



## CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

### International Summer School „Globalization and Diversity“,

**2nd August – 15th August, 2018, Georg-August-Universität  
Göttingen, Germany**

We are pleased to announce the Call for Participants for a 2nd International Summer School on „Globalization and Diversity“. All MA students or advanced BA students from the Social Sciences including transdisciplinary study programs such as Gender, Disability or Postcolonial Studies, are invited to participate. The interdisciplinary International Summer School is organized by the Goettingen Diversity Research Institute. Students from the following partner institutions are invited to apply:

Ghent University (BE)  
University of Göttingen (DE)  
University of Groningen (NL)  
Uppsala University (SE)  
Kyoto University (JPN)

Stanford University (US)  
Osaka University (JPN)  
University of California, Berkeley (US)  
Tohoku University (JPN)  
University of Tokyo (JPN)

### Themes of the Summer School

Social diversity has always been an integral feature of public and private life worlds. This has become even more relevant due to the spiraling globalization that connects remote people and places into a global system. In the last decades the recognition and following politicization of differences developed in manifold ways and spheres. Activism, politics and academia alike became committed to the task of creating more equal conditions on local and global scales. However, at this point of history this commitment is being openly questioned by reactionary forces. All over the world we recognize a surge of populism and nationalism questioning the critical commitment to equal opportunities, participation and inclusion. New and known –isms (racism, ethnocentrism, sexism, classism, ageism, ableism...) are deployed to draw or revive local as well as global (b)orders between nations, ‘cultures’, groups and individuals – between ‘them’ and ‘us’.

In academia, the Social Sciences are especially well-equipped to critically accompany and to analyze the current two-fold dynamics: As students and scholars we are not only responsible for identifying, analyzing and evaluating the impact of such social, economic and political dynamics that foster inequality. Furthermore, our scientific expertise gained through analysis and research puts us in the responsible position to raise our voice and counter such harmful nostalgic arguments. Diversity sensitive expertise does not only in itself creates counterstrategies but also supports those (still) invested and committed in the endorsement of local and global inclusion, Human Rights, ethics, social justice, intergroup and intercultural dialogues, participation and empathetic community-building.

By sharing knowledge and research from diverse interdisciplinary perspectives on local as well as global issues connected to the dynamics of Globalization and Diversity, we aim to

equip students from different cultural and disciplinary communities with new insights, modes of inquiry and methodological approaches to complex social challenges. Moreover we want to disseminate practical findings, facilitate new ways of thinking, foster intercultural understanding and sensitivity as well as collective appreciation of diversity itself.

We invite submissions of abstracts (for a presentation time of approx. 15 minutes) focused on, but not limited to the following topics. We also welcome submissions that may fall outside of these topics but that will still be of relevance and interest to the overall topic.

- Diversity and Communication: language, technology, intercultural, non-verbal, journalism
- Diversity and Community: social inclusion, discrimination and privileges
- Diversity and Corporeality: the body, accessibility, emotions and affects, social normativity
- Diversity and Education: practices and policies, didactics, learning in an differentiated world
- Diversity and Global Hierarchy: (Post-) colonialisms, conflict, development work, mission and aid, ‘othering’
- Diversity and Identity: belonging in local/global scapes, intersectional dynamics, individual differences
- Diversity and Labor: workplaces, biographies, flexibilisation, global commerce, outsourcing
- Diversity and Media and Art: mis/representations, generalizations and images
- Diversity and Organizations: productivity, managing diverse needs in economic times
- Diversity and Politics: policies and legislative regulations, governance, ethics, Human Rights, security

## **Organization of the Summer School**

The Summer School will be organized as an intensive two-week program taking place from **2nd– 15th August 2018** at the University of Göttingen, Germany. The selected students will be supervised by staff members of the Diversity Research Institute and interact with multiple international lecturers active in Diversity Studies.

Daily lectures by international scholars will cover current trends in diversity research, different dimensions of diversity and their intersections and explain the importance of diversity knowledge in education, society and management. Each day is structured around a particular topic, including keynote lectures, group discussions, student project presentations, master classes as well as excursions.

We have planned the following themes and perspectives:

- Anthropology of gender, culture and religion
- Global diversities and superdiversity
- Didactics of diversity in school education
- Sociology of gender and religion (globally and locally), of work and diversity of self-employment
- Women's and Diversity Studies of visual cultures and the post-colonial

Students will pursue their own research in student-led seminars and group work. Students are asked to present their own work (e.g. parts of B.A./M.A. thesis, seminar paper/essay etc.) or research ideas (based on the submitted abstract) to teachers as well as other students in one of the classes.

Excursions to a variety of local sites will provide information on specific German topics and perspectives related to diversity in past and present. Further the excursions will extend the students' intercultural competencies and provide opportunities for reflection upon their learning experiences. The planned excursions include, among others, a concentration camp memorial site as well as the Refugee Transit Camp Museum in Friedland. The summer school is organized in two modules. Through mutual agreements 9 ECTS Credit Points will be recognized for students from all participating institutions. 6 Credit Points will be gained through lectures, seminars and a written paper, 3 Credit Points by participating in the excursions and reflecting upon them in a written form.

The Summer School aims to attract a limited number of students (up to 30) in order to maximize in-depth discussions and networking within the context of contemporary Diversity Studies in a global context. The selection committee aims at creating a group of students with various disciplinary backgrounds using different approaches. As such, we want to facilitate intensive and stimulating interdisciplinary discussions and exchange among students.

The Summer School is free of charge for all selected participants. Travel grants (paid as fixed country allowances) and free accommodation are available for international participants. The participants themselves must cover all individually incurred costs such as admission fees and food.

## **Submission Details**

- Abstracts of the work the student wants to work on and present during the Summer School should not exceed a maximum of 2,000 characters (including spaces) and must be written in English
- The title should clearly indicate the topic of research
- CV including contact information

**Deadline for submitting the abstract: 26 January 2018**

**Submit your abstract & CV under the following URL:**

<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/569981.html>

If you have any questions, please contact us:

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Kristina Schneider, Student Counselor and Student Support Services, Diversity Research Institute: [Kristina.schneider@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:Kristina.schneider@uni-goettingen.de)

Further information about the Summer School and the program:

<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/569930.html>

<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/569981.html>

## **Organizing Committee**

Astrid Biele Mefebue, Andrea D. Bührmann, Kristina Schneider