

Postdoctoral Positions

One DFG and one university funded postdoctoral positions are available immediately in the Research Training Group Risk and East Asia. Pending funding, a fourth position may become available. We seek applicants who have an excellent doctorate in the social or economic sciences or area studies and a strong interest in regional and comparative research in East Asia. Applicants must have demonstrated competence in either Japanese or Chinese language and research experience in the East Asian region.

Successful applicants are expected to develop a research project with a focus on one of the sub-themes of the research training group. To enable a focus on research, a reduction of the teaching load from 4 SWS to 2 SWS per semester can be granted. In addition, postdocs are expected to contribute to the doctoral training activities, including the mentoring of doctoral projects in the group, supporting the organization of the joint training measures with the Universities of Leeds and Sheffield (White Rose East Asia Centre) and the East Asian partners, the Institute of Social Sciences at the University of Tokyo and the Faculty of Sociology and Population at the Renmin University in Beijing.

Postdocs are appointed for two years, after which they are expected to have raised third-party funds to continue as self-funded independent researchers in the research training group. Postdoctoral fellows will receive support from the participating scientists in developing proposals for third-party research funding. For this purpose, postdocs are eligible for preliminary research funding, including travel and short residencies in East Asia. In-East and the University Duisburg-Essen provide support for partners and families of post-doctoral fellows.

In-East offers an active and collegial research environment, with strong international networks and an orientation toward peer reviewed publication and basic research funding. The University Duisburg-Essen, located in one of the largest metropolitan regions in Europe, is easily reached from abroad via the Düsseldorf International Airport, and by direct ICE train links from Amsterdam, Basel, Berlin, Cologne and Frankfurt. Once a center of heavy industry, and still the largest inland harbor in the world, Duisburg today is a culturally diverse city with several major museums and concert halls. The Landschaftspark-Nord in the northern region of the city, a centerpiece of the Ruhr Region "Industry Culture Road" located within the former steel factory, includes a diving station in an old gas tank, club space for indie pop and jazz music, and a climbing park operated by the German alpine club, where climbers can scale bunkers which once stored materials and byproducts of steel production. Local rental prices in Duisburg are very low in comparison to other major German cities, and the university offers a range of services for young families.

Applicants are requested to submit the following documents:

1. C.V. including date of birth, nationality, a list of publications, teaching and research experience and certification of English and East Asian language competencies, certified copies of all degrees awarded and transcripts of courses.
2. A short outline of research proposed within the research training group (see Profile and Research Sub-Themes), no longer than five pages plus bibliography.
3. Doctoral thesis, preferably in published form, and up to two additional important publications.

4. Two letters of recommendation from university professors, who can address your prior research and teaching accomplishments, your ability to undertake independent research and to support doctoral training activities, especially in the East Asian region.

Application Deadline:

August 16, 2009

Send Applications to:

PhD@in-east.de

Prof. Karen Shire Ph.D.

Institute of East Asian Studies

University Duisburg-Essen

Campus Duisburg

47048 Duisburg

Germany