Social processes such as migration, social mobility and wealth, but also preservation and destruction of resources, are examined from an innovative perspective. Research topics of the individual projects span over a wide geographical frame: from Scandinavia to Northern Africa, from the Iberian peninsula to South Asia, and reach far back into history: from processes of spatial development by Neanderthals to prehistoric mining of ore on the Iberian Peninsula, the Greek and Phoenician “colonization” in the Mediterranean and the conversion and re-evaluation of resources by medieval Vikings, to the use of resources in religious contexts in contemporary India. This broad interdisciplinary approach offers a unique perspective on the role of resources in various cultures and times, so that the whole idea of resources can be assessed in new ways. The focus of the Collaborative Research Center is on the investigation of three socio-cultural dynamics, i.e. multidimensional processes of change linked with the use of resources, which structures the CRC 1070 in the following project divisions:

**Project Division A: Developments - Resources and Processes of Social Change**

Project division A concentrates on diachronic studies about the role of resources in processes of social and cultural change. The focus is on historical situations in which access to raw materials and natural products was granted locally, regionally, or continuously through established ways of distribution. The thematic key aspects of the case studies are questions addressing resources and the emergence of hierarchies in prehistoric Europe, as well as resource use and the formation of states in the ancient Near East and Mediterranean.

**Project Division B: Movements - Resources and Spatial Development**

Project division B examines resources within the context of processes of spatial development and settlement, discussing resources as a point of central importance for these processes. There is a focus on resource related preconditions for spatial development, but courses of events, further socio-cultural developments within the newly acquired regions, as well as symbolic dimensions of the relevant resources, are included into the research.

**Project Division C: Valuations - Resources and the Symbolic Dimensions of Cultures**

The projects of division C are treating the aspect of value creation by resources. The central topic of the studies is about valuation, meaning, and use of resources in different contexts. The different kinds, media, and control of resources various cultures and times, so that the symbolic dimensions of resources and resource dynamics are addressed, and the social effectiveness of the symbolic dimension of resources is discussed. Additionally, the projects examine how reassessments, symbolizations, and conversions account for the contextual change of meaning of resources, thus allowing different kinds of value creation.

---

**Sponsors:** Martin Bartelheim, Thomas Scholten

www.sfb1070.uni-tuebingen.de | Funding Period: 2013 - 2021

---

The projects of division C are treating the aspect of value creation by resources. The central topic of the studies is about valuation, meaning, and use of resources in different contexts. The different kinds, media, and control of resources various cultures and times, so that the symbolic dimensions of resources and resource dynamics are addressed, and the social effectiveness of the symbolic dimension of resources is discussed. Additionally, the projects examine how reassessments, symbolizations, and conversions account for the contextual change of meaning of resources, thus allowing different kinds of value creation.
The interdisciplinary Collaborative Research Center (CRC) 1391 "Different Aesthetics" examines texts, images and objects from pre-modern Europe and focuses on the ways in which they determine their own aesthetic status. In recent years, questions of the aesthetic have become surprisingly prominent in public debate as well as in academic research. Even an "aesthetic turn" has been proclaimed. These tendencies obviously respond to a new demand for and interest in the aesthetic, especially with regard to the links between aesthetic and social practices, the political instrumentalization of the arts, and the interface of aesthetics and epistemology. But they often draw on premises that go back to named and unnamed concepts of aesthetic autonomy from the 18th and early 19th centuries, which entails the risk of losing sight again of the functions of art in a social as well as an anthropological perspective.

Against this background, it seems all the more urgent to discover alternative aesthetic concepts that are not predicated on positions of aesthetic autonomy. Such a Different Aesthetics can prominently be found, as our project claims, in the pre-modern period, i.e. before the age of philosophical aesthetics. In particular, we investigate the dynamic interaction between the inner logic of artistic processes and techniques and the pragmatic and historical logic of everyday life and social practice.

The CRC seeks to explore the contribution of 2000 years of cultural history before the eighteenth century to our understanding of the aesthetic as well as to current debates on art and society. This end is being served by the interdisciplinary collaboration of a broad field of sixteen academic subjects, ranging from archaeology, art history, musicology, classical and modern languages and literatures, to history, theology, and computational linguistics.

A. Practices
A1 The aesthetics of presence and socio-political communication in archaic and classical Greece (7th to 4th centuries BC)
A2 A ‘different’ aesthetics of classical economic spaces during the late Republic and the early Empire
A3 Purism – Discourses and practices of linguistic purity
A4 Public bathing and spa-music in the early modern period
A5 The pragma-aesthetics of early modern epidemics in the 18th century

B. Manifestations
B1 ans et nature: Pliny’s micronarratives reflecting on art in the context of the Naturalis Historia
B2 Impressing images: The aesthetics of coins during the Roman Empire
B3 Semantics of the aesthetic in German literature of the Middle Ages
B4 EnActing personifications as figures of aesthetic reflection in the literature and arts of the Middle Ages
B5 Narrative (self-)reflection in the Icelandic family sagas
B6 Properties of figures of aesthetic reflection: Systematic annotation and quantitative analysis

C. Concepts
C1 ‘Different’ poetics of ekphrasis in Hellenistic poetry
C2 Creative appropriation: A ‘different’ aesthetics in pre-modern architecture and the arts north of the Alps
C3 The schoene schîn in mysticism
C4 Intermediality as a starting point of aesthetic reflection in Dutch graphic prints of the early modern period
C5 The aesthetics of co-creativity in early modern English literature
C6 Decoy of sight, dream, and deception – The demonic origin of Illusion
The study of human prehistory relies on several independent lines of evidence: excavated artifacts, human skeletal remains, human DNA, records of animal and plant remains, and reconstructed dispersal histories of human languages. As these are the domains of different fields from the Humanities and the Natural Sciences (Archeology, Paleoanthropology, Genetics, and Linguistics respectively), our understanding of human prehistory can only be furthered with transdisciplinary research. Our understanding of the very early history of modern humans, i.e. the migration out of Africa 50-100 kyrs ago, their initial range expansions, and patterns of contact with other hominid populations, has undergone a genuine revolution in recent years. This was made possible by joint efforts of geneticists and paleoanthropologists. It is these researchers’ strong conviction that a similar surge of new insight is imminent with regard to intermediate time depths of prehistory – the upper Paleolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic periods, comprising events such as the peopling of the New World and the migrations following the Neolithic revolution in the Old World. In this context, the Humanities, especially Prehistory and Linguistics, are poised to make breakthrough contributions in the near future. The Center for Advanced Studies “Words, Bones, Genes, Tools: Tracking Linguistic, Cultural and Biological Trajectories of the Human Past”, directed by Prof. Gerhard Jäger (Linguistics) and Prof. Katerina Harvati (Paleoanthropology) aims to help establish the theoretical foundations of the new cross-disciplinary field of Bio-Cultural Coevolution by pushing the limits of transdisciplinary cooperation. The Centre therefore constitutes a forum for interdisciplinary exchange, which brings together scholars from the relevant fields to exchange ideas and develop common research questions and common methodological approaches.

