

Transcending boundaries

Research at Trier University

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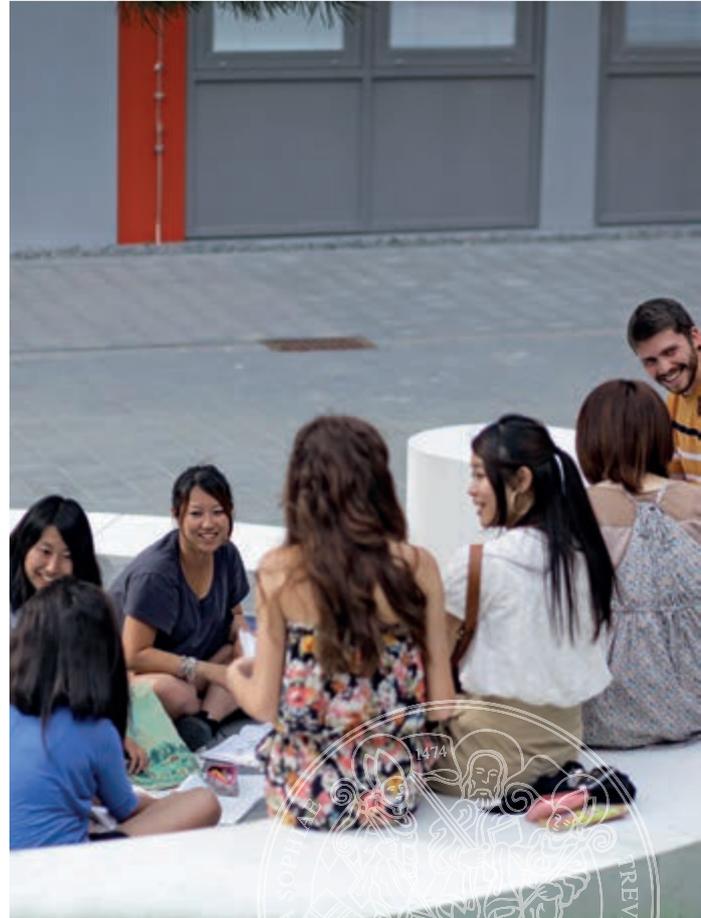


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Foreword

Dear international scholars,

In the spirit of the German writer Kurt Tucholsky, who once wrote, “The greatest sight to see is the world – look at it!”, we invite you to take a look at Trier University, a modern higher education institution rich in tradition. We invite you to get to know the University’s main areas of research and learn about our outstanding research activities.

You may discover that one of the projects described here appeals to you and your research interests. If so, and if you do apply to Trier University, what awaits you is a truly unique university in a truly unique town. Trier is a city proud of its long history – and as it happens, much of the work done at Trier University centres around historical periods and traditions. Trier is a living open-air museum – and the University provides a space in which discourses in the humanities and social sciences thrive. Trier is also a city that faces economic, environmental and social challenges – thanks to its research activities, Trier University is in touch with the times.

This brochure’s intention is to show you, the world’s next generation of scholars and scientists, what our mid-sized German university has to offer. Uniquely located in the border region between Germany, France, Luxembourg and Belgium, choosing Trier means choosing to engage and collaborate with our neighbours in established partnerships. We also welcome our experienced colleagues from abroad to discover our university – there is something for everyone in Trier!

As President of Trier University, and in the name of the entire University community, I invite you to do more than just “look at it”. I invite you to make Trier University an exciting part of your academic career.



*Prof. Dr. Michael Jäckel
President of Trier University*



Trier University – Humanities research in a rich environment

Trier University is a young, dynamic university with a clear focus on training young academics. All departments are active in research and benefit from robust international networks. Collaboration is particularly strong with university partners in neighbouring France, Belgium and Luxembourg, with research focusing on European history and present-day Europe.



Founded in 1473, Trier University was closed under Napoleon's reign in the 18th century and not reopened until 1970. Today, the university staff of approximately 1,500 makes for a good student-teacher ratio for Trier's 15,000 students. The university's 30 departments across six main faculties include all disciplines in the humanities and social sciences – from Language and Literature Studies, Business Administration, Economics, and Law to highly specialised fields such as Japanese Studies, Papyrology and Computational Linguistics.

Learn more about Trier University's faculties and degree programmes:

 www.faeher.uni-trier.de

High-profile

Staff and students from various disciplines come together to collaborate on research projects and lend the university its unique profile. Specialists in languages, literature and media explore the issues and challenges facing today's information society, while social scientists in departments such as Psychology and Pedagogy focus on various aspects of social coexistence.

With a Geography/Geosciences Department among the best in Germany, Trier University is also strong in Environmental Sciences research. Over the last several years the university has expanded its range in the natural sciences – including the subfields Psychobiology and Geoinformatics – in order to create new opportunities in inter- and multidisciplinary research

See pp. 8-27 for more information on Trier University's main areas of research.

Contributing to policy and society

These activities ensure our status as one of Germany's top 20 humanities and social sciences universities in terms of its ability to attract third-party research funding – a testament to Trier's strong combination of basic and applied research. With its ideas and input, the university has become an important contributor to politics, society, business and administration in the Trier region. Especially in the local government and healthcare sectors, Trier researchers contribute powerful solutions to real-world challenges.

Interdisciplinary

Each university department opens its doors wide to other departments and disciplines, forging collaborations between fields such as literature and computer science, archaeology and geology, climate research and mathematics, or biology and psychology. These examples demonstrate the steady growth of interdisciplinary collaboration, which more and more characterises research at Trier University.



