

BGHS Annual Review 2025

Community and Activities



Content

Part I: BGHS Community

Part II: BGHS Activities

Part III: BGHS Doctoral
Representatives' Activities



Photo: Philipp Ottendörfer

BGHS Community Facts and Figures

Doctoral researchers at the BGHS
(winter term 2025/26)

**Admissions to doctoral
programme 2025**

**Successfully completed
doctorates in 2025**

	female	male	total
sociology	81	55	136
history	28	26	54
total	109	81	190

	female	male	total
sociology	10	7	17
history	4	1	5
total	14	8	22

	female	male	total
sociology	10	3	13
history	6	1	7
total	16	4	20

BGHS Community Facts and Figures

57% female, 36% international

13% scholarship holders, 57% academic staff, and 30% individually funded researchers

289 alumni since 2008

50 professors: 20 in Department of History, 30 in Faculty of Sociology

BGHS Community Facts and Figures

Projects in the faculties with BGHS participation

Second funding phase of Research Training Group **Experiencing Gender**

Leibniz ScienceCampus

Third funding phase of Research Training Group **World Politics**

First funding phase of Research Training Group **Cross-border Labour Markets**

... and many more excellent research projects in the Department of History and the Faculty of Sociology!

BGHS Community People

Doctoral Representatives

Anastasia Serikova (history)

Elisabeth Schmidt (sociology)

Deputy Representatives

Richard Höter (history)

Nicolas Barden (sociology)

Directors

Ruth Ayaß (director)

Frank Grüner (deputy director)

BGHS Office

Clara Buitrago (coordinator for internationalisation)

Nicole Käufer (student assistant)

Sabine Schäfer (executive manager)

BGHS Community People

20 successfully completed doctorates in chronological order

Zhenwei Wang (Sociology): The Gender and Class Dynamics of Families on the Move: An Ethnography on Translocal Kinning and Caregiving in Contemporary China

Maria Guadalupe Rivera Garay (Sociology): Indigene Völker und transnationale Migration: Eine Schule der Migration zwischen Widerstand, Anpassung und Rekonzeptualisierungen

Alice Farneti (Sociology): Experiencing Institutionalization. An Ethnographic Study of Activism against Sexual Violence in Montreal Universities

Clara Camille Held (History): Raum, Kontakt und Gewalt – sowjetische Kriegsgefangene des Stalag 326 VI K in Zwangsarbeit in Ostwestfalen-Lippe 1941-1945

BGHS Community People

Yvonne Schellhorn (History): Qualität nach Plan? Die Material- und Warenprüfung der DDR (1945-1964)

Eva Kristin Färber-Vogt (Sociology): Politische Einstellungen und Orientierungen zu Europa. Eine Studie zu Schülerinnen und Schülern an berufsbildenden Schulen

Alina Isakova (Sociology): Do International Organizations Cooperate? Factors Influencing Cooperation among Inter- and Non-Governmental Organizations in Early Warning and Response to Violent Conflicts

Marthe Becker (History): Ethnographie und ἐκκλησία. Überlegungen zum ethnographischen Schreiben in den Kirchengeschichten des 4. und 5. Jh.s

BGHS Community People

Anna Maria Neubert (History): Towards Mapping the Field. Eine feministische Untersuchung der Rolle drittmittelgeförderter Projekte für die Entwicklung der Digital Humanities in Deutschland (1996-2021)

Vanessa Ullrich (Sociology): Can our Desires Change the World? A Critique of Desire-Positivity as an Ascending Paradigm in Contemporary Movements

Katrin Rickmeier (Sociology): Regional Opportunities and Disparities. Modelling Labour Market Inequalities and Dynamics of Digitalization

Tim Niklas Rieke (History): Verkannte Krisenmanager. Deutsche Konsuln in Südamerika 1840-1914

BGHS Community People

Rangsan Sukhampha (Sociology): Understanding Policy Diffusion across Multi-Centric Policymaking Entities: Exploring Thailand's Health Policy Development in Multiple Contexts

