



INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED  
STUDY IN THE HUMANITIES  
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UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE  
RUHR



## KWI International Fellowships

Fellowships for the duration of 6 months from 1 October 2023 until 31 March 2024.

### **The KWI:**

The **Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities** (KWI) in Essen is an interdisciplinary research institute for the humanities and social sciences in the tradition of institutes for advanced study. Located in the Ruhr Area, KWI offers a space for independent and innovative research in the humanities and various opportunities to engage and include the public. Currently, research at KWI focusses on the following areas: literary and cultural sociology, cultural science studies, science communication and public humanities. Further projects are concerned with cultures of communication, among others. It is one of KWI's main goals to find new ways of linking research questions, concepts, methods and theories of philology, cultural studies and the social sciences. We are dedicated to pursuing our interdisciplinary agenda through international collaboration. An important contribution to our scholarly and political work comes from the Academy in Exile, offering research space to colleagues whose academic freedom is threatened.

### **Fellowship:**

The KWI fellowship program addresses excellent researchers from the humanities, cultural studies, and the social sciences. The institute provides fellows with modern infrastructure, office space, technical support and offers a library service, event and research management as well as support in all administrative and communicative regards.

We are inviting research fellows with a completed PhD plus up to six years of post-doctoral experience. The fellowships can be offered to applicants in all disciplines represented in the current [KWI research agenda](#). The KWI International Fellowship Program addresses international researchers. Researchers of German nationality are eligible to apply if currently employed at an international institute.

Fellows will receive a fellowship contract (not a full-employment contract) and a monthly allowance of 4.000 € (pre-tax) meant to cover rent, insurances and living expenses. Travel expenses for arrival at KWI and for departure after the fellowship can be partially reimbursed.

### **Expectations:**

- The fellowship should be dedicated to research linked to the programmatic agenda of KWI. Various project formats are possible: You might devote your time in Essen to finishing a book or a special issue, to finalizing a research proposal or setting up a research group. We also welcome plans to establish or substantiate collaborations with the universities of the Ruhr Alliance.
- We expect the fellows to be present at least 4 days a week. Fellows will be expected to participate in entry and exit interviews.

- Fellows are requested to actively take part in the Colloquium, lectures, conferences, reading groups and other academic events at KWI. Moreover, we expect the fellow to contribute to the KWI Blog. We also encourage fellows to organize a workshop during their fellowship.
- Fellows are invited to actively take part in academic events at KWI and will have the opportunity to design outstanding discussion formats with prominent researchers.
- Fellows are not expected to teach, but always welcome to inspire our teaching laboratory with new ideas or participate in lecture series and seminars at surrounding universities.
- Publications deriving from the time of residence should mention KWI.
- Knowledge of German is not required since the Fellowship Programme relies on a strong command of English.
- We expect successful applicants to begin their fellowship on the announced starting date (October 1). Apart from changes resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, we cannot accommodate any postponements.

### **Academic landscape:**

Fellows will have the opportunity to liaise with researchers in a rich and diversified academic landscape: The **University Alliance Ruhr** (UA Ruhr), KWI's umbrella structure, strategically links the universities of Duisburg-Essen, Bochum, and Dortmund. Nearby, the universities of Duesseldorf, Cologne, Muenster and Bielefeld as well as the renowned Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen offer further possibilities for collaboration and exchange. The close proximity of Belgium and the Netherlands to North Rhine-Westphalia has engendered cross-border programmes and initiatives from which fellows might profit. For details on 14 collaborative research centres and 13 graduate training groups within the UA Ruhr see here: [www.uaruhr.de/index.html.en](http://www.uaruhr.de/index.html.en).

### **The Ruhr Area:**

The cities of Duisburg and Essen are situated right in the middle of the Ruhr Area. With more than five million inhabitants and an area of about 4,435 square kilometres, the Ruhr Area is one of the largest metropolitan areas in Germany and the fifth largest in Europe. The region's cultural appeal and diverse urban landscape were recognised by the European Union in 2010 when Ruhr Metropolitan Area, spearheaded by Essen, was granted the honour of being the "European Capital of Culture". After the transformation of traditional industries, it was an important concern to make the Ruhr Area greener again. By now, this characteristic region in the West of Germany has developed into a cultural hub with manifold outdoor possibilities. The cities of Cologne and Düsseldorf can be easily reached, and the Netherlands and Belgium offer day-trip destinations.

### **Application:**

We kindly ask you to apply in the form of one single PDF-file (max. 20 MB) which must be submitted electronically to [kwi.fellowships@gmail.com](mailto:kwi.fellowships@gmail.com)

[Due to IT safety regulations, we cannot accept applications via links to external platforms.]

- The application must be formulated in English and must contain a CV, a list of publications, a PhD certificate, and a proposal sketching your KWI project (up to max. 5.000 characters).
- The application deadline is **28 February 2023, 24:00 (midnight, CET)**. We will not consider applications that are incomplete or submitted after this date.

- The fellows will be selected by a committee assembling members of the KWI governing board and the institute's director.
- Further information about the application process can be found in the [FAQs](#)

For further questions, please contact [kwi.fellowships@gmail.com](mailto:kwi.fellowships@gmail.com)