

IFK Internationales Forschungszentrum Kulturwissenschaften

Senior and Research Fellowships

Application Information

Senior Fellowships are designed to support excellent scholars, who are well advanced in their academic careers. Qualified scholars are eligible without regard to nationality, institutional, or departmental affiliation; although preference is given to applicants of international repute who have published significant papers in recognized refereed journals and books that establish the author as a leading expert in his/her academic field.

Duration and funding: Senior Fellowships will be granted for one academic semester (1 October 2010–31 January 2011 or 1 March–30 June 2011). Fellowships entail a maximum monthly stipend of € 2.325,-- (€ 75,-- per day), office space at the IFK equipped with electronic facilities including internet access as well as one-time travel costs to and from Vienna and free accommodation in a studio apartment (35 m²). The IFK will not contribute to retirement or health benefits.

Research Fellowships are designed to support post-doctoral scholars early in their careers. Applicants must have a Doctorate or a Ph.D. at the time of application. Qualified scholars are eligible without regard to nationality, institutional, or departmental affiliation; although preference is given to qualified Austrian applicants.

Duration and funding: Research Fellowships will be granted for one academic semester (1 October 2010–31 January 2011 or 1 March–30 June 2011). Fellowships entail a maximum monthly stipend of € 2.325,-- (€ 75,-- per day), office space at the IFK equipped with electronic facilities including internet access as well as one-time travel costs to and from Vienna and free accommodation in a studio apartment (35 m²). The IFK will not contribute to retirement or health benefits.

General Criteria of Evaluation

A thematic link to the IFK's current research foci on "**Cultures of Evidence**" and "**Certainty Undermined – Life-worlds and Knowledge in Transition**" – is desired but not a prerequisite for application. The IFK will also accept "independent" projects within the realm of humanities and social sciences unrelated to the present research foci. **Applications may be submitted either in German or English.**

Applications will be peer-reviewed by the IFK's International Academic Advisory Board. A final decision will be taken in regard to the requirements of the yearly scholarly program. The Board looks for **four essential features** in fellowship proposals:

- a well-defined and innovative research question
- a clear definition of the uniqueness of the work and/or the significance of the research to important theoretical and methodological issues in interdisciplinary culture studies and humanities
- a discussion of the work in the context of appropriate research done by international scholars
- clear methodological provisions that guarantee an interdisciplinary research focus

The IFK discourages proposals that are either exclusively theoretical or exclusively empirical in character. It supports projects that combine empirical investigation with thoughtful theoretical work. Research proposals that present a clearly formulated problem, demonstrate familiarity with the scholarly field(s), and develop an interdisciplinary methodological framework stand the best chance of approval by the International Academic Advisory Board.

Application Deadline and Decision Notification

Application deadline: 1 July 2009 (postmark)
Decision notification: 1 December 2009

IFK Fellowship Application Form (Application may be submitted either in German or in English)

For Senior Fellowship
Research Fellowship

Name:	Dr./Ph.D.	PD	Prof.	 <p>Photograph</p>
First:				
Last:				
Mailing address:				
Telephone:				
Fax:				
E-Mail:				
Departmental affiliation:				
Institution:				
Mailing address:				

Date & country of birth:			
Citizenship:		Sex:	male female

Language skills:			
Academic disciplines:			

Which of the following best describes your current academic position?			
Full Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	
Independent Scholar	Other (Please explain):		

Planned stay at the IFK:

winter term 2010 (1 October 2010–31 January 2011)
or
summer term 2011 (1 March 2011–30 June 2011)

Additional income during your stay at the IFK:

No
Yes Amount:

Title of project (15 words or less):

Abstract of research proposal (200 words, not smaller than 10-point type):

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the application is complete and the information contained herein is true and accurate.

.....
Date

.....
Applicant's Signature

Annexes (instructions see following page)

Please do not staple any application materials.

Applications must be mailed to:

PD Dr. Lutz Musner
IFK Internationales Forschungszentrum
Kulturwissenschaften
Reichsratsstraße 17
1010 Wien/Vienna
Österreich/Austria

Applications sent by fax or e-mail will not be accepted.

Please attach the following materials to this application form. The research **proposal** (excluding bibliography) should not exceed 1200 words.

Our reviewers appreciate legible, concise, well-organized material; we do not ask them to read applications that are not clearly typed or that exceed the prescribed length. The IFK reserves the right to return unread applications that are incomplete or those that do not follow the guidelines.

Please answer carefully each of the questions to prepare the research proposal:

Question 1: Describe your research question/hypothesis or research objective as precisely as possible. That is, what is the focus of your investigation?

The formulation of a developed research question, hypothesis or research objective is an important characteristic of a successful proposal and should therefore be concisely done. Instead of presenting a vast research topic, applicants should develop answerable questions in the context of a larger research topic.

Question 2: How does your research build upon and go beyond existing scholarship in your scholarly field?

The applicant should clearly demonstrate an excellent knowledge of the literature relevant to the topic of research and should indicate how the proposed research might advance previous work in the field.

How – if at all – does your research proposal relate to the present IFK_research focus?

Answering this question is compulsory for those applicants who do not submit “free projects” but research proposals within the research focus of the IFK.

Question 3: Which work program (methodology) is to be applied and which evidence will be assembled in order to answer your research question?

Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly demonstrate that the methodological procedures proposed and the evidence collected will realistically support the research objectives expressed in Question 1.

Question 4: The goal of the IFK is to support original and innovative research in interdisciplinary culture studies and humanities. Please describe the interdisciplinary dimension of your research project.

To be successful, applicants should emphasize the contribution of the proposed research not only to the specific area of research being addressed but also to the broader spectrum of interdisciplinary culture studies and humanities. Therefore it is important to precisely formulate the interdisciplinary dimension of the research project.

Further attachments:

- **Core bibliography** relevant to your research project (One page maximum)
- **Academic curriculum vitae/list of publications** (Five pages maximum)
- Recent **personal photograph**