**Center for Advanced Studies**

**Tracking Linguistic, Cultural and Biological Trajectories of the Human Past**

The Centre for Advanced Studies brings together scholars from a wide range of disciplines working on the history of migration and mobility in Europe and the Mediterranean between 250 and 900 CE. By raising new questions and exploring innovative approaches and methods for answering them, the Centre aims to approach the scholarly debate of the phenomenon on a new footing:

- The Centre aims to broaden the debate around questions of ethnicity and identity by embedding the mobility of ethnically defined groups, in the wider history of migration and mobility at the time.
- By looking beyond the migration of large ethnic or military groups to the contexts of small movements, the Centre analyzes it in the context of other phenomena of mobility.
- The Centre widens the traditional boundaries of the so-called “migration period” (ca. 375-568) to examine pertinent phenomena from the 3rd to the 9th centuries CE.
- The Centre aims to add new or neglected aspects to the scholarly debate by bringing in the economic framework of migration and mobility as well as analyzing their consequences for local communities.
- The Centre analyzes migration and mobility in the period from a comparative historical perspective and draws on approaches and insights from research on mobility and migration in contemporary societies.

In so doing, the Centre seeks to make a contribution to our understanding of a phenomenon of utmost political, social, economic, and cultural significance to the contemporary world.

**MIGRATION AND MOBILITY IN LATE ANTIQUITY AND THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES**

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Mischa Meier

https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/93696

Funding period: 2017-2020
The Research Training Group pursues two objectives. Firstly, to establish the concept of “religious knowledge” as an interdisciplinary research concept. Secondly, it aims to use this concept to describe the development of European knowledge society with its self-ascribed values of tolerance, secularity, rationality, as well as the differentiation of knowledge and education, legislation, politics, religion, the arts, and literature.

Christianity understands itself as a religion based on revelation. Canonical texts usually assume knowledge of revelation to be intangible. It could only become a guiding principle for action by constituting meaningful forms of communication and practice. This is what the research training group understands by “religious knowledge.” The research centers on the circumstances under which this religious knowledge was generated. The focus lies especially on the dynamic processes and the arenas of controversial negotiation that characterised its development in interdependence with revelation-based knowledge.

Central Theses

• Societal change was not only a result of a perspective shift with regards to ideas. Rather, the very modes of transfer and transformation of religious knowledge were also – in fact, especially crucial in the evolution of those philosophical approaches, differentiations, and structures of argumentation which provided one of the foundations of modern Western society.

• Within these complex processes of negotiation, ritual, annotative, aesthetic, and empirical processes had an especially prominent role.

• These processes of transformation also caused considerable interplays and the shift of demarcations between religious and other knowledge. Ultimately, this led to changes in the function of revelation-based knowledge as guiding principle for action.

RESEARCH TRAINING GROUPS

RTG 1662: RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE IN PRE-MODERN EUROPE

The aim of this Research Training Group is to show that by a collaborative approach of language-oriented disciplines, new insights may be gained into the production and perception of ambiguity, i.e. when it comes into being and when it is resolved. The pursuit of this aim is based on the conviction that ambiguity is an excellent paradigm for developing new ways of collaboration between the various language-oriented disciplines.

Field PS-: Production, non-strategic

• Usage of ambiguous linguistic units without actually intending to produce an ambiguous utterance

• Coincidental or unintended ambiguity

• Ambiguity paradox: What is the explanation for the fact that such a large amount of utterances produced contain ambiguities which do not become apparent in their respective communicative situations and are often not even recognized as such by either the speaker or the hearer?

Field PS+: Production, strategic

• Double or multiple meanings are deliberately taken into account (no misunderstandings)

• Indirectness (i.e. politeness)

• Ambiguity is considered as adequate or even necessary by the speaker (i.e. as a means of persuasion in political speech)

• Central to literary texts (differing interpretations of one text passage)

• Specific ambiguity avoidance (i.e. in judicial speeches, legal contracts, etc)

Field RS-: Perception, non-strategic

• Emergence of ambiguity in the act of perception without being caused by any specific intent or strategy

• Triggering of ambiguity (i.e. mishearing or historic/syntactic reanalysis)

• Highly context-specific ambiguity resolution (i.e. through linguistic economy on the speaker’s side) dependent on hearer’s strategies

Field RS+: Perception, strategic

• Part of a strategic calculation

• Linguistic utterances are intentionally reinterpreted by the hearer (ambiguity resolution)

• Ambiguous statements are interpreted as univocal (ambiguity resolution)

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Matthias Bauer

The French-German Graduate School is an interdisciplinary studies program that gives access to bilateral research on "culture and conflict". The program intends to question the French-German polarity as well as the totalized concept of culture. Due to globalization which entails migration as well as mobilization, modern societies have become more heterogeneous and atomized. This has an impact on our daily life, on our language, as well as on artistic and literary production. The study of conflict therefore requires a new reading of cultural theories. Even if it would be simplifying to amalgamate culture and conflict systematically, it appears nevertheless warrantable to explore the thesis of a fundamental chiasmus: the conflict of cultures would reflect a culture of conflict and vice versa. The program focuses on French-German relations that equally reflect the rivalries and constructions of diametrically opposed identities. Moreover, the research training group is permitting the research of antagonism, for instance: democracy vs authoritarian systems or enlightenment vs romantic demonism.

This transcultural point of view allows us the analyse

- how the concept of conflict is perceived in various cultural theories
- recent French-German conflicts in the level of modern historical events
- the representation of conflicts on French such as German texts and visual culture

This integrated doctoral program is organized by the University of Tübingen and the Aix-Marseille University at Aix-en-Provence. It provides the possibility of reciprocal courses, bilateral assistance for PhD projects, joined publications, and conferences, as well as research stays in both countries. The students can obtain a PhD degree from the University of Tübingen and Aix-Marseille University.

The PhD program "Entangled Temporalities in the Global South" focuses on temporality as one of the central categories upon which social and cultural difference are constructed. Within the context of a trans-regional approach of Global South studies, the PhD program explores the way temporal relations are marked via complex entanglements between the politics, practices, and imaginaries of temporality arising from a range of contexts — the homogenizing impact of globalized time, the longue durée of coloniality and the persistence of Indigenous temporal cultures. The PhD program launches a critical interrogation of the discourses of universality and development, whose categories of societal, technological, scientific and economic progress produce notions of the putative “belatedness” and “underdevelopment” of the South. The PhD program offers three-year scholarships to five outstanding international junior researchers. A number of early career scholars are associated with the program. The program fosters an interdisciplinary and trans-regional dialogue in combination with a structured qualification concept.
The pervasiveness of digital data has revolutionized many areas of science. This trend includes the humanities where a new research paradigm of digital humanities (DH) has been established. This paradigm crucially relies on the availability of digital archives that store objects of interest, such as cultural heritage data, digital editions, media objects, and large collections of spoken and written language. The University of Tübingen has taken a pioneering role both nationally and internationally in DH research since the 1970s. CLARIN, the Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure, is a Pan-European federation of data and service centres that support researchers from the humanities, especially those working in DH. The Tübingen CLARIN Centre provides an infrastructure that actively supports language-based research in the Humanities and social sciences. The Tübingen Centre serves as the national hub of eight German data centres, additional knowledge centres, and a network of experts within the CLARIN federation. Researchers of many disciplines in the humanities and social sciences use the services and data provided by CLARIN-D. They are represented by around 200 researchers with various backgrounds in the humanities and social sciences organised in different discipline-specific working groups within CLARIN-D. The centre offers easy web-based access to a wide range of digital language-based reference material and services, including electronic dictionaries, (linguistically) annotated text collections, and software tools for the automatic analysis and visualization of language. As a data centre, it encourages researchers in the humanities to follow best practices for creating, processing, and archiving digital language data and to adopt open access policies that facilitate the sharing and reuse of digital data. In conjunction with other partners in the CLARAH-CDE project, the Tübingen Centre is instrumental in the development of components of a national research data infrastructure for the humanities.