Ideal for humanities scholars

During my Habilitation I conducted research at Trier University on a grant from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Since then, it has been a pleasure to return again and again for short stays as a visiting scholar. I study the German Enlightenment and Kantian philosophy. I wanted to come to Trier because the university is internationally known for its scholarship in this area. My high expectations were met: I made plenty of academic contacts, and was able to do extensive research in the outstanding philosophy section of the university library. Since Trier is a campus university, everything can be reached on foot – that was a pleasant surprise for someone from Moscow like me!

Prof. Dr. Alexei Krouglov, guest scholar from the Russian State University for the Humanities/Moscow (RSUH) in Philosophy

Focus

Society, culture and history



From antiquity to the present day

The humanities at Trier University incorporate a broad range of disciplines, from antiquity to the modern social sciences, with a focus on European history and European intellectual history.

Researching Europe

The Research Centre Europe (FZE) is one of the university's central academic institutes. Under the direction of Leibniz Prize winner Professor Lutz Raphael, researchers in the humanities and social sciences from more than ten different departments delve into some of the key themes in European history and key issues facing Europe today. Many projects and project groups are funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The research activities in the fields of history and cultural history focus on the aspect of *longue durée* and challenges of today, analysing Europe's defining traditions, continuities across eras and recurring elements and structures throughout its history. This takes the researchers far beyond Europe's borders as they look for connections and interrelationships between Europe and other regions of the world.

▶ www.fze.uni-trier.de

Diversity

Trier University is home to one of the first German-Canadian Research Training Groups funded by the DFG. Partner institutions include Trier University, Saarland University as well as Université de Montréal. In the International Research Training Group "Diversity: Mediating Difference in Transcultural Spaces", young academics from Germany, Canada, Hungary, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Finland and Kenya investigate the evolution of political, social and cultural diversity in Europe and Canada since the 18th century. Dialogue and exchange is an important aspect of the three-year doctoral programme, and graduate students meet regularly at workshops, summer and winter schools, and international conferences.

▶ www.irtg-diversity.com



Jewish history

In 1996 Trier University established the Arye Maimon Institute for the History of the Jews (AMIGJ), named after the eminent German-Israeli historian. In numerous externally funded projects, AMIGJ researchers investigate the history of the Jews in Central and Western Europe, with a focus on the Middle Ages and the Early Modern period. As part of the “Corpus der Quellen zur Geschichte der Juden im spätmittelalterlichen Reich“ (Corpus of sources concerning the history of the Jews in the Roman-German Empire during the Middle Ages) project funded by the Academy of Sciences and Literature in Mainz, relevant historical sources originating in the late Middle Ages are currently being gathered, processed and published online. With its regular conferences, guest lectures, and special library, the institute is a point of call for academics from around the world. AMIGJ’s extensive international network is especially strong in Israel, Europe and the US.

▶ www.amigi.uni-trier.de

▶ www.medieval-ashkenaz.org

Antiquity

With departments including Egyptology, Ancient History, Classical Archaeology, Ancient Philosophy, Papyrology, Legal History and Classical Philology, to name a few, Trier University offers study programmes in nearly all disciplines within the field of classical studies. The university’s Center for Ancient Studies (ZAT) facilitates exchange between the various departments, fostering interdisciplinary teaching and, in particular, interdisciplinary research. ZAT’s focus is on the culture and history of Egypt, Greece, Rome, Greco-Roman Egypt, and the Roman West, including Spanish antiquity. Its goal is to investigate the cultures of antiquity and make their cultural treasures, literature and history available to the general public.



The research projects of Leibniz Prize winner Professor Dr. Lutz Raphael

The DFG-Leibniz research group “After the Boom” continues the work initiated by a research partnership between Trier University and University of Tübingen. In various projects focused on the history “after the boom”, the group examines the structural change that has taken place in western European industrial societies since the 1970’s, and sheds light on the antecedents of present-day problems and dynamics.

▶ www.nach-dem-boom.uni-tuebingen.de

The DFG-Leibniz historiography research group has commenced its work on the digital Atlas of Institutions of European Historiography 1800–2005. This European research project provides online-data documenting the institutionalisation of modern historical scholarship and how it evolved as a profession.

▶ www.fze.uni-trier.de

The research spectrum is as broad as the disciplines are diverse. In archaeology, international excavations shed light on the history of Greece and Egypt while local work in the Trier region continues to explore the Roman legacy. While the ancient historians recreate ships from antiquity, the philologists analyse classical literature. Geoarchaeologists engage in one of the more unusual areas of research, as researchers use the results from archaeological digs to reconstruct the changes to landscapes and coastlines over time.

▶ www.zat.uni-trier.de

History in all its facets

Trier's Research Center for Historical and Cultural Sciences (HKFZ) believes that today's structures can only be explained by understanding the history behind them. At HKFZ, researchers take part in interdisciplinary projects to investigate the topic "Räume des Wissens – Orte, Ordnungen, Oszillationen" (Spaces of Knowledge – Places, Orders, Oscillations). Numerous research projects focus on "spaces of knowledge" such as monasteries, convents, theatres, medieval literature, modern literature, and even travel as a source of knowledge.

