

Overview of Topics of Doctoral Research for Applicants at BAGSS

Candidates wishing to apply for a BAGSS scholarship need to do so with at least one, but not more than two short research proposal(s) of maximum five pages. To increase your chance of a successful application, this research proposal should follow our guidelines (<http://www.uni-bamberg.de/en/bamberg-graduate-schools/english/bagss/application/regular-membership/>) and be aligned closely with the academic profile of our Graduate School. The Graduate School will only accept topics for which there are suitable supervisors inside the School. On the following pages, you will find a summary of the research and supervisory expertise in the Graduate School broken down by thematic area ('pillar') and professor.

Some young scholars may not have a fully developed proposal yet, but are interested in taking up doctoral studies in the areas of educational attainment, educational choices, the psychological dimension of education or economic returns on education in the labour market. Although we do supervise work in areas other than education, you may want to consider the exciting opportunities arising from our close cooperation with a number of major research institutions in the region, especially the Leibniz Institute for Educational Trajectories (LifBi). This Institute is located in Bamberg and has a very close cooperation with the University of Bamberg and us in the Graduate School. Many senior researchers at LifBi are professors at the Graduate School. We also maintain a close relationship with the Institute of Employment Research in Nuremberg (IAB), a leading research institute in the area of labour-market research, which is also located in the region and offers access to important and innovative datasets. More information about the IAB data is available here: http://fdz.iab.de/en/FDZ_Scope_of_Services.aspx

LifBi is one of our main external partners. Most importantly for some applicants, it hosts the National Educational Panel Study (NEPS), one of the most ambitious social-science projects for the longitudinal analysis of educational trajectories in Germany and internationally. The data produced by NEPS offer extraordinary opportunities for path-breaking doctoral work on educational trajectories and competence development across the entire life span, supervised by some of the leading principal investigators of the study. If you are interested in a PhD in the sociology of education, psychology with an emphasis on cognition and learning, demography or the economics of education, you may want to consider writing a research proposal based on NEPS data. Research proposals relating to NEPS data are particularly welcome. More information about these data and the design of the study is available here: <https://www.neps-data.de/en-us/home.aspx>

Pillar 1: Education, Personal Development and Learning from Early Childhood to Adulthood

Professor Cordula Artelt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • large-scale assessments • reading and reading development • metacognition and self-regulated learning • competence assessment • teacher professionalism and knowledge
Professor Claus H. Carstensen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • competence assessments • longitudinal data analyses • latent variable modelling
Professor Hans-Günther Roßbach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • childhood education • learning environment • effects of childhood education and learning environment on child development as well as longitudinal studies
Professor Annette Scheunpflug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • educational quality • citizenship education • educational anthropology • religion and education
Professor Ulrich Schroeders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • psychological and educational assessment, including computer-based assessment • intelligence and competence testing in educational large-scale assessment
Professor Marianne Schüpbach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • extended education (all-day schools, after school programs, extracurricular activities) • (primary) school-age student's development in extended education (achievement, socio-emotional development) • Quality of extended education • (Multi-professional) collaboration in school and classroom • Collaboration school and family • School career transition: grade retention, school entry • Educational quality • Inclusion
Professor Sabine Weinert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • language development • cognitive and metacognitive development • late talkers or specific language impairment • the development of implicit or explicit learning • relations between language and cognition in infancy and childhood • verbal self-regulation • cognitive and language assessment and promotion • (academic) language and social background or migration status etc. <p>(PhD-projects may use data from other projects like BiKS or NEPS.)</p>

Pillar 2: Education and Social Inequality Across the Entire Life Course

Professor Sandra Buchholz (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analysing social inequalities in various life spheres (such as in education, employment and family) • analysing underlying mechanisms for the (re-) production of social inequalities (from an international comparative perspective)
Professor Henriette Engelhardt-Wölfler (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social demography • family demography • epidemiological demography • population aging • causal analysis
Professor Michael Gebel (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • empirical studies on social inequality from a life course perspective • empirical studies on social inequality in international comparative perspective based on micro data • analysis of micro data from non-European countries in international comparative perspective • application of techniques of longitudinal data analyses • application of modern methods of causal analysis
Professor Guido Heineck (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (monetary and non-monetary) returns to education • causal effects of educational or labour market reforms • the integration of personality psychology in economics, educational and income mobility, and well-being
Professor Corinna Kleinert (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social inequalities in education and the labor market • gender inequalities in education and the labor market • transitions from school to work • career mobility over the life course
Professor Bernadette Kneidinger-Müller (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • usage and significance of Internet in different spheres of social life
Professor Cornelia Kristen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • migration and integration • social inequality • sociology of education • other areas related to her research interests
Professor Susanne Rässler (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • multiple imputation • correction methods of item- and unit-nonresponse in surveys • missing data • statistical matching • data anonymisation for disclosure control • Markov chain Monte Carlo methods • Bayesian statistics
Professor Ilona Relikowski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quantitative research on educational inequalities • longitudinal studies on cumulative effects of social and ethnic origin • horizontal and vertical gender disparities
Professor Steffen Schindler (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social inequalities in education and their social mechanisms • labour market returns to education • the impact of education on social mobility

