



EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



CSC-Tübingen PhD Scholarship Program

2026/2027 application round: prospective PhD positions at the University of Tübingen

Faculty:

International Center for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities

Institute / Section / Subject:

Philosophy of Design and Engineering, Ethics of Innovation

Supervising Professor:

Prof. Dr. phil. Dipl.-Ing. Sabine Ammon

About the Supervisor:

[Sabine Ammon](#) is Professor for Ethics of scientific and technological innovation at the University of Tübingen at the [International Center for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities](#) (IZEW). She specialises in the ethics and epistemology of design and technology. Her work combines philosophical reflection with a design approach across disciplines. She has been the principal investigator and spokesperson for various interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research projects focusing on emerging technologies, including AI, robotics, architecture, transport and mobility, biotechnology, and health technologies. From 2019 to 2026, she was Professor of Knowledge Dynamics and Sustainability in Engineering Sciences at the Technical University of Berlin, as well as Scientific Director of the Berlin Ethics Certificate and the Berlin Ethics Lab, a cross-disciplinary laboratory that addresses the societal challenges posed by AI and other emerging technologies.

Specification/Project title:

Ethics and epistemology of generative Artificial Intelligence in designing architecture

Topic Description:

Generative AI in architecture promises to transform design and construction, driving efficiency, innovation, and sustainability. Potential applications include project conception, design, and execution by optimizing layouts, structures, and materials, but also by improving workflows, project management, tendering, building performance simulation, or prediction. This project explores generative design tools

as epistemic tools or agents, which come with specific constraints and affordances. It combines an empirical investigation based on expert interviews and participant observation with a conceptual analysis grounded in the philosophy and ethics of design and engineering. The project's aim is both to better understand the ongoing change in architectural practices and to co-design guidelines and safeguards for the ethical deployment of these technologies.

Intended Degree:

Dr. phil.

Type of the PhD Study:

- 1) Full-time (complete doctoral studies at the University of Tübingen) OR
- 2) Sandwich-Model (12-24 months at the University of Tübingen; Degree conferred by the Chinese home university)

Required Degrees and Qualifications:

- A successfully completed master degree, ideally in philosophy in combination with computer science, architecture, or engineering
- Major areas of study in the philosophy of design and engineering, technology, ethics of technology, AI ethics, or philosophy of science
- Basic skills in empirical social science are an advantage (e.g. conducting and analysing expert interviews, participant observation)
- A passion for interdisciplinary collaboration
- Very good command of English
- Ability to work as part of a team and to work independently

Language Requirements:

TOEFL iBT 95, IELTS 6.5