▶ <http://hkfz.uni-trier.de>

Art history at Trier University explores the region's impressive stock of medieval monuments and buildings, as well as outstanding works of manuscript illumination. The Social History of the Artist Research Centre (SHARC), funded by the European Research Council, conducts basic social-historical research in the area of artisan guild laws and contemporary fine arts education. The trans-disciplinary project "Mapping Spaces" discusses new insights into 17th century Dutch landscape painting.

Historical research projects are also conducted in areas such as Legal History and German Studies.

Local archaeological digs

Once Germany's oldest city and the former capital of the Western Roman Empire, today's university town Trier is the ideal setting for learning about the ancient world. Archaeologists conduct digs in the Hunsrück region, site of the ancient settlement Belginum. Between 400 B.C. and 400 A.D. the area was settled first by the Celts and then the Romans. Today, several research projects are investigating the former settlements, carefully mapping the area and examining how the Celtic population was gradually romanised. For university departments such as Geoarchaeology, teaching and applied research go hand in hand in this unique archaeological park.

▶ www.belginum.uni-trier.de

Focus

eHumanities and documentation



Humanities meet computer sciences

At Trier University, one of the central goals within the humanities is not only the scholarly exploration and “tapping” of cultural heritage, but also the systematic preservation of this heritage with the help of modern digital technology. To this end, Trier’s humanities scholars work together with computer scientists to develop new research approaches and topics.

Digital Humanities

The Trier Center for Digital Humanities is one of the leading centres for digital humanities in Germany. Housed in the Faculty of Language, Literature and Media Studies, researchers work together across disciplines as they combine humanities research with computer science. For example, they might apply the power of computer science and computational linguistics to analyse texts in large bodies of data or to establish complex connections between different texts.

The projects are financed by the centre’s own funds, combined with national and international third-party funding. The Trier Center for Digital Humanities employs some 50 staff members, including many doctoral candidates, postdocs and centre-sponsored scholarship holders.

▶ www.kompetenzzentrum.uni-trier.de/en/

Sample projects

Epistolary Networks

With a focus on letter correspondence between German-speaking artists in exile during the National Socialist regime, the project investigates and visualises the social, spatial, temporal and thematic networks that are formed in and by these correspondences.

▶ <http://exilnetz33.de/en>

Dictionary Network

Important dictionaries such as the Grimm Brothers’ German Dictionary, the Goethe Dictionary, as well as various historical language and dialect dictionaries are made available in digital format. The reference works are cross-linked with one another, allowing for more comprehensive scholarly research.

▶ www.woerterbuchnetz.de



Renowned in IT

Trier University's Computer Science Department is strongly research-oriented. Research fields range from databases and information systems to information security and theoretical computer science. The university is an associate of the Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz Center for Informatics, where some of the world's leading researchers and junior scientists meet to discuss their current research. In addition to the Leibniz Center, the university also operates the DBLP Computer Science Bibliography, one of the world's leading online references for bibliographic information in the field of computer science.

▣ <http://dblp.uni-trier.de/db>

Cultural assets in the digital age

The Trier Center for Digital Humanities has four main focus areas: digital philology, digital culture and history, semantic data analysis and software systems. These fields are closely connected with one another. Researchers use methods from both semantic data processing and text mining to analyse large amounts of text. By analysing larger newspaper collections, for example, researchers can see how major cities and urban culture were perceived across different countries and regions.

The tools used by the centre's humanities scholars and computer scientists include two software applications developed by the centre itself: the "FuD" Research Network and Database System developed in collaboration with the Research Centre Europe (FZE), and the "Transcribo" tool for transcribing and editing. The FuD system is an online work, information and publishing platform which allows scholars in different locations to work together on joint projects by uploading their sources, analyses and results onto the common platform. With the help of Transcribo, digitised handwritten texts can be transcribed and republished.



Gaining fresh ideas for independent research

Germany was my first choice – after all, it is a leader in the field of digital humanities. The Trier Center for Digital Humanities gives me the opportunity to pursue my project of creating a digital edition of Giacomo Leopardi's Zibaldone. The workshops have taught me how to use the technology, and the interdisciplinary environment has enriched my research. I exchange ideas with philologists, computer linguists and computer scientists, and this often gives me new ideas for my own work. Some of the collaborations will surely be long-term. Thanks to the International Office and Romance Studies, I also quickly found contacts outside the department.

Dr. Silvia Stoyanova, Princeton University (USA), postdoc at the Trier Center for Digital Humanities

Focus

Environmental systems and sustainable planning



Innovative approaches and models

Trier University addresses global challenges such as climate change, shortage of resource, demographic change and food security with an interdisciplinary approach to teaching and research. The focus is on knowledge acquisition and developing innovative concepts for maintaining ecosystem functions and managing social-ecological systems.

Analysing processes of environmental change

Climate change and human land use are altering our environment. Trier's environmental scientists investigate these change processes and work on global sustainability-related issues both on the regional level, and in the context of international research networks. This collaborative work brings researchers in the natural sciences and information sciences together with the fields of economics, sociology and law.

A major challenge in terrestrial ecosystem research is to apply local measurements to larger land-surface areas. A key to this is the satellite-based measurement of land-surface and atmospheric data.





Promoting sustainable land use

Because conflict over land use and resource protection is such a common phenomenon, strategies for sustainable land use are being developed in response to regional climate change. To this end, Trier University works closely with partner universities in Germany and abroad as part of international collaborative projects.

- ▶ www.sasscal.org
- ▶ www.future-okavango.org
- ▶ www.sumario.de
- ▶ www.geoinformatik.uni-trier.de

Modelling environmental processes

Modelling of environmental processes is an important tool that allows scientists to forecast future climate conditions and investigate the impact of future climate on ecological and social-economic systems. Simulation models are applied on both the global and regional scale to address various issues and challenges.