Ell Rutkat (Sociology): Genitalflüssigkeiten und Geschlecht: Eine erlebnisbezogene und neomaterialistische Forschung über Körper im Werden

Frank Meyhöfer (Sociology): Weltdiagnosen. Gesellschaftstheorien zwischen Wissenschaft und Öffentlichkeit 1820-1920

Yiming Zhang (Sociology): Governing Morality of Citizens. An Empirical Study in Chinese Family Construction

BGHS Community People

Carolina Hormaza (History): Regionalising the Tropics: German Geographers and the Knowledge Production on Agrarian Colonisation in Latin America in the mid-20th Century

Alisait Yilkin (Soziology): To Vote or Not to Vote. (Dis-)Engagement of Grandchildren of 'Guest Workers' in Turkish Elections (2014-2023): A Case Study on Political (Non-)Participation of Turkish Youth of Germany

Assia Alkass (Sociology): Phänomenologie der Pornographierezeption. Geschlecht, Sexualität und Begehren erleben

Eva-Maria Gillich (History): Die Verumweltlichung operativer Bilder. Maschinelles Sehen – Ubiquitous Computing – Planetarische Prozesse

BGHS Community People

Awards

BGHS alumna **Malin Wilckens** won the Johannes Zilkens Doctoral Prize of the Studienstiftung 2025 for her dissertation *Schädelvergleiche und die Ordnung der Welt – Rassifizierung in der Wissenschaft (1780–1880)* (Skull comparisons and the order of the world - racialisation in science (1780-1880)).

BGHS alumni **Marc Jacobsen** and **Mirko Ruks** received Dissertation Prizes of the University Society of Bielefeld University. Read more about the dissertations [here](#).

BGHS Activities

Chances and Challenges – The BGHS Podcast

Since the summer term 2025, BGHS offers a podcast about all the different issues you face during the doctorate. Topics of the episodes are:

- Graduate training in Germany
- Supervision relations, also from the perspectives of two professors
- Internationalisation issues, e.g. learning German, logistics of starting a PhD in Germany
- Experiences with a research stay and field work
- Writing a dissertation
- Non-academic careers
- Academic self-government

BGHS Activities

Linie 4

3 lectures at vhs Bielefeld

Christina Zschieschang: Wettlauf zurück zum Mond? Der Mond als Bühne gegenwärtiger Weltpolitik (07.05.2025)

Malin Houben: Ganz schön intim! Wie man bei gynäkologischen Untersuchungen mit allen Sinnen Nähe und Distanz herstellt (21.05.2025)

Stefan Roepke: Mehr als Politik. Moral und gutes Leben am Fürstenhof des 16. Jahrhunderts (04.06.2025)

BGHS Activities

Linie 4 – in preparation for 2026

4 lectures at vhs Bielefeld

Hannah von Legat on 20 May 2026

Anastasia Serikova on 27 May 2026

Marcus Wystub on 10 June 2026

Ole Bunte on 17 June 2026

BGHS Activities

Film project

„Von Menschen und Dingen – Wissenschaft im Gespräch“
(On People and Things – Science in Conversation)

8 films with BGHS doctoral researchers in cooperation with
Filmhaus Bielefeld e.V.

Participants: Lorena Albornoz, Iris Bartelt,
Markus Buderath, Paul Goerigk,
Mariana Gomes, Tiantian Li, Yixuan Liu,
Christina Zschieschang

You find more information on the *Making of*
in the [BGHS Blog](#).



BGHS Activities

Interdisciplinary Dialogue

On 11 June, the Interdisciplinary Dialogue on *More than words – Language, Culture, and Academia* took place. Translator **Sandra Lustig**, linguist **Ingrid Piller** and historian **Lisa Regazzoni** discussed with **Sabine Schäfer** about the many facets the interplay of language and culture shows in academia. [Here](#) is a report on the event.