Conspiracy theories play an increasingly visible role in the political life in Europe, not least because the EU itself is often viewed as a vast conspiracy. Although sometimes seen as harmless entertainment, conspiracy theories can contribute to extremism within particular regions, as well as fuelling tensions between nations. They can erode trust in democratic institutions and the media. Despite the increasing prominence of conspiracy theories in the age of the internet, there has been little systematic research on where they come from, how they work, and what can be done about them. The aim of this Action is to develop an interdisciplinary and international network to provide a comprehensive understanding of conspiracy theories. Existing research has tended to concentrate on specific national traditions, and is often confined to the perspective of a single discipline. In contrast, this Action will adopt a comparative approach, investigating the causes, manifestations, and effects of conspiracy theories in different regions and times, and drawing on insights from history, politics, sociology, anthropology, cultural studies, and psychology. The Action will pursue the inquiry in three broad areas: the manifestations and modes of transmission of conspiracy theory in different historical and cultural contexts; the variety of actors and audiences involved in the production and consumption of conspiracy theories; and the psychological and cultural causes and political consequences of belief in conspiracy. Working closely with stakeholders, this Action will build a better understanding of conspiracy theories in order to develop an effective response to them.

**ADDITIONAL LARGE SCALE PROJECTS CLARIN**

For further information: [https://uni-tuebingen.de/clarin-center.html](https://uni-tuebingen.de/clarin-center.html)

**COST ACTION 15101: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF CONSPIRACY THEORIES**

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Michael Butter

http://www.cost.eu/
Funding Period: 2016-2020
The Tübingen Interdisciplinary Centre for Global South Studies was founded in 2018 in order to bring together the many ongoing research projects and scholarly initiatives pertaining to the Global South at the University of Tübingen. Global South Studies is an area of transdisciplinary and cross-border scholarly investigation that goes beyond the limitations of ‘area studies’. It looks at historical, cultural, sociopolitical, and economic questions between the nations and regions of the South, thus eluding customary concentration on North-South or postcolonial dynamics. It intervenes proactively in the unequal geopolitics of knowledge production and addresses global issues (economic inequities, the retreat of democracy, migration flows, the impact of climate change) not only by placing the regions of the South in the centre of its research agendas, but by foregrounding Global South scholars’ own perspectives on these issues.

The Centre has an explicitly interdisciplinary brief and thus has a cross-faculty membership, including members from the Faculties of Humanities, Medicine, Social Sciences, Law, and Mathematics and Natural Sciences respectively. Director: Prof. Dr. Susanne Goumegou

The overall goal of XPrag.de is to develop a precise pragmatic theory that is informed by evidence using experimental methods. The program is addressed to researchers in linguistics, psychology, neuroscience, philosophy, and related fields who seek to advance pragmatic theory by simultaneously formulating formally explicit models of the cognitive mechanisms underlying pragmatics and testing these models using experimental methods. The new field of Experimental Pragmatics has emerged gradually since 2004, primarily through efforts in Germany and other parts of Europe. Experimental Pragmatics represents a new approach to pragmatics, which is one of the most challenging areas of linguistic theory, where progress has been difficult. Three reasons why progress in pragmatics has been slow are the absence of formally explicit models and correspondingly precise hypotheses, the lack of relations from pragmatic theory to cognitive mechanisms, and the sole reliance on natural observation – which is a coarse-grained method – to test hypotheses.

The three following projects within the DFG Priority-Program XPrag.de are located in Tübingen:

- ProComPrag: Probabilistic computational models of pragmatic inference
- CiC: Composition in Context: Contextual Influences on Processing of Event-Centric
- ObTrEx: Obligatory Triggers: Experimental Evidence

https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/106373
The research unit titled “The Temple as the Canon of Egyptian Religious Literature” is a twelve-year research project in Egyptology aimed at deciphering the content of temple texts – the largest contiguous body of ancient Egyptian literature. The temple texts arose from the flurry of temple construction which began during the Ptolemaic era following the conquest of Egypt by Alexander the Great. This building activity continued for more than four centuries until the 2nd century AD. These Egyptian temples were adorned to an unprecedented extent with hieroglyphic inscriptions about cults, festivals, religious toponomy, myths, divine constellations, and architectural history. Although most of these structures are no longer standing, more than 10 thousand pages of hieroglyphic texts from these “libraries of stone” have since been published. The researchers first classify the texts according to their content, form, and narrative, and view them in the context of where they were found. The researchers will also focus on symbolic and allegorical interpretation of the hieroglyphs and attempt to comprehensively assess the texts with a focus on the subject matter as a codification of Egyptian religious traditions in temples of the Greco-Roman period. Ultimately, a systematic overview of core content, internal links, defined formats, and the problems of historically interpreting the Ptolemaic-Roman temple decorations will be created. So far, 13 monographs in 18 volumes have been published by the Tübingen Research unit. A comprehensive database is the central instrument for documenting and classifying the texts. In it, each temple text will be thoroughly recorded for the first time using all the available data, including publication/bibliography, date, inscription location, corresponding texts and parallels, genre, content, as well as linguistic, graphic, and editorial characteristics. International cooperation in this project is very important; the researchers from Tübingen maintain close contacts with the Institut Français d’Archéologie Orientale in Cairo and with the Documentation Center of the Ministry for Antiquities.

The aim of this 12-year research project funded by the Heidelberg Academy is to establish John Malalas as the father of Byzantine historiography, and also to analyze his work to gain new insights about the treatment of the past in the critical period between late antiquity and the early middle ages.

John Malalas wrote his Chronographia in the 6th century. In 18 volumes, it tells the history of the world starting with Adam and Eve and ending in the author’s time. The Chronographia is an extremely valuable document for historical research because it is the earliest known example of Byzantine world history – a historiographic genre which had a lasting influence on medieval and later forms of historical writing. The Chronographia of John Malalas provides an example of how history was handled during the Byzantine millennium. In addition, Malalas’ work is significant for reconstructing political events and also sheds light on cultural and religious history, as well as the attitudes of the day. In these areas, it provides valuable insights that are unequalled by other, contemporary historical works. Malalas’ Chronographia also provides snippets of interesting and unprecedented views in certain aspects of ancient history. For example, Malalas’ writings contain a completely different portrayal of the relationship between Nero and the Christians. There, the Roman emperor is described as friendly to the Christians. In his work, Malalas supplies important clues indicating that in the period of late antiquity, varying opinions about Nero’s treatment of Christians were apparently discussed, even among Christians.

Analyzing the chronicles of the periods of late antiquity and medieval times has become an important area of research. During the course of this revival, more light is being shed on the tradition of Malalas’ texts. For some years, an edition of the Greek text has been available that meets scholarly standards.
ERC ADVANCED GRANTS
CROSSENTRIFICATION: CROSS-LINGUISTIC STATISTICAL INFERENCE USING HIERARCHICAL BAYESIAN MODELS

Principal Investigator: Prof. Dr. Gerhard Jäger
https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/163612
Funding Period: 2019-2024

Historical linguistics and linguistic typology share the objective of explaining cross-linguistic variation. However, their traditional research agendas have been largely disjoint since historical linguistics strives for depth and typology for breadth. This tension has been replicated in current statistical and computational renderings of the two sub-disciplines. Computational models of language change generally focus on individual language families, while statistical typology pays little attention to diachronic processes. CrossLingference bridges this gap. Using Bayesian hierarchical models, the reach of modern phylogenetic linguistics is extended to cross-family models, where each lineage is assumed to follow its own dynamics. However, cross-family variation is constrained and data from one family is used to make inferences about the processes in other families. At the same time, state-of-the-art generalized linear mixed models are extended to control for both genealogical history and language contact. Agent-based simulations complement these model-based approaches.