Climate change in the Arctic

Summer sea-ice cover in the Arctic Ocean has shrunk dramatically in recent years, with ice volume down by 75 percent in the last 30 years alone. A Russian-German research partnership is investigating the impact of climate change on the fragile Arctic ecosystem, as well as the impact on climatic conditions in Europe.

▣ www.meteo.uni-trier.de/transdrift

Transformation and planning strategies

To develop appropriate adaptation and development strategies, researchers supplement their findings and modelling forecasts in the natural sciences with socio-economic data and assessment methods. The goal is to bundle knowledge of the complex interrelationships in human-ecological systems to facilitate social transformation – this requires legal expertise. Especially in international territory or international waters, joint planning and development strategies are only possible if aspects of international environmental law and technology law are taken into consideration within the larger context of constitutional, administrative and civil law, as well as European and international law.

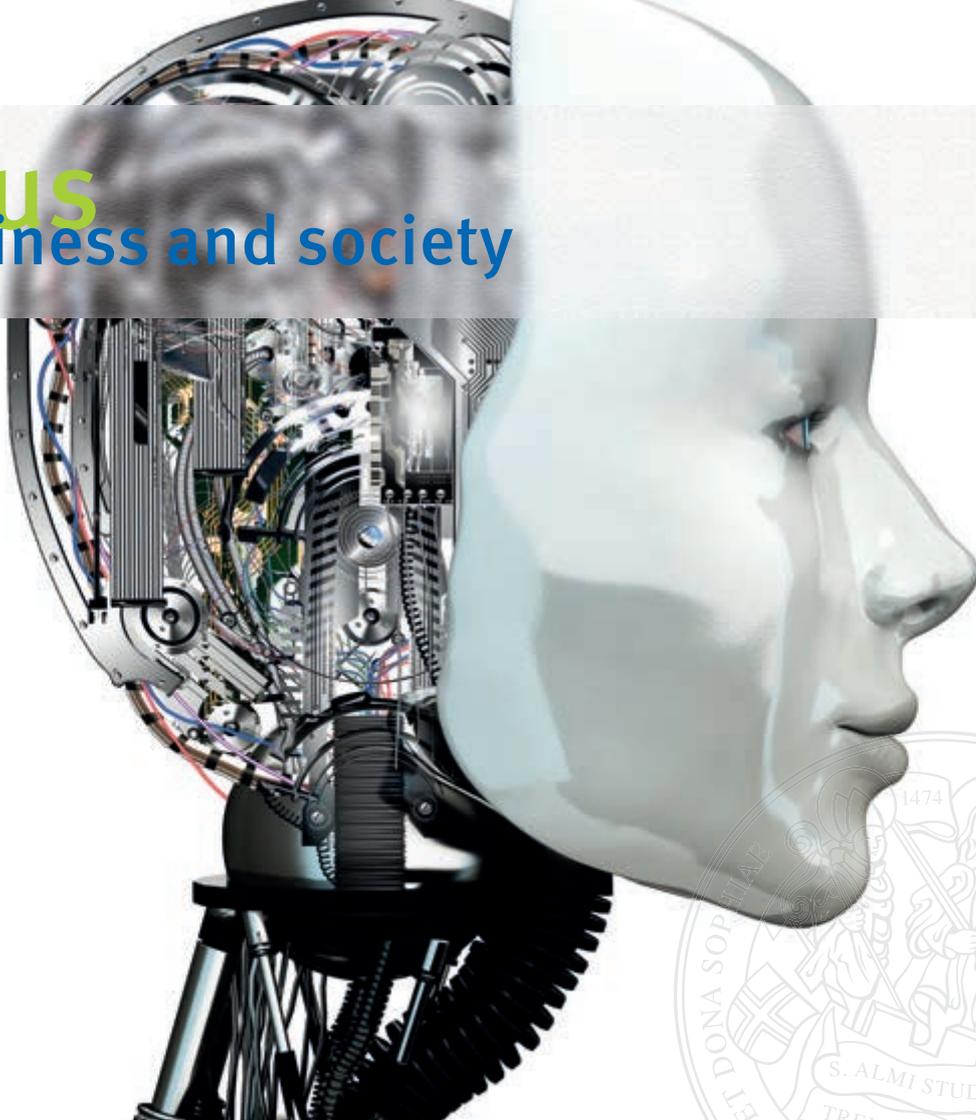
The legal aspects of environmental research

At the time of its founding in 1985, the Institute of Environmental and Technology Law was the first institute in West Germany to bring the fields of environmental and technology law under one roof. Along with teaching and research, the institute's mission today is to facilitate exchange between academia and practitioners in the public/private sector, and to promote interdisciplinary collaboration in the areas of environmental protection, technical safety and technology.

▣ www.iutr.de

Focus

Business and society



New challenges for the economy

In the fields of economic science, business informatics, and mathematics, students and staff at Trier University focus on specific challenges facing business and society today, such as adaptation strategies for companies in the ever-changing business environment, or the socio-economic impacts of climate change.

Business Informatics – Intelligent technologies for tomorrow’s management needs

Business Informatics at Trier University is focused on the further development and testing of artificial intelligence solutions for a wide range of business applications. The overarching goal is development of intelligent technologies for tomorrow’s management needs.

