

DFG-funded Research Training Group “Fixing Futures: Technologies of Anticipation in Contemporary Societies”

Information and guideline for applicants

The research training group is located at Goethe University Frankfurt. It offers

10 Doctoral Researchers positions (TV-L E13, 75% part-time) and

2 Postdoctoral Researchers positions (TV-L E13, 100% full-time)¹

1. Application procedure for the doctoral researchers positions

The application must contain:

- a covering letter in which applicants describe themselves and their motivation,
- the completed application form,
- a curriculum vitae (CV),
- copies of grade certificates / university degree (translated if not in German or English),
- two names of professors who are able to provide information about the candidate's scientific potential, personal eligibility for a PhD post in a Research Training Group, thematic fit and competencies in empirical research methods.
- a research proposal (of max. 4000 words plus references and ½ page abstract) which relates to the research programme of “Fixing Futures”. Please make sure to be familiar with the programme description available on www.fixingfutures.eu. Your envisaged dissertation project may relate to one research area (governance, economies, or life but projects can also address more than one research area).

Your research proposal should refer to the following:

1. Topic and brief description of your project and main research question; explanation

¹ For information on the DFG Personnel Rates see https://www.dfg.de/formulare/60_12/v/60_12_-2023-en.pdf

how your research project relates to the Research Training Group programme and contributes to research on technologies of anticipation.

2. Outline of relevant theories / background concepts and a selected overview over existing research in the field and own previous work (where relevant).

3. Work programme: objectives and study design of your research project; methodology and research methods.

4. Work plan: Show how your project could be organised and realised within four years.

Applications must be sent via email to dekanat.fb03-bewerbungen@soz.uni-frankfurt.de. Send your application by **15th January 2023** in one email, with all documents attached in one pdf file (where possible) with the file name containing your second name.

Assessment criteria and selection procedure

In accordance with the regulations in the three participating faculties, doctoral researchers must possess the following qualifications, in order to be considered:

- (a) a very good Master's degree in STS, human geography, cultural anthropology, sociology or a neighbouring discipline;
- (b) good methodological skills and research experience (e.g. as a student assistant in projects and/or through empirical qualification work);
- (c) a depth of knowledge in at least one research area (economies, governance, life);
- (d) very good skills in spoken and written English;
- (e) ability and willingness to work in a team.

Interviews with candidates whose applications have been shortlisted will take place on **Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th February 2023 in Frankfurt** (depending on the distance of travel, visa requirements, family responsibilities, financial situation, etc. online interviews may be organised). Please make sure that you will be available during these two days. Unfortunately Goethe University cannot reimburse travel costs for the interviews.

Successful candidates will be allocated two **supervisors**, the final composition of which can change during the first year. Doctoral researchers will sign an agreement of supervision with all professors involved in the Research Training Group in accordance with the PhD regulations of the Goethe University.

PhD posts are part time positions (75%), funded by the DFG, and limited to the period of 4 years (the salary is according to TV-L E 13 and varies according to prior job experience; level 1 applies for persons without prior academic job experience). The limitation of contracts is in

line with the ‘Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz’ that regulates employment of early career researchers in Germany.

2. Application procedure for the postdoctoral researchers positions

The application must contain:

- a covering letter in which applicants describe themselves and their motivation,
- a curriculum vitae (CV),
- copies of grade certificates / university degree (translated if not in German or English),
- two names of professors who are able to provide information about the candidate’s scientific potential, personal eligibility for a postdoc position in a Research Training Group, thematic fit and competencies in empirical research methods.
- a research proposal (of max. 4000 words plus references and ½ page abstract) which relates to the research programme of “Fixing Futures” (please make sure to be familiar with the programme description available on www.fixingfutures.eu. Your envisaged postdoctoral project may relate to at least one research area (governance, economies, life).

Your research proposal should refer to the following:

1. Topic and brief description of your project and main research question; explanation how your research project relates to the Research Training Group programme and contributes to research on technologies of anticipation.
2. Outline of relevant theories / background concepts and a selected overview over existing research in the field and own previous work (if relevant)
3. Work programme: objectives and study design of your research project; methodology and research methods
4. Work plan: Show how your project could be organised and realised within five years.

Applications must be sent via email to dekanat.fb03-bewerbungen@soz.uni-frankfurt.de. Send your application by **15th January 2023** in one email, with all documents attached in one pdf file (where possible) with the file name containing your second name.

Interviews with shortlisted candidates will take place on **Thursday 16th and Friday 17th February 2023 in Frankfurt** (depending on the distance of travel, visa requirements, family responsibilities, financial situation, etc. online interviews may be organised). Please, make sure that you will be available on this day. Unfortunately Goethe University cannot reimburse travel costs for the interviews.

Successful candidates will choose a **mentor** from the group of participating researchers. Together with the mentor, you will jointly develop a work plan with annual milestones and individualised career advice, which is continuously assessed and updated in biannual supervision meetings.

Postdoc posts are full time positions (100%), funded by the DFG, and limited to the period of 5 years (the salary is according to TV-L E 13 and varies according to prior job experience; level 1 applies for persons without prior academic job experience). The limitation of contracts is in line with the 'Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz' that regulates employment of early career researchers in Germany.

For postdoctoral researchers, the following criteria apply:

- (a) an outstanding doctorate in STS, human geography, cultural anthropology, sociology or a neighbouring discipline;
- (b) good methodological skills and research experience;
- (c) depth of knowledge in at least one work area (economies, governance, life);
- (d) excellent competences in research methods and theories in STS as well as publications in (inter-)national peer-reviewed journals;
- (e) a research proposal on a project that promises to make an important contribution to STS research on future-making through technologies of anticipation;
- (f) ability and willingness to work in a team.