CrossLingference implements this general program for the following domains of application, securing a lasting impact both on statistical typology and on computational historical linguistics:

• Sound laws in language change, enabling automatic reconstruction of proto-language vocabulary.
• Causal relationships between typological variables.
• Factoring of universal tendencies, historical contingencies, and language contact in explaining variation in word-order types and inflectional paradigms.

WIDE INCREMENTAL LEARNING WITH DISCRIMINATION NETWORKS

In this project, we are developing a computational model of the mental lexicon with the aim of providing a functional characterization of the cognitive skills that allow us to express our thoughts in words.

In psychology and cognitive science, the organization of words in paper dictionaries has long served as a model for the organization of our lexical knowledge. Accordingly, listeners are supposed to first locate a word's form in a list of word forms. The entry in this form list is then taken to provide access to a word's meaning. Our model, by contrast, generates words' forms and meanings on the fly from acoustic, visual, or semantic input. The generative processes underlying comprehension and production are implemented with the mathematics of multivariate multiple regression. The resulting machine learning model of lexical cognition combines linguistic and mathematical interpretability with high prediction accuracy.

The model, which is being developed for both auditory and visual comprehension, as well as for speech production, is tested against descriptive and experimental data from a wide range of typologically different languages. The inset figure presents an example of a phenomenon in English that the model successfully predicts, namely, that patients with semantic impairment have more difficulties with irregular verbs, whereas patients with phonological impairment find regular verbs more difficult. The model was trained on English texts. Subsequent lesioning of either the semantic or the form networks led to a drop in performance mirroring what has been observed for aphasia in English.

Principal Investigator: Prof. Dr. R. Harald Baayen
https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/134641
Funding Period: 2017-2022
The last two decades have seen the rise of populist movements and parties in Europe, the Americas, Asia, and Africa. Over the same period, conspiracy theories have also significantly gained in visibility and impact. As any casual observer of contemporary politics knows, the two phenomena are connected. Populist leaders often use conspiracist rhetoric, and many of their followers are receptive to it. But when, how, why, and to what effects do populists articulate conspiracy theories? Are they more prominent on the right than on the left? Does their significance change when parties move from the opposition into power? How do populist movements deal with the fact that some of their members believe in conspiracy theories, but others do not?

To answer these and related questions, the “Populism and Conspiracy Theory” project analyzes the role of conspiracy theories for currently successful populist movements in the United States, Brazil, Austria, Hungary, Italy, and Poland. The research team, which consists of the PI, a postdoc, and four PhD students, will combine Critical Discourse Analysis (of speeches, party manifestos, social media etc.) with ethnographic fieldwork (participant observation and semi-structured interviews) to provide a holistic and comprehensive account.
Since rulers of the Imperial Roman Period and the early middle ages occupied the highest (secular) position, individuals who exerted influence on them enjoyed a great extent of power. As a consequence, there was bitter rivalry between the various agents and much thinking about legitimate and illegitimate influence. These exercises and concepts of personal influence are the topic of the new Emmy-Noether junior research group PhD program.

Dr. Matthias Urban

Just like the Inca are often considered the Andean civilization par excellence, the Quechuan language family is frequently portrayed as the prime representative of Andean languages. Yet in reality, cultural and linguistic diversity and complex interrelations through time characterizes the ancient Central Andes, one of the millennia-old “cradles of human civilization”. Without neglecting the well-studied and widely distributed language families of the Central Andes, this project shifts the empirical focus of attention towards the many “minor”, non-Quechuan languages of the Central Andes. The aim is to understand the prehistoric language dynamics of this culturally rich region in a significantly more fine-grained manner than would be otherwise possible, and to use insights into language history also to understand the cultural development of the ancient Central Andes at large.

EMMY NOETHER PROGRAM

Dr. Fabian Schulz

Leader of the Emmy Noether Junior Research Group: Power and Influence: Influencing Emperors between Antiquity and the Middle Ages

Since rulers of the Imperial Roman Period and the early middle ages occupied the highest (secular) position, individuals who exerted influence on them enjoyed a great extent of power. As a consequence, there was bitter rivalry between the various agents and much thinking about legitimate and illegitimate influence. These exercises and concepts of personal influence are the topic of the new Emmy-Noether junior research group PhD program.

Dr. Igor Yanovich

The project studies the meaning of words expressing necessity, possibility and futurity in the Slavic languages of the 14-17th centuries. It is known that during that time, interesting meaning changes occurred in the Slavic language family. It is also known that various Slavic languages affected each other, and were affected by language contact with languages of other families as well. The current project applies to the actual historical texts of the late Middle Ages and Early Modern times, the mathematical-logical methods for analyzing meaning, and by doing so, will reveal the micro-differences in the development of different Slavic languages and the effects of language contact.
The Tübingen Center for Japanese Studies (TCJS), founded in 1993, is located on the historic grounds of Doshisha University’s Imadegawa main campus, next to Kyoto’s ancient imperial palace in the south. Thanks to the TCJS, the University of Tübingen offers its Japanese Studies students an extraordinary opportunity to learn the language and immerse in the culture of Japan. For one year, they attend language courses taught by the Center’s teachers as an integrative part of their bachelor degree course.

During their time in Kyoto, students reside with Japanese host families. Living together on a long-term daily basis offers deep insight into the host country’s everyday life. Since its foundation, over 700 students have completed part of their education at TCJS. The center’s library holds approximately 2,500 Japan-related reference books in German and English, which are often difficult to find in Japanese libraries.

In addition, TCJS regularly organizes symposiums, international workshops and guest lectures by scholars from Japan, Europe, and the US to inform about the current Japan-related international research. Thus, students, as well as the broader public, can familiarize themselves with the latest research and benefit from the stimulating academic interaction available at the Tübingen Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto.

The European Centre for Chinese Studies (ECCS) was founded by the Universities of Tübingen and Copenhagen in 2001. Today, it is the representative office for Tübingen and the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg to enhance academic cooperation and student exchange between the respective institutions.

Since its foundation, more than 1,000 students from the European partner universities (temporarily also Würzburg and Frankfurt) took part in a tailored, one-semester language program. For Tübingen students, one or two semesters at the ECCS are an integral part of their BA program. In courses on Chinese language, culture, economy, and society, they gain a thorough understanding of the language and the country. In addition, Tübingen students of all disciplines can attend a summer school in August.

In exchange, the ECCS provides support and advice for young Chinese scholars wishing to study or do their PhD in Tübingen. Based on a special agreement with the China Scholarship Council, since 2019, annually up to 15 excellent Chinese PhD students from all disciplines can get full time or part time scholarships for six months to two years at Tübingen University.

At the University of Tübingen, the China Centre Tubingen acts as a bridge between science, business, and civil society. It organizes dialogue, fosters mutual knowledge, and intercultural communication with China within the University of Tübingen and in the scientific, economic, and educational area.