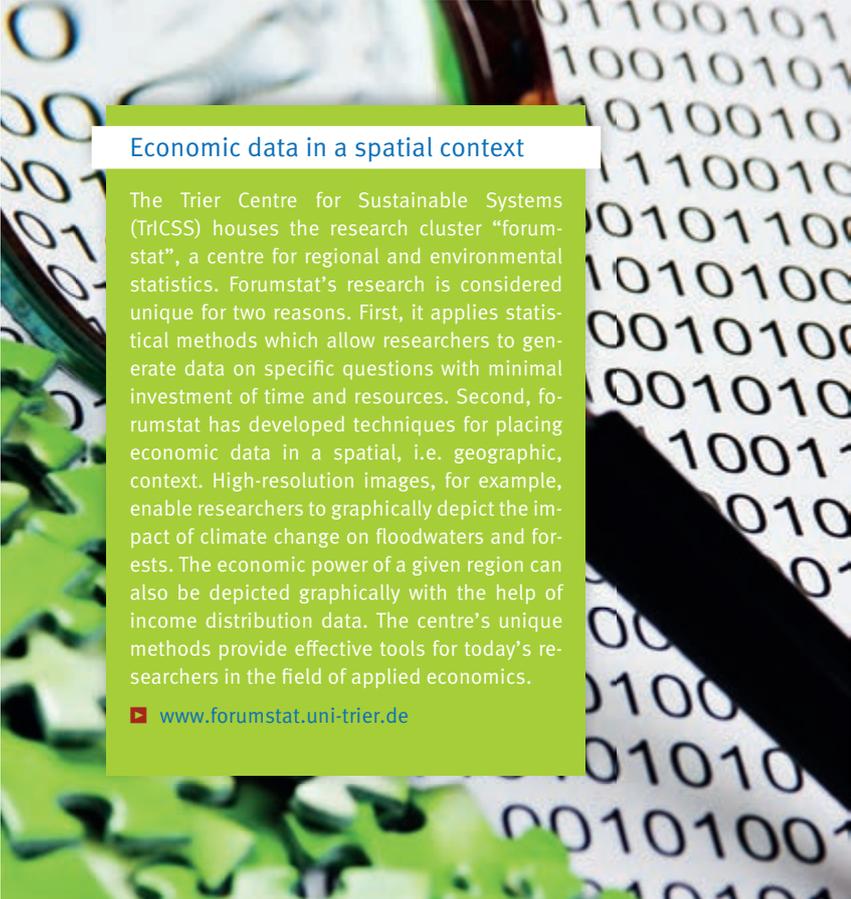
One area of focus is distributed artificial intelligence and simulation, and Trier researchers are particularly interested in the topic of regulation. In addition, Trier’s business informatics specialists make the connection between the fields of knowledge management, process management and artificial intelligence. Their basic research in innovative semantic workflow technologies has resulted in software systems for application in the business environment.

▶ www.wi.uni-trier.de

Practical mathematics

Mathematics at Trier University, including research in analysis, stochastics and mathematical optimisation, is highly application oriented. Researchers test algorithms and methods to enable computers to answer real-world questions from the fields of economics and computer science. Their results are applied, for example, to production planning processes or profit maximisation and price calculations.

▶ www.math.uni-trier.de



Economic data in a spatial context

The Trier Centre for Sustainable Systems (TriCSS) houses the research cluster “forumstat”, a centre for regional and environmental statistics. Forumstat’s research is considered unique for two reasons. First, it applies statistical methods which allow researchers to generate data on specific questions with minimal investment of time and resources. Second, forumstat has developed techniques for placing economic data in a spatial, i.e. geographic, context. High-resolution images, for example, enable researchers to graphically depict the impact of climate change on floodwaters and forests. The economic power of a given region can also be depicted graphically with the help of income distribution data. The centre’s unique methods provide effective tools for today’s researchers in the field of applied economics.

► www.forumstat.uni-trier.de

Survey statistics

Survey statistics is the primary focus of the Economic and Social Statistics Department. In various projects, researchers develop sample designs and estimation methods, along with indicator methods for application especially in the area of poverty research. Trier’s economics statisticians cooperate with 16 other European partners as part of the European Commission’s international project InGRID – Inclusive Growth Research Infrastructure Diffusion. The Trier team is responsible for statistical quality management, one of five core themes within the InGRID project. They compile the latest knowledge and best practices on how to improve the quality of indicators on poverty and social exclusion.

Trier University statisticians were also involved with Germany’s 2010/2011 national census, for which they developed the sample scheme and estimation methods.

► www.statistik.uni-trier.de

Economy and the environment

The Department of Environmental Economics is home to numerous projects related to climate policy and the impact of climate change. Its main focus is on forecasting and evaluating the impact of climate policy on the economy. In addition, Trier's environmental economists explore how economic and social systems can be adapted to climate change and how extreme weather impacts the economy.

Trier University attracts international scholars in the field of environmental economics, as it offers researchers the opportunity to design and partake in the entire process – from collecting data to formulating policy recommendations. The Trier Centre for Sustainable Systems (TriCSS) plays an important role here. The newly established interdisciplinary research association focuses on current topics in the area of sustainable systems research, with participation from the research groups Biogeography, Economic and Social Statistics, Environmental and Regional Economics, Environmental Meteorology, Environmental Remote Sensing and Geoinformatics, Mathematics, Soil Sciences, and the Institute for Environmental and Technology Law (see p. 22).