The poster features the University of Bielefeld and BGHS logos at the top. The title 'Interdisciplinary Dialogue' is in black, followed by 'More than Words' in red. Below this is the subtitle 'Language, Culture, and Academia'. A red box on the left lists the discussants: Sandra H. Lustig (translator), Ingrid Piller (linguist), and Lisa Regazzoni (historian). A black box on the right shows the date and time: 11 June 2025, 6:00 p.m., X-B2-103. At the bottom right, it says 'Followed by a reception in the BGHS Lounge' and includes a QR code with the text 'For more information see:'.

UNIVERSITÄT
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Bielefeld Graduate School
in History and Sociology

Interdisciplinary Dialogue

More than Words

Language, Culture,
and Academia

Discussants

Sandra H. Lustig
(translator)

Ingrid Piller
(linguist)

Lisa Regazzoni
(historian)

11 June 2025
6:00 p.m.
X-B2-103

Followed by a reception
in the BGHS Lounge

For more information
see:



BGHS Activities

Non-academic Career

BGHS Alumni's Experiences on the Way to Science Management

On 30 January, the BGHS organised an on-site event with 4 BGHS alumni who are working in science management positions at Bielefeld University. **Bastian Bredenkötter** (Department of digital transformation and process organisation), **Silvia Herb** (University Library), **Marie Lemser** (Internationalisation at Department of History) and **Ulf Ortmann** (GrACe) talked to **Clara Buitrago** about their experiences on their career paths.

Here is a report on the event.

UNIVERSITÄT
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Bielefeld Graduate School
in History and Sociology

Wege in die Außerakademische Karriere –
Wissenschaftsmanagement an der
Universität Bielefeld

Mit
Dr. Bastian Bredenkötter
Dr. Silvia Herb
Dr. Marie Lemser
Dr. Ulf Ortmann

30. Januar, 14 – 16 Uhr
X-B2-103

Doctorate

Non-Academic Career

Anmeldungen an
bghs@uni-bielefeld.de

Questions and Discussions in English are welcome!

BGHS Activities Academic Career

Online event *BGHS Alumni's Experiences on the Way to a Professorship*

On 2 July, the BGHS organised an online event with 2 BGHS alumni who are holding professorships. **Theo Jung** (University of Halle-Wittenberg) and **Dorothee Wilm** (University of Applied Sciences Bielefeld) talked to **Clara Buitrago** about their experiences on their career paths.



UNIVERSITÄT
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Bielefeld Graduate School
in History and Sociology

BGHS Alumni's Experiences on the
Way to a Professorship

2 July, 2 p.m.
Online

Doctorate

Professorship

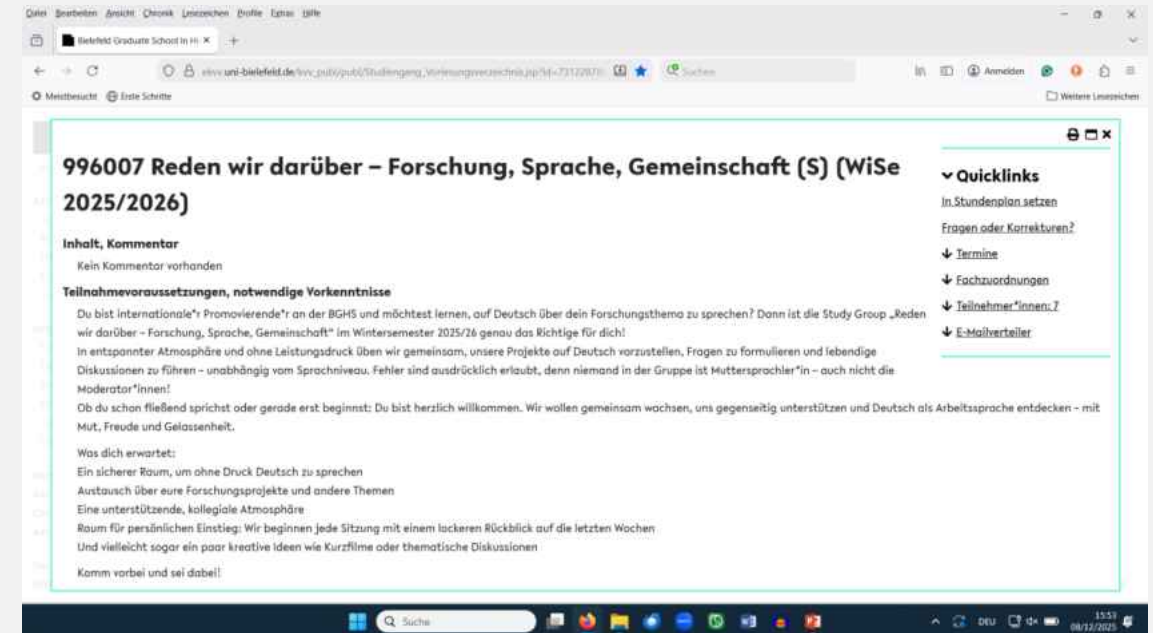
Please register with BGHS until 29 July
(bghs@uni-bielefeld.de)