Coordinator in Kyoto: Dr. Michael Wachutka
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/6237

Managing Director in Peking: Christian Buskühl
www.eccsbeijing.org/
The Tübingen Center for Korean Studies at Korea University (TUCKU) in Seoul was established in spring 2012 and is located on the campus of Korea University, which is one of the oldest and most renowned private universities in Korea. Bachelor Students with a Korean Studies Major are required to complete a one-year stay at the TUCKU. They attend intensive language courses and Korea-related seminars to improve their linguistic skills, and to delve into Korean society and culture.

The students of the Master of Korean European Studies (MAKES), a dual master’s program funded by DAAD in cooperation with the College of Education and Graduate School of International Studies at the Seoul National University, spend their second year in Korea and attend the regular Korean studies program.

TUCKU has hosted and co-hosted several international conferences such as “Green Energy” in Korea, “Ego Documents in History”, and “Colonial Memories” in collaboration with Korea University. Within the trilateral research network between Korea University (Seoul), Doshisha University (Kyoto) and the University of Tübingen, scholars discuss interrelations between the countries and common research topics in a comparative approach.

Managing Director in Seoul: Dr. phil. Unsuk Han
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/22463

The University of Tübingen hosts one of the few Research Centers on Taiwan in Europe. The ERCCT, formally established in 2008, is jointly financed by the University of Tübingen and the Taiwanese Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange. Its major objective is to promote postgraduate social science research on contemporary Taiwan, most notably in the areas of politics and law, economics, society, and cross-strait relations. The ERCCT provides a platform for European and Taiwanese students at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels to engage in academic dialogue on theory, methodology, and content related to specific research projects in order to prepare for fieldwork in Taiwan and to assess the empirical findings brought back from the field.

For that purpose, among other activities, the ERCCT invites visiting scholars from both Taiwan and Europe to come to Tübingen during each summer and winter term to work intensively with the ERCCT research fellows in the Taiwan Colloquium. The ERCCT also operates a tutorial system with distinguished academic institutions in Taiwan, which provides ERCCT research fellows during their fieldwork in Taiwan with an official affiliation, office space, scholarly support, and the possibility of academic cooperation with Taiwanese experts working in the same or a related field of research.

In cooperation with Taiwan’s Ministry of Education, the ERCCT grants 1-2 ERCCT fellowships annually to talented and highly qualified applicants for a period of three years. With support from the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, and in cooperation with its partners, the ERCCT entains a visiting fellow program. Under the framework of this program, Ph.D. and Postdoc students from our Taiwanese partner institutions are invited to visit the ERCCT for about one month and are granted a stipend and travel costs.

Director: Prof. Dr. Gunter Schubert
www.ercct.uni-tuebingen.de/
**SELECTED MONOGRAPHS**


**GESTWA, KLAUS**: Der Russische Revolutionszyklus. München (Bayerische Landeszentrale für politische Bildungsarbeit) 2019.


MAIER, BERNHARD: Kuno Meyer and Wales: letters to John Glyn Davies, 1892-1919, Würzburg: Ergon, 2017 (Bibliotheca Academica - Geschichte Bd. 8)


MEIER, MISCHA: Das Kunstwerk der Zukunft und die Antike. Konzeptionen – Kontexte – Wirkungen Wagner in der Diskussion, Bd. 18, 2019

MEIER, MISCHA: Geschichte der Völkerwanderung, Europa, Asien und Afrika vom 3. bis zum 8. Jahrhundert nChr. München (Beck Verlag) 2019


WEST-PAVLOV, RUSSEL: German as a Contact Zone: Towards a Quantum Theory of Translation. Tübingen (Narr/Francke/Attempto) 2019.


The Faculty of Humanities, which comprises 28 distinct fields of study, exhibits the greatest diversity of any faculty within the University of Tübingen. The spectrum contains both historically-oriented sciences as well as others, which adopt a more contemporary focus. The diverse fields within the faculty are remarkable for the multiplicity of research methodologies they adopt, ranging from analytic, to hermeneutic and empirical approaches. This breadth is not only evident between fields, but also within particular disciplines, and in many areas, the boundary between research approaches from the social sciences is fluid. Across disciplines, the Faculty of Humanities attaches a high importance to an informed intercultural perspective, especially with respect to relevant languages. The faculty brings together fields from across the humanities and cultural sciences, grouping them into five departments: The Department of Art and Ancient Studies (FB1), The Department of Oriental and Asian Studies (FB2), The Department of History (FB3), The Department of Modern Languages (FB4), and The Department of Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Media Studies (FB5). Thus, it is not only plurality of research methodologies, but also the diverse subject matter that forms a cornerstone of the faculty’s scientific identity. The wide array of individual disciplines further assures a strong basis for inter- and transdisciplinary research of the kind that can only be accomplished given a substantial foundation in a variety of disciplines. Because of its size and diversity, the Faculty of Humanities is able to incorporate a broad spectrum of larger-scale projects, such as the aforementioned Collaborative Research Centers, Graduate Academies, or Research Centers. Yet, the strength and relevance of the research in the humanities reposes equally on the quality and abundance of the work carried out within the particular disciplines that make up the Faculty of Humanities - work that often belongs to the cutting-edge of international research. The relevance of the Humanities and their relationship to contemporary intellectual and societal issues is due in large part to the freedom accorded to scholars to seek out for themselves the issues in need of investigation. In order to provide an overview of the research foci within the Faculty of Humanities, the following pages provide a brief presentation of current research topics and goals in the various fields in the faculty. Further information can be found on the personal websites of individual scholars, as well as on the webpages of the various institutes and departments. Additionally, information about professors and principal investigators can be found on the university’s FIT (Forschungs-Information Tübingen) database: FIT provides an up-to-date overview of ongoing research projects at the University of Tübingen. (https://fit.uni-tuebingen.de/)

Institute for Ancient Near Eastern Studies (IANES)

Egyptology
- Greco-Roman era (temple writings and demotic texts)
- Large scale editorial projects, e.g. production of editions of the temples writings of Philiae, conservation, and documentation in the temple of Esna
- The Saqqara Saite tombs

Ancient Near Eastern Philology
- Social History of the Societies of the Ancient Near East
- The Literature of the Ancient Near East
- Excavations in Oman and Tall Halaf (Syria)
- Assyrian Royal Ideology

Near Eastern Archeology
- Excavation and survey projects in the Middle East (currently Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Oman, and Turkey)
- Special focus on archaeological fieldwork in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq
- Study and publication of the archaeological excavations in Qatna (Syria)

RESEARCH TOPICS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENTS

DEPARTMENT 1: ARTS AND ANCIENT STUDIES

Institute for Ancient Near Eastern Studies (IANES)

Egyptology
- Greco-Roman era (temple writings and demotic texts)
- Large scale editorial projects, e.g. production of editions of the temples writings of Philiae, conservation, and documentation in the temple of Esna
- The Saqqara Saite tombs

Ancient Near Eastern Philology
- Social History of the Societies of the Ancient Near East
- The Literature of the Ancient Near East
- Excavations in Oman and Tall Halaf (Syria)
- Assyrian Royal Ideology

Near Eastern Archeology
- Excavation and survey projects in the Middle East (currently Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Oman, and Turkey)
- Special focus on archaeological fieldwork in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq
- Study and publication of the archaeological excavations in Qatna (Syria)

DEPARTMENT 1: ARTS AND ANCIENT STUDIES

Institute for Ancient Near Eastern Studies (IANES)