► www.tricss.uni-trier.de



Focus

Health and work



Life in modern times

Along with social change come big challenges. As the population ages, it requires more and more care. The stress of today's working world has caused an increase in physical and mental illness. New media have changed the way we communicate, interact with one another and form relationships. Trier University scholars are exploring ways to help society cope with these changes in various cross-disciplinary research projects.

Better teaching, better learning

In an aging society, the education of children and young people becomes all the more important. Trier researchers explore how schools can improve the integration of children with disabilities, and, at the same time, improve support and opportunities for gifted and talented children. Research in Trier's Department of Pedagogy focuses on designing didactic processes so that students are motivated and can fully develop their skills and talents.

International industrial relations

The Institute for Labour Law and Industrial Relations in the European Union (IAAEU), the leading interdisciplinary institute of its kind in Germany, combines analysis of labour market policy, HR policy and labour law under one roof. IAAEU has an extensive library with a unique collection covering international and national labour laws for European Union member and non-member states, as well as labour relations, labour economics, and personnel economics in the European Union and the United States. IAAEU offers young scholars one- to two-month research stays at the institute to pursue their own research projects and develop new ideas.

▶ www.iaaeu.de

Leibniz Institute

The Leibniz Institute for Psychology Information (ZPID) is the documentation and information centre for the field of psychology in German-speaking countries. Its mission is to provide scientists and practitioners with current, comprehensive information on literature, tests, and quality online resources in the field of psychology. ZPID research focuses on the psychology of information systems and scientific research.

▶ www.zpid.de

International PhD programme “Psychotherapy Research”

The Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy offers a structured PhD programme with an international focus. While pursuing their PhD degrees, students also take part in lectures by visiting renowned scholars, participate in national and international conferences and spend a research stay at partner universities in the UK, United States, Israel and Switzerland. The programme also provides support for participation in workshops and summer schools, and makes sure to integrate all doctoral candidates in research groups.

While pursuing their PhD degree, candidates can also take advantage of practical training to prepare for a career in psychotherapy. In addition, Trier University's International Graduate Centre offers students numerous opportunities to obtain interdisciplinary qualifications.

► www.phd-psychotherapy.uni-trier.de

Stress research

Trier psychologists in the interdisciplinary research group “Psychobiology of Stress” are taking a closer look at the relationship between stress and psychological functioning, as well as the effect of stress on our behaviour and social interaction. They make use of experimental methods and approaches adapted from basic research in the fields of psychology, psychophysiology, genetics and molecular biology, with a particular focus on the body's response to the stress hormone cortisol.

► www.stress.uni-trier.de



Research fields at Trier's International Health Care Management Institute (IHCI) include healthcare management and healthcare information systems; the Centre for Health Economics (ZfG) concentrates on the economic and social-scientific basis for healthcare services.

▶ www.ihci.uni-trier.de

Trier University sociologists provide scientific support for the implementation of new logistics tools for the healthcare system and conduct research on the effects of smartphone-based, do-it-yourself health test apps, as well on as the social foundations of the welfare state. In the area of political science, research focuses on the development of party systems and federalism, the European Union, Germany's relations to neighbouring France, as well as German foreign policy. Social scientists and psychologists join forces to conduct interdisciplinary research on the phenomenon of resilience – the ability of individuals and institutions to withstand radical change.

Social networks

Young researchers can take advantage of the annual Summer School on Social Network Analysis, which also provides individualised research advising and support. Developed in Trier, the innovative software “VennMaker” allows users to evaluate data from personal networks and visualise the results with unmatched reliability.

▶ www.sna-summerschool.de

Media in transition

Our daily interaction with media shapes our society. Traditional media such as newspapers, magazines, radio and television continue to evolve over time while online media introduce new impulses to further prompt change on the media landscape. Trier University's Department of Media Studies analyses trends and identifies optimisation potential with the help of a modern reception laboratory, which includes eye-tracking technology. Application-oriented research is conducted in cooperation with various media companies. The changing media landscape is also an important research field for sociologists, who consider, for example, how social inequality is perpetuated in the digital world.

▶ www.medienforschung.uni-trier.de

Gender studies

Gender studies is a particularly important area of research at Trier University. At the Centre for Postcolonial and Gender Studies (CePoG), various disciplines interested in social, ethnic and gender identity constructs, including German studies, sociology, media studies and linguistics, collaborate on international projects and activities. CePoG makes use of a diverse range of methods and theories as contributed by the different departments. Its mission is to overcome eurocentrism in research.

▶ www.cepog.uni-trier.de



Rooted in the region – At home in the world

With 11 percent of undergraduate students from outside Germany, roughly 20 percent of doctoral candidates from abroad, and a growing number of international scholars conducting research in Trier, the university campus provides a rich, international and intercultural learning environment. Guests from around the world feel at home at the university, and with good reason: many have given Trier University strong marks for its openness and internationality. With numerous international cooperation agreements and project partnerships in all departments and disciplines, the university enjoys an extremely strong international network.

University network in the heart of Europe

Located on the western edge of Germany, Trier and its university have close ties to neighbouring countries France, Belgium and Luxembourg.

In 2010, Trier University joined with five other universities in the region to form the “University of the Greater Region” (UniGR). The goal of the network is to increase student mobility and promote transnational research. To this end,

UniGR is involved in doctoral training and organises networking events to promote dialogue and exchange among its researchers. Member institutions also cooperate by sharing large pieces of equipment.

