

Welcome Day 14 October 2025



Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS)
Dr. Sabine Schäfer

A few words about doing a PhD

- First phase of professional academic career leading to jobs inside and outside academia
- What it takes to succeed in academia:
 - Achievements
 - Support
 - The claim to a 'place of one's own'
- BGHS: 3 leading principles: interdisciplinarity, internationality, self-initiative
- BGHS: The more you take part, the more you get out of it.

BGHS community (October 2025)

191 doctoral researchers: 53 in history, 138 in sociology

57% female, 37% international

14% scholarship holders, 58% academic staff, and

28% individually funded researchers

280 alumni since 2008

50 professors: 20 in Department of History

30 in Faculty of Sociology

BGHS structure

Ruth Ayaß (*director*)
Frank Grüner (*deputy director*)

Academic liaison
Hartmann Tyrell

Doctoral representatives
Nicolas Barden
Angela Gutierrez
Elisabeth Schmidt
Manuel Palm



BGHS office
Clara Buitrago
Nicole Käufler
Sabine Schäfer

Executive board
Ruth Ayaß
Nicolas Barden
Clara Buitrago
Lars Deile (dean)
Oliver Flügel-Martinsen (dean)
Frank Grüner
Angela Gutierrez
Martina Kessel
Martin Kroh
Teresa Malice
Ursula Mense-Petermann
Christina Morina
Lisa Regazzoni
Leopold Ringel
Tobias Werron

Communication & information

Weekly newsletter as central source of information

BGHS blog on website

“Chances and Challenges – The BGHS Podcast”

For study programme please see eKVV (electronic study programme)

For information about the BGHS please see <https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/einrichtungen/bghs/>

or contact us: bghs@uni-bielefeld.de

For information on the faculties please see:

Department of History
<https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/geschichtswissenschaft/index.xml>

Contact:
Dr. Bettina Brandt
(bettina.brandt@uni-bielefeld.de)

Faculty of Sociology
<https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/fakultaeten/soziologie/>

Contact:
Astrid Dinter
(promotionsausschuss.soz@uni-bielefeld.de)

Doctoral training programme

Supervision Agreement of doctoral researchers, supervisors and BGHS

Support in conflict situations: academic liaison Prof. Dr. Hartmann Tyrell or Dr. Sabine Schäfer

Annual progress reports (first report after 6 months)

Confirmations of attendance

“Transcript of the Doctoral Programme” after completion of study programme

BGHS curriculum

Mandatory programme: 6 CP

one Theory Class
= 0.5 CP

Theory
(1 class)

Mandatory programme

Transferable skills
(2 workshops)

Methods
(1 class)

Research classes
(4 classes)

two to four
Transferable Skills
Workshops = 1 CP
(BGHS, PEP or other)

one Methods Class
= 0.5 CP

four Research Classes
= 4 CPs

Annual Seminar

Research colloquium

Specialised seminars

Conference attendance

Study group

Teaching

Interdisciplinary Theory Seminar

Workshop organisation

Optional programme

*Conference paper:
0.5 CP*

*Organising a workshop:
1 CP*

*Participation in a study
group: 0.5-1 CP*

*Post as a doctoral
representative: 0.5 CP*

Colloquium with own paper: 1 CP
*Colloquium without own paper:
0.5 CP*

Research Retreat: 0.5 CP

*Teaching a course of one's own:
0.5-1 CP*

Optional programme: 4 CP

Special BGHS features

Post as a doctoral researchers' representative

Research Retreat on 28/29 November at VHS Bielefeld

Members' Meeting and Christmas Party on 10 December at 6 p.m.

Organisation of a workshop (funding available)

Public lecture series "Linie 4" in May and June

Working Paper Series

Advice on funding opportunities for international mobility and other things

Welcome to the BGHS!