Egyptology
- Greco-Roman era (temple writings and demotic texts)
- Large scale editorial projects, e.g. production of editions of the temples writings of Philiae, conservation, and documentation in the temple of Esna
- The Saqqara Saite tombs

Ancient Near Eastern Philology
- Social History of the Societies of the Ancient Near East
- The Literature of the Ancient Near East
- Excavations in Oman and Tall Halaf (Syria)
- Assyrian Royal Ideology

Near Eastern Archeology
- Excavation and survey projects in the Middle East (currently Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Oman, and Turkey)
- Special focus on archaeological fieldwork in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq
- Study and publication of the archaeological excavations in Qatna (Syria)

DEPARTMENT 1: ARTS AND ANCIENT STUDIES

Institute for Ancient Near Eastern Studies (IANES)

Egyptology
- Greco-Roman era (temple writings and demotic texts)
- Large scale editorial projects, e.g. production of editions of the temples writings of Philiae, conservation, and documentation in the temple of Esna
- The Saqqara Saite tombs

Ancient Near Eastern Philology
- Social History of the Societies of the Ancient Near East
- The Literature of the Ancient Near East
- Excavations in Oman and Tall Halaf (Syria)
- Assyrian Royal Ideology

Near Eastern Archeology
- Excavation and survey projects in the Middle East (currently Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Oman, and Turkey)
- Special focus on archaeological fieldwork in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq
- Study and publication of the archaeological excavations in Qatna (Syria)
Prehistory And Medieval Archeology

- Neolithic Settlement in Romanian Banat and the Upper Neckar Valley
- Landscape Archaeology in Southern Spain (Chalcolithic and Bronze Age)
- Transformations of Food in the Eastern Mediterranean Late Bronze Age
- Archeology of Medieval Cities in Southern Germany and Northern Europe

Classical Archeology

- Medinaceli-reliefs and excavation at the Acropolis of Pantellaria
- Technology transfer in the ancient world
- Numismatics in the ancient world
- Litterae Aureae

Institute for Classical Philology

Ancient Greek

- Plato and Platonism from the 1st Century BC until Late Antiquity
- Hellenistic Literature (Poetry/Poetics, Philosophy, Religion, Aesthetics)

Latin Studies

- History of thought and mentalities in Latin literature from antiquity to the Early modern period, especially phenomena of the long durée such as the perception of time, memory, and knowledge
- Rhetorical theory and practice from the beginnings to the early modern period

Institute for Art History

- Reformation and art, theory of art, and methodological issues in Art History
- Visual arts of the early modern age, visual and material aspects of power
- Image media and image theory, power of art in postwar europe, entanglement of art and design
- Museology/Museum Studies; Object science/object turn; Art on paper

Institute of Musicology

- Medieval and Renaissance Music (Bade- und Kirchenmusik and polyphonic music)
- Style analysis of classical and romantic music (Franz Schubert et al.)
- History of Musicology - music and dance, music and theatre, music and film

Chair of Religious Studies and the European History of Religions

- Religion and mythology of the Celts and Germans in antiquity
- Religion and society in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales
- History of Religious and Oriental Studies in the long 19th century

Greek and Roman philosophy; ancient poetry, poetics, and literary criticism
- Literature of the Greco-Roman period, especially Augustan and imperial Latin literature, narratology, and theory of fiction

58

59
CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

» Anthropology of memory, violence, and conflict
» Anthropology of childhood and medical anthropology
» Visual Anthropology and Anthropological in and for museums

INDOLOGY

» Cultural and religious history of India: Veda and Mahabharata, Hindi, and Urdu literature
» South Indian studies: Kerala (society, politics, culture, gender studies), Malayalam (language and literature)
» Performance studies: texts, aesthetic theories, and performative cultures of India
» Tibetan historical and comparative linguistics and philology, Ladakhi

JAPANESE STUDIES

» Intellectual and religious history: Shintō and Buddhism, discussion of Japanese values
» Linguistics: semiotics and language policy
» Modern Japan: Technology, politics, media and society, and eHumanities
» Gender, medicine, and religion in contemporary Japan

CHINESE STUDIES

» Social, economic, technological, and scientific history of pre-modern China, Marco Polo
» Greater China Studies: policy implementation in China; China’s rise and regional order;
EE Taiwan Studies: Cross-strait political economy, migration
» Chinese history of ideas, historiography, and historical thinking, “Classical Learning”, early twentieth-century intellectual movement

KOREAN STUDIES

» Postcolonial Studies, Korean migration and diaspora
» Modern Korean culture and North and South Korean Wartime Literature
» Korean law and Cold War culture

ORIENTAL AND ISLAMIC STUDIES

» Islamic intellectual history from the late middle ages to the early modern era
» Encounters between European and Islamic culture
» Research center for Islamic numismatics (FINT)
Department 3: History

Ancient History
- History of the late antique Eurasia, 3rd to 7th centuries: monarchy, religion, elites, and economy
- Archaic and classical Greece
- Migration and mobility in the Roman and post-Roman world
- Early Roman Principate (1st c. AD)
- Tradition of antiquity in modern literature, music, and film

Medieval History
- Early middle ages (Merovingian and Carolingian history, legal culture, church history)
- Cultural history of politics in the late middle ages (courts, administration, dynasties, legitimacy, cities)
- Connected history and global encounters in the medieval world (Europe, Mediterranean, Asia, Africa)

Modern History
- History of knowledge
- History of global encounters in missions, diplomacy, and beyond
- Global German history in the early modern and modern period
- Micro social history or micro history of social processes
- History of markets, trade, and consumption

Contemporary History
- War and society, the history of ideas, and society after the Second World War
- American foreign and security policy in the 20th century

Historical Regional Studies and Ancillary Sciences
- Religious women of medieval Europe
- History of universities
- History of medieval towns

Eastern European History
- History of Russia and the Soviet Union from the end of the 17th century to the present
- The history of Eastern Central and South East Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries
- History of technology and science, environmental history of the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc

Didactics of History and Public History
- Learning history in the digital age
- The material and cultural heritage of colonialism
- Public history and memory politics
International Literatures
- Theoretical reflection about world literature

German Studies

Linguistics
- German grammar: theoretical and empirical perspectives
- Psycholinguistics
- Semantics and cognition
- German as a second language

Modern German Literature
- Literary and cultural history
- Aesthetics and poetics
- Transculturality and transnationality

Medieval Studies
- Medieval literature and language
- Aesthetics in the pre-modern age

Scandinavian Studies
- The relationship between Latin and regional languages in medieval Scandinavia
- The narratology of medieval Iceland

English Studies

English Linguistics
- Grammar theory and semantics
- Psycholinguistics and speech processing
- Information structure

English Literatures and Cultures
- Interpretablity, ambiguity, and aesthetics
- Gender studies
- Modern media regimes
- Global South studies

American Studies
- (De-)civilizing processes in America: relational sociology in American studies
- Conspiracy theories from a comparative perspective
- American cultural studies in multicultural perspective

Romance Studies

Linguistics
- Pragmatic markers, grammaticalization
- Tense and aspect and language history (standardisation dynamics and language purism)

Literary Studies
- Romance literatures of the early modern age
- Modernity and modernism in romance literatures
- Literatures and cultures of the Global South
- Digital literary studies
Institute for Linguistics

General and Quantitative Linguistics
- Cross-linguistic statistical inference using hierarchical Bayesian models
- Quantitative and probabilistic aspects of language and language processing