UniGR’s collaborative research work focuses on biomedicine, material sciences and “border studies”, which explores border regions from a broad, interdisciplinary perspective and also touches on political, social, economic, environmental, legal and cultural aspects.

► www.uni-gr.eu

UniGR network partners

- » University of Kaiserslautern
- » University of Liège
- » University of Luxembourg
- » University of Lorraine
- » Saarland University
- » Trier University

Eye on the Americas and Asia

Europe's past and present is the subject of focus for many of Trier University's departments and research centres, making it one of the university's more important areas of research (see p. 9). But the university is also home to several research centres whose interdisciplinary research focuses on other regions of the world, and who make an important contribution to the university's rich international profile. The America Romana Centrum, for example, focuses on the Spanish, Portuguese and French-speaking areas of South and North America, exploring the different languages, literary traditions, cultures and interrelationships.

At the Trier Center for American Studies and the Canadian Studies Centre, scholars from various departments conduct interdisciplinary research on North American literature and culture. All research centres actively maintain their long-time contacts in the respective regions, thus strengthening Trier University's international network and international research presence.

East Asia is another important component of the university's international profile. The Center for East Asia Pacific Studies serves as a contact point for scholars from various disciplines conducting research on the region. The centre provides a forum for dialogue on East Asia and facilitates exchange with the region. The Center for East Asia Pacific Studies regularly produces research papers on topics such as the economy and politics of China.

A strong network of international partner universities in Europe (especially in neighbouring countries and Eastern Europe), North America and Southeast Asia (primarily China and Japan) complement the work of these regional centres. Cooperation partners include, among others, Clark University in the United States, St. Petersburg State University in Russia, Waseda University in Japan and Wuhan University in China.

▶ www.international.uni-trier.de

International research centres

America Romana Centrum

▶ www.america-romana.de

Trier Center for American Studies

▶ www.tcas.uni-trier.de

Canadian Studies Centre

▶ www.kanada-studien.uni-trier.de

Center for East Asia Pacific Studies

▶ www.zops.uni-trier.de



Useful tips and information



Information for doctoral candidates

As an international doctoral student you have two options for pursuing your PhD at Trier University. The first is to complete all of your doctoral studies at the university; the second option is to pursue your PhD in your home country and come to Trier for a short research stay.

The traditional, individual PhD

All Trier University departments offer the PhD degree. If you decide to pursue your doctoral studies here at the university, you will be assigned a professor to serve as your doctoral advisor and provide support during the dissertation phase. After submitting the written thesis you will take an oral exam, in which you defend your dissertation.

Additional information on Trier University departments:

▶ www.faecher.uni-trier.de

The structured PhD

Trier University also offers research training groups and graduate programmes in which young academics can pursue structured PhD studies, sometimes with financial support. Successful applicants conduct their doctoral studies according to a set time schedule and remain affiliated with the respective department or research group throughout the process. Students in these programmes benefit from ample opportunity for intensive dialogue and exchange with fellow researchers.



International doctorate

Thanks to Trier's membership in the University of the Greater Region network (see p. 28), doctoral candidates have the option of pursuing a European doctoral degree. These students write their thesis in two European languages, such as German and English, or English and French.

▶ www.uni-gr.eu/promovieren-forschen/grenzueberschreitend-promovieren.html

The so-called “cotutelle de thèse” is another option – a binational doctoral programme which awards successful candidates a joint PhD degree from Trier University and another university outside Germany.

▶ www.cotutelle.uni-trier.de

Selected research training groups and graduate programmes

International Research Training Group 1864:

“Diversity: Mediating Difference in Transcultural Spaces”

▶ www.irtg-diversity.com

DFG Research Training Group 1319:

“Cooperation of Science and Jurisprudence in Improving Development and Use of Standards for Environmental Protection”

▶ www.graduiertenkolleg1319.uni-trier.de

PROMT: Doctoral programme in Modern and Contemporary History

▶ www.promt.uni-trier.de

Research stays

If you are a doctoral candidate studying at a university outside Germany, you have the option of coming to Trier for a short research stay. Make sure to inform yourself ahead of time about funding opportunities; your home university and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) are good points of contact for this. Before your research stay can begin, you must arrange for an academic advisor who can advise you during your time in Trier. Feel free to contact the university’s International Office with any and all questions regarding your research stay. During your stay you, along with all other doctoral students, can enjoy access to the university’s extensive offering of activities and services.

The support you need

Are you looking for outstanding support during your doctoral studies? Do you want to earn your PhD quickly? The International Graduate Centre (IGZ) is the place to go to take part in interdisciplinary seminars, gain additional training in academic writing and obtain additional academic qualifications. IGZ staff is available to provide consulting support and answer any and all questions you might have about your international academic career.

▶ www.igz.uni-trier.de



In addition to the International Graduate Centre, the university offers numerous activities, services and opportunities for international doctoral students. These include individualised writing support, teaching assistantships to gain teaching experience, and research assistantships as a way to take part in selected academic research projects.

Special cultural programmes for international doctoral candidates and visiting academics can help you acclimate to life in Trier quickly and easily. Get-togethers, field trips and city tours provide a chance to explore the region and get to know fellow international students. Another meeting place for international doctoral candidates and students in Trier is the International Centre

▶ www.iz-trier.de

Learning from renowned professors

I am working on a doctorate in the Management Department at Trier University. Many professors with impressive credentials and scholarly expertise do research here. I want to learn from them. I have already had the chance to take part in conferences and colloquia, and the discussions really help me progress in my own research. In the meantime, I feel quite at home in Trier. The university organises things like hikes and city tours for doctorate students. Not only do we get to know each other, but we also learn something about German culture. Settling in was not difficult.