BGHS Activities

Internationalisation

Study Group „Reden wir darüber – Forschung, Sprache, Gemeinschaft“

In summer term 2025, Clara Buitrago initiated the study group for international doctoral researchers who want to practice presenting their projects in German, formulating questions, and having lively discussions – regardless of language level.



It was a great success and continues. New participants are always welcome!
You find more information [here](#).

BGHS Activities

Internationalisation

Transatlantic Workshop Bielefeld/Notre Dame 2025

From 2 to 5 May 2025, 13 doctoral researchers and graduate students of the Departments of History at the University of Notre Dame/Indiana, Bielefeld University and – for the first time – the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv came to Notre Dame to discuss their dissertation projects with colleagues. The annual workshop is organised by the Department of History. Next year it will be in Bielefeld.

PhD Conference Lund/York/Bielefeld

From 12 to 13 May 2025, the PhD Conference Lund/York/Bielefeld took place in York. Doctoral researchers presented their research projects and had the chance to exchange their experiences.

BGHS Activities

In preparation for 2026

Transferable Skills workshop *Scholarly Argumentation* with **Zoltan Simon** in summer semester

Transferable Skills workshop *Make a podcast* with **Sabine Schäfer**

Workshop *Embodied Methods* organised by **Itxaso Garcia Chapinal** and **Raisa Ferrer**

Alumni event (22 January, 2 p.m. online) with BGHS alumni working in politics and political education: **Simon Lange** (Kreisgeschäftsführer CDU), **Christian Ulbricht** (Leiter des Regionalzentrums für demokratische Kultur Vorpommern-Greifswald) and **Franziska Wittau** (Leiterin der Landeszentrale für Politische Bildung Thüringen)

Public event to present the BGHS film project *Von Menschen und Dingen – Wissenschaft im Gespräch* in cooperation with Filmhaus Bielefeld

BGHS Activities continually ...

Organisation of the **Welcome Days** and the **Research Retreat** for new BGHS members

Organisation of Transferable Skills workshops and information meetings on services for doctoral researchers at Bielefeld University

Coordination of the curriculum and enquiry about suggestions of BGHS members for courses

Allocation of work places on the BGHS floor

Publication of **BGHS Newsletter**, **BGHS Blog**, **BGHS Podcast**, and **BGHS WPS**

Feedback on BGHS members' annual progress reports

Preparation of Transcripts of the Doctoral Programme

Support of third-party-funding proposals

Providing information, advice and support in all matters of the doctorate

BGHS Doctoral Representatives' Activities

Sunday walks



BGHS Doctoral Representatives' Activities

Museum visits



MARTa Herford



Kunsthalle Bielefeld

BGHS Doctoral Representatives' Activities

Moreover, ...

- Autonomous study groups
- BGHS Summer party
- New Doctoral Representatives in History: Anastasia and Richard



**Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!**