Computational Linguistics
- Theoretical foundations of corpus linguistics
- Intelligent computer-assisted language learning

Institute for Philosophy

Theory of ethics with a focus on the philosophy of emotions, normative ethics, moral psychology
- Philosophy of the mind and cognitive science, metaphysics, aesthetics
- Kant, in particular Kant’s theoretical philosophy and his aesthetics, German idealism, continental philosophy
- Metaphysics: objects, mereology, time, modality. Philosophy of language and philosophy of mind
- Ancient philosophy in its entirety from the Presocratics to late antiquity

Institute for Rhetoric

History and theory of rhetoric since antiquity
- Aesthetics
- Rhetorical strategies of knowledge communication

Institute for Media Studies

History and theory of film and television theory, transculturality of film and new media, colour, animation, and science communication
- Communication and media theory, evolution of media, and changes in career paths and competence profiles, staging of political discourse, and the media, journalism and celebrity
- Advertising and corporate communication, media culture, media and the theory of communications
- Picture, media, and communication theory in systematic and historical perspectives, semiotics, cultural studies
- Transformations in media cultures, media and participation in post-migrant society
The Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS) is a scientific institute of the University of Tübingen that aims to mediate between the natural sciences, the humanities, and social sciences, as well as intercultural research. It strives to promote exchange between all academic disciplines and to provide students and scholars with the opportunity to reflect upon their own academic work critically, and then to position it in the overall structure of the university.

The CIIS organizes conferences and workshops. In addition to regular seminars and lectures, there are summer school programs and masterclasses for PhD-students that take place throughout the year. Furthermore, the CIIS selects 20 students every year from various academic fields to participate in a two-semester certificate program in which the students take classes and conduct their own interdisciplinary research.

Besides fostering the dialogue between the sciences and the humanities, the CIIS focuses on inter- and transcultural research. As part of its activities, it has set up a fellowship program on intercultural research. The CIIS edits its own publication series.

In 2006 the CIIS was founded under the name Forum Scientiarum with the support of the Udo Keller Foundation Forum Humanum, the Klett Foundation and the Protestant Regional Church of Württemberg (the latter left the Forum Scientiarum in 2017). The Forum Scientiarum is located in the house of studies of the Udo Keller Foundation at the University of Tübingen, Doblerstr. 33.

A scientific advisory board, in which all faculties of the university are represented, supports the Forum Scientiarum in its work.

FORUM SCIENTIARUM
CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY AND INTERCULTURAL STUDIES (CIIS)

In the 21st century, digitalization is a global challenge that humanity is facing. At the latest since Data Mining and Big Data, there is a public awareness of how strongly our world is dominated by data and algorithms. A leading question of the new center is therefore: How calculable is the world? Some believe that these days, finding solutions to problems in technology and economy reduces to nothing more than fast algorithms. Already the financial crisis of 2008 was closely linked to wrongly understood foundations and preconditions of mathematical models and algorithms. There is a potential of danger especially when we blindly rely on algorithms and recipes without knowing their theoretical foundations and applicability conditions. An example of this is the current hype of Artificial Intelligence. Only those who know the theory can prove universally valid sentences and theorems about the capability and limits of these algorithms. Questions of responsibility are therefore closely connected to foundational questions. This connection of responsibility with foundational reflection is a central topic of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center.

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society

The Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is one of the three pillars of the Forum Scientiarum, besides the Leibniz-Kolleg and the Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies (CIIS).

Under the direction of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Professorship for Philosophy and History of Science, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center is dedicated to foundational research. It provides a platform for post-doctoral researchers to reflect on foundational questions.

The main research foci of the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center are: responsibility in and of science, challenges of the new AI, mathematical and logical foundational research.

In commitment to Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker’s scientific and societal heritage, the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Center will deal in alternating cycles with topics that have at their base the responsibility of science and the individual scientist. The first cycle, started in 2019/2020, runs under the heading “Responsibility in the digital society”.

Responsibility in the Digital Society
Data management and data storage have become central issues of research in the humanities. Research projects want to publish their results in databases or multimedia platforms and make them accessible to a wider public. "Digital Humanities" more frequently use digital tools or artificial intelligence to analyze historical texts, ancient coins, or linguistic structures – and consequently blur the border to computer science.

The team of the eScience-Center, a core facility of the University of Tübingen, support all fields of humanities in their use of digital resources, methods, and tools. It offers individual advice and support for all kinds of research projects from the individual project to the Collaborative Research Centre. They develop research-supporting databases, analysis, and presentation tools such as virtual research environments or virtual realities. A particular focus of the digital humanities in Tübingen is on fields relating to objects and space, such as art history and a number of areas within archeology. For example, researchers developed a web-based geographical information system for the findings of the archaeological excavations in Al-Khashbah (Oman). They are also creating a 3D museum of the University of Tübingen by publishing detailed three-dimensional models of objects from various collections of the museum.

To prepare the next generation for the digital future, the Dr. Eberle Center for Digital Humanities offers a broad range of courses imparting competences like 3D-modeling or app development to students in the humanities. For master students, several study programs like archeology, history of arts, or German literature offer a specialized master profile in digital humanities.
The Graduate Academy of the University of Tübingen is dedicated to promoting junior researchers. It is the umbrella organization for the graduate academies of the faculties, through which it also integrates the university’s doctoral training programs and doctoral training networks.

Doctoral candidates

Doctoral candidates are admitted to the Graduate Academy by applying for (and gaining) acceptance as a doctoral candidate by their faculty. In this way, the faculty confirms their eligibility as a doctoral candidate. For more information, candidates should consult the doctoral degree regulations of the Faculty of Humanities or visit the ILIAS Gateway.

Postdoctoral researchers aspiring to a tenured professorship

As a rule, postdoctoral scholars verify that they are members of the university by presenting an employment contract. Postdoctoral researchers from partner institutions contact us directly.

The application can be submitted online via the application portal and should include the following documents:

- Support letter from your hosting professor at the University of Tübingen
- Cover letter of the applicant
- Curriculum vitae
- List of the most important publications
- Proven teaching experience
- Courses to be taught in Tübingen, including the potential title of the courses planned, type of course (lecture, seminar...), number of teaching hours/week (SWS), and a short summary of the contents of the courses planned
- Content of the research project
- Maximum 2 additional reference letters
- Certificate/confirmation of the applicant’s last university degree (Master’s or PhD)

The University of Tübingen provides funding to give young international academics the opportunity to become familiar with research and teaching at a German university, and thereby to expand the amount of courses given in foreign languages. Have you pursued your PhD in the last four years or are you a PhD student at an advanced stage of your studies? Do you come from one of our partner universities, preferably from strategically important partners and CVIS members? Would you like to broaden your teaching experience and individual research horizons with a stay in Germany, and build new professional ties? Then the Teach at Tübingen (T@T) program is the right choice.

Prerequisites for T@T candidates:

- advanced stage of the doctoral studies or postdoc (max 4 years after completing the PhD)
- academic relations with the potential hosting professor
- classes must be held in English for a minimum of 2 teaching hours/week (2 SWS)
- classes must be made public and open to all students
- planned length of the stay should be one to two semesters

The application can be submitted online via the application portal and should include the following documents:

- Cover letter of the applicant
- Curriculum vitae
- List of the most important publications
- Proven teaching experience
- Courses to be taught in Tübingen, including the potential title of the courses planned, type of course (lecture, seminar...), number of teaching hours/week (SWS), and a short summary of the contents of the courses planned
- Content of the research project
- Maximum 2 additional reference letters
- Certificate/confirmation of the applicant’s last university degree (Master’s or PhD)

For further information and deadlines:
https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/141598

Head of Graduate Academy: Regina Rapp
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/15967

The Graduate Academy works to improve the quality of support and training for junior researchers through

- information and transparency
- qualification of doctoral researchers for an academic career as well as for professions outside the university
- promotion of interdisciplinary networking among doctoral candidates
- quality assurance

A further goal is to make the university more attractive for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from Germany and abroad.