Xi Guoqian, doctoral candidate in Business Administration from China



Making your way to Trier University

Individual doctoral studies or research stays at Trier University can begin at any time during the semester. Before beginning your studies or research stay, you must first select a professor to act as your academic advisor. We would be happy to help you find the right contact person(s).

For the structured doctoral programmes, please note the application deadlines for the respective programme.

International students usually have a long list of “to do’s” before leaving for Germany. Depending on your country of origin, you will be required to present certain documents upon entry into Germany. Financing must be arranged, along with housing in Trier, so make sure to begin planning early.

▶ www.phd.uni-trier.de

Your contact person for all questions related to doctoral studies at Trier University:

Piotr Wozniczka
Trier University
International Office
54286 Trier/Germany
E-Mail: phd@uni-trier.de



Information for visiting academics

Trier University opens its doors wide to researchers and scholars from around the world who are interested in teaching and conducting research in Trier. Would you like the chance to deepen your research at our university? Are you interested in collaborating with one or several of our scientists? If so, read on to learn about the various support services available to you.

The Welcome Service offered through the university's International Office supports visiting scholars with a wide range of services both before and during their stay – from advice on entry requirements and insurance to assistance finding an apartment. You are also invited to take part in our diverse programme of events and activities for our international guests on campus. It's a great way to get settled into your new environment quickly.

Families are also welcome! If you plan to come to Trier with your family, please take the time to learn about the entry requirements and consider your potential childcare needs ahead of time. We will be happy to help!

Funding your stay

Scholarships

A number of German organisations such as the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH) award scholarships to international scientists and scholars. Also check if your home institution or university offers funding for research stays abroad.

The Euraxess Germany funding database:

▶ www.euraxess.de/portal/foerderdatenbank_in.html

The DAAD scholarship database:

▶ www.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/en

Partner universities

If you are currently affiliated with one of our partner universities, you might be eligible to receive special funding. Please check with the International Office for details.



Guest lectureship

If you plan to spend a longer period of time at Trier University as a guest lecturer, your “host” faculty in which you will be teaching will apply for the necessary funding. The university will also cover part of the cost.

Employment

Employment opportunities for research projects and professorships are announced regularly. If employed, you will receive a regular salary for the duration of your stay.

Trier University job announcements:

▶ www.stellen.uni-trier.de



Making your way to Trier University

If research is already being conducted at Trier University in your specific area of interest, contact the professor in charge of the project or department to determine whether and under which circumstances a research stay is possible. The International Office will assist you finding the right person to contact.

▶ www.welcome.uni-trier.de

For support in planning and organising your stay at Trier University please contact:

Birgit Roser
Agnes Schindler
Trier University
International Office
54286 Trier/Germany
Tel.: 0049 (0)651/2 01 28 07
E-Mail: welcome@uni-trier.de



Trier – Living history

Founded by the Romans in the year 16 B.C., Trier is Germany's oldest city. Its impressive building stock bears witness to more than 2,000 years of history. Along with Roman-era structures such as the Imperial Baths (Kaiserthermen) and the Porta Nigra, Trier features a wide range of more recent architectural styles including romantic, gothic, renaissance, baroque and classical.

With a population of some 100,000, including the university community, Trier is a vibrant combination of history, tradition and up-and-coming flair. Cultural centres, theatres and cinemas provide a diverse range of cultural offerings, including regular concerts, exhibits and readings.

For wine and nature lovers

Trier's geographical location is ideal for friends of the outdoors. In the heart of Moselle, Saar and Ruwer wine country, Trier is the perfect starting point for excursions into the surrounding vineyards, or the nearby Eifel and Hunsrück regions. Luxembourg, Belgium and France are close by, with major cities such as Paris, Brussels and Cologne within easy reach.



Academic winemakers

Trier University has a strong connection to the surrounding region and its traditions. As part of a vineyard partnership, students, staff and university patrons work together to cultivate a nearby vineyard, which usually results in a very good dry Riesling.

► www.weinberg.uni-trier.de

Campus in natural surroundings

It's easy to get around in Trier. Both university campuses can be reached by bus, bicycle or on foot, and all university facilities are located on campus. Lecture halls, laboratories, library, athletic facilities, student housing and other service units are all within easy reach of each other.

Campus I and Campus II are both set in a sprawling park landscape dotted with numerous works of modern art, sunning lawns, streams and ponds – the ideal setting to relax and take a break from daily university life. Landscape architects recently named the park one of 100 special places in Germany.



The campus app

Campuses I and II are full of works of art and architecture waiting to be discovered. A smartphone app helps navigate the campus and guides users to selected locations and works of art, each fitted with a QR code.

► www.gruenercampus.uni-trier.de

The app:



Contacts and links

Contacts

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Advising and support for visiting academics
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EURAXESS Service Centre

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Links

Trier University International

▶ www.international.uni-trier.de

Information for international doctoral candidates at Trier University

▶ www.phd.uni-trier.de

Information for international visiting academics at Trier University

▶ www.welcome.uni-trier.de

EURAXESS: Germany for Researchers – Information for internationally mobile researchers interested in conducting research in Germany

▶ www.euraxess.de

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

▶ www.daad.de/en/

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH)

▶ www.humboldt-foundation.de

Research in Germany

▶ www.research-in-germany.org/en

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