Pillar 3: Changes in Human Capital, Labour Markets and Demographic Structures and Their Impact on Social Inequality in Modern Societies

Professor Uwe Blien	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> empirical research of labour markets, especially with interdisciplinary approaches
Professor Herbert Brücker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> international migration, European integration and labour economics
Professor Sandra Buchholz (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> analysing social inequalities in various life spheres (such as in education, employment and family) analysing underlying mechanisms for the (re-) production of social inequalities (from an international comparative perspective)
Professor Henriette Engelhardt-Wölfler (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> social demography family demography epidemiological demography population aging causal analysis
Professor Michael Gebel (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> empirical studies on social inequality from a life course perspective empirical studies on social inequality in international comparative perspective based on micro data analysis of micro data from non-European countries in international comparative perspective application of techniques of longitudinal data analyses application of modern methods of causal analysis
Professor Guido Heineck (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (monetary and non-monetary) returns to education causal effects of educational or labour market reforms the integration of personality psychology in economics, educational and income mobility, and well-being
Professor Corinna Kleinert (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> social inequalities in education and the labor market gender inequalities in education and the labor market transitions from school to work career mobility over the life course
Professor Bernadette Kneidinger-Müller (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> usage and significance of Internet in different spheres of social life
Professor Richard Münch (both Pillar 3 and 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Globalization European integration change of the welfare state global competition Stratification in the academic field and the field of education
Professor Susanne Rässler (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> multiple imputation correction methods of item- and unit-nonresponse in surveys missing data statistical matching data anonymisation for disclosure control Markov chain Monte Carlo methods Bayesian statistics

Professor Steffen Schindler (both Pillar 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social inequalities in education and their social mechanisms • labour market returns to education • the impact of education on social mobility
Professor Olaf Struck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • labour market research, labour and justice • labour market flexibility, labour market policy • human resource management • further education, lifelong learning demography, life course and biography • social structure and social change, social policy
Professor Mark Trappmann	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • methodological issues • use longitudinal data to examine social inequality in a dynamic perspective

Pillar 4: Governance, Institutional Change and Political Behavior

Professor Thomas Gehring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • institutional complexes and institutional interaction • the European Union as an actor in international relations • autonomy of, and decision-making within, international organisations and regimes • delegated decision-making and agencies in the European Union and international institutions
Professor Lasse Gerrits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • governance of complex and innovative technological systems (ranging e.g. from internet services to energy networks to transportation infrastructures) • use and application of the complexity sciences • development and use of computational models in public decision making
Professor Marc Helbling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • immigration and citizenship policies • migrant integration • right-wing populism • xenophobia/islamophobia
Professor Florian Herold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • game theory • evolution in relation to behavioural economics • models of limited attention • political economics
Professor Monika Heupel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • legitimacy of international organizations • institutional change in global governance • international security governance • human rights governance • legalization of world politics
Professor Johannes Marx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transnationalism and its effects on international institutions • the role of mechanisms in the development of international institutions • the explanation of change and stability within international institutions • enquiries into the accountability and legitimacy of international institutions
Professor Richard Münch (both Pillar 3 and 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalization • European integration • change of the welfare state • global competition • Stratification in the academic field and the field of education
Professor Elmar Rieger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • comparative macro sociology • the evolution of welfare states • sociology of international law and international relations
Professor Ariadna Ripoll Servent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European integration, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ institutions ○ decision-making ○ EU policy process • constructivist models with regard to institutional and policy change

Professor Thomas Rixen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • international and comparative political economy • governance and globalisation • institutions and institutional change • the financial crisis and financial regulation • taxation and fiscal policy • welfare states and social policy • political determinants of rising inequality in western democracies
Professor Thomas Saalfeld	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parliamentary accountability in multi-level settings • parliamentary voting behaviour • the political representation of immigrants and ethnic minorities • the political economy of cabinet durability in European democracies • decision-making within political parties • the use of principal-agent models in the study of political institutions
Professor Ulrich Sieberer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • institutional design and institutional change • legislative organization and legislative behaviour • intra-party politics • political competition in democracies • judicial politics