The Graduate Academy actively promotes equal opportunities for women and men in fulfilling all of its tasks and regards this goal as an overall guiding principle of its work.

The Graduate Academy of the University of Tübingen is dedicated to promoting junior researchers. It is the umbrella organization for the graduate academies of the faculties, through which it also integrates the university’s doctoral training programs and doctoral training networks.
INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMS

• Franco-German bachelors- and master degrees Tübaix
• Masters in intercultural Franco-German studies (AIFA)
• International Erasmus Mundus masters-program “Crossways in European Humanities”
• International studies in computational linguistics (ISCL); B.A. and M.A. program
• “Language Structures in German and English”: linguistic collaboration between the University of Tübingen and the University of Maryland
• M.A. in Near Eastern languages and civilizations
• M.A. in social and cultural anthropology

INTERNATIONAL & EUROPEAN STUDIES

The short-term program “International & European Studies” offers students from all over the world a chance to study Europe and the European Union from the unique vantage point of one of Germany’s few universities in the top “excellent” class, situated in the heart of Europe. The program includes academic courses on European history, politics, economics, and culture taught by renowned Tübingen researchers as well as German language courses and a wide range of cultural activities. The seminars are complemented by excursions to relevant European cities (Strasbourg, Berlin), and visits to companies in the economically strong region of Baden-Württemberg. The programs are taught entirely in English and provide the possibility of obtaining course credit.

info@european-studies.uni-tuebingen.de
www.uni-tuebingen.de/european-studies

GERMAN COURSES

The University of Tübingen’s “Deutsch als Fremdsprache” (DaF) office provides a comprehensive program of German courses for international students.

Services: The Tübingen DaF-Program helps you to organize your study trip to Tübingen successfully, to improve your German, and to get to know Germany and the Germans better.

Would you like to take an intensive German course in August? Would you like to take an intensive German course before commencing your studies? Are you a PhD student, postdoc, or guest lecturer at our University and would like to take an evening course in order to learn enough German to make everyday life in Germany easier?

Take a look at the “Deutsch als Fremdsprache” office’s semester program on the website!

info@dafi.uni-tuebingen.de
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/1056

FUNDING PROGRAMS FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

Grants to support the initiation of international collaboration
• For: Postdocs, senior researchers
Mercator Fellows
• For: Postdocs, senior researchers from all countries

EUROPEAN FUNDING

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
• Individual Fellowships for experienced researchers from all countries
ERC Grants for top rank researchers from all countries

European Funding
www.bit.ly/dfg_funding_programmes
European Funding: www.bit.ly/erc_funding

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
Humboldt Research
• For: Senior researchers from all countries; nomination submitted by German academics
Sofja Kovalevskaja Award
• For: Top rank junior researchers from all countries
Georg Forster Research
• For: Outstanding, internationally recognized scientists from developing or transition countries
Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award
• For: Internationally renowned scientists and scholars from all countries

DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)

Research Stays for University Academics and Scientists
• For: University teachers, scientists with doctorate degree from all countries
Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience (P.R.I.M.E.)
• For: Postdocs from all countries
Bilateral Exchange of Academics
• For: Postdocs (with PhD or equivalent) from selected countries

Funding

Humboldt Funding

DAAD Funding
The Matariki Network of Universities (MNI) is an international group of leading, like-minded universities, each amongst the most historic in its own country, and recognized as being:

- a premier place of advanced learning, nationally and internationally
- research-intensive across a broad subject base
- focused on providing a high-quality student experience
- flexible, innovative, comprehensive and globally orientated

In the framework of multilateral cooperation in the Matariki Network, the University of Tübingen offers funding opportunities for master and PhD students as well as for postdoctoral researchers of the following Universities: Dartmouth College (USA) – Durham University (Great Britain) – University of Otago (New Zealand) – Queen’s University (Canada) – Uppsala University (Sweden) – The University of West Australia (Australia).

The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities

The University of Tübingen is a founding member of the Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities (The Guild). The Guild is a consortium of leading research universities in Europe that jointly seek to enhance European research policy.

The Guild’s member universities are committed to cooperation in the European Research Area. Through their research and the interaction with political and economic actors, as well as other research bodies, they will contribute to political processes, public debate, and scientific excellence.

**Guild members Universities:**
- Aarhus University
- The University of Bologna
- Ghent University
- The University of Glasgow
- The University of Göttingen
- The University of Groningen
- Jagiellonian University Krakow
- King’s College London
- University of Louvain
- University of Ljubljana
- The University of Oslo
- University Paris Diderot
- Radboud University
- University of Tartu
- Uppsala University
- The University of Vienna
- The University of Warwick

For information see: [https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/91667](https://uni-tuebingen.de/en/91667)

International Networks

The University of Tübingen has joined with seven other European institutions of higher education in the CIVIS – A European Civic University alliance. The partners aim to work together to boost international student exchanges, European civil society, and cooperation with Africa and the Middle East.

The aims of the participating universities are to play a greater role in society, to carry out relevant research, and to work responsibly and sustainably with an eye to the future. The thematic focus of the group is on the areas of health, cities, spaces and transportation, climate, environment and energy, digital and technological change, society and cultures, and cultural heritages.


Further Member Universities

- Aix-Marseille University
- National Kapodistrian University of Athens
- University of Bucharest
- Université libre de Bruxelles
- Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- Sapienza - University of Rome
- Stockholm University
The Welcome Center provides service and support for international researchers before and during their stay at the University of Tübingen. We offer our services to international doctoral students, post-doctoral, and senior researchers, as well as professors regarding all non-academic and practical issues. We want to help you quickly settle in and feel comfortable. We offer comprehensive everyday-life support such as assistance with questions regarding visa applications and health insurance, support finding accommodation, and advice about important family issues in Germany, e.g. how to find appropriate schooling or kindergartens.

But that’s not all! Our goal is to set up a network for international researchers in all of Tübingen’s faculties and to help them find their way around life and work in Tübingen. To help you to build up a social network, we organize guided tours, get-togethers, and events. Our aim is to offer international scholars a full range of services so that they can do great research, enjoy life outside of the laboratory, and look forward to coming back again. Just register with us!

General information pertaining to living in Tübingen is jointly provided by the Welcome Centers of the University of Tübingen, its Faculty of Medicine, and the Max Planck Institutes on the website of Tübingen Research Campus.

http://www.tuebingenresearchcampus.com/tuebingen/

On the pages of the Tübingen Research Campus you will find:

> Living here: general information, accommodations, in health and in sickness, shopping, family, and getting around
> Preparing your stay: checklists for before your arrival, your first two weeks in Tübingen, as soon as possible, before you leave
> Paperwork: immigration procedures, work and taxes
> Personal support: contact data for the support teams of the various member institutions of the Tübingen Research Campus

Kirsten Sonnenschein
welcomecenter@uni-tuebingen.de
www.uni-tuebingen.de/en/10161