



One Scholarship-funded Ph.D. Position – Call for Applications

“Structured Education – Quality Assurance – Freedom to Think” The Carl Friedrich Lehmann-Haupt International Doctoral School

I. Announcement of the Scholarship

The joint project between **Ilia State University Tbilisi (ISU)** and **Georg-August-University of Göttingen (UGOE)** gives Ph.D. students from various scientific fields the opportunity to pursue their doctoral projects within a structured Cotutelle-based framework. The Ph.D. students will undergo supervision and conduct doctoral studies (coursework, seminars, trainings etc.) at ISU in Tbilisi/Georgia and UGOE in Göttingen/Germany (research period at UGOE 12 months in total). The joint doctoral program provides disciplinary and trans-disciplinary skills trainings as well as co-supervision by two professors (one of each university) with excellent expertise in their relevant research fields. Upon successful completion of the doctoral project doctoral degrees from UGOE and ISU can be obtained on the basis of only one single dissertation. Funding granted by the German **Volkswagen Stiftung** and the **Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia** allows for the allocation of a **full scholarship** (500 Euro per month, maximum up to and including December 2021). Research stays in Germany will be funded with an additional scholarship. Research-related expenses incurred by conference participation and field studies can be covered as well.

II. Scientific Disciplines and Supervisors

The research subject proposed by the applicant must belong to one of the following scientific disciplines:

1. General Linguistics (ISU: Prof. Tamar Makharoblidze; UGOE: Prof. Markus Steinbach)
2. Applied Linguistics (ISU: Prof. Nino Daborjginidze, Prof. Irina Lobzhanidze; UGOE: Prof. Hedde Zeijlstra, Prof. Anke Holler)
3. East-European History (ISU: Prof. Oliver Reisner; UGOE: Prof. Anke Hilbrenner)
4. a) Religious and Cultural Studies (ISU: Prof. Malkhaz Songulashvili; UGOE: Prof. Martin Tamcke)
b) Theology (ISU: Prof. Malkhaz Songulashvili; UGOE: Prof. Martin Tamcke)
5. Political Science (ISU: Prof. David Aprasidze; UGOE: PD Dr. Alexander Thiele)
6. Constitutionalism (ISU: Prof. George Nodia; UGOE: PD Dr. Alexander Thiele)
7. Forest Ecology (ISU: Prof. Aleksandre Gavashelishvili; UGOE: Prof. Holger Kreft)
8. Chemical Biology (ISU: Prof. Revaz Solomonias; UGOE: Prof. Michael Müller)
9. Geophysics (ISU: Prof. Vasil Kukhianidze; UGOE: Prof. Laurent Gizon)
10. Astrophysics (ISU: Prof. Teimuraz Zaqarshvili; UGOE: Prof. Ansgar Reiners)
11. Cosmology (ISU: Prof. Tinatin Kakhniashvili; UGOE: Prof. Jens Niemeyer)



III. Eligibility Criteria / Prerequisites

General:

- **Full-time commitment:** The selected candidate will be expected to devote their full time to their Ph.D. project. In return for the full scholarship the selected candidate is expected not to seek additional non-academic employment alongside their Ph.D. project.
- English language proficiency of at least B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and capability of conducting doctoral studies and thesis writing in English (unless otherwise indicated below).
- **Only for applicants who are no native speakers of Georgian:** In order to get formally admitted to doctoral studies at ISU a command of Georgian of at least B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is required and must be demonstrated in an exam.
- Persons who have already submitted an application within a previous call for applications may apply again.
- Persons who are already admitted to doctoral studies at ISU may apply.

Discipline-specific:

1. General Linguistics

- Master's degree (preferably in General Linguistics or related fields)

2. Applied Linguistics

- Master's degree (preferably in Linguistics or related fields)
- Georgian/Kartvelian language skills and linguistic background, familiarity with linguistic theory

3. East-European History

- Master's degree (preferably in History or related fields)
- Qualitative research experience (sources, oral history, cultural studies)

4.a) Religious and Cultural Studies

- Academic degree in religious studies, values and norms or a degree directly related to philology, theology, social or cultural studies.
- Language proficiency:
 - English language proficiency of at least B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and capability of conducting doctoral studies and thesis writing in English.
 - or alternatively*
 - German language proficiency of at least B2.2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and capability of conducting doctoral studies and thesis writing in German. In this case English language proficiency of at least B1 remains a requirement for admission to the Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Social Sciences and Humanities at the School of Arts and Sciences of ISU!





- Ability to undertake source studies in at least one (ideally related to the doctoral project) traditional field: i.e. classical or contemporary knowledge of religious philology – e.g. Latin, Sanskrit, classic or modern Arabic.
- Research skills

4.b) Theology

- Academic degree in theology or a closely-related discipline.
- Language proficiency:
 - German language proficiency of at least B2.2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).
 - English language proficiency of at least B1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). A level of at least B2 is required if English will be chosen as language of instruction instead of German. In the latter case German language proficiency of at least B2.2 remains a requirement for the admission to doctoral studies at the Faculty of Theology of UGOE!
 - Good knowledge of Latin, Greek and Hebrew.
- Research skills

5. Political Science

- Master's degree (preferably in Political Science or related fields)

6. Constitutionalism

- Master's degree (preferably in Political Science, Law or related fields)

7. Forest Ecology

- Master's degree (preferably in Forest Ecology or related fields)
- Statistical software familiarization
- Preliminary data preparation

8. Chemical Biology

- Master's degree (preferably in Molecular Life Sciences or related fields)
- Knowledge/experience in basic molecularbiological methods
- Solid knowledge of statistics
- Knowledge/experience in electrophysiology and/of fluorescence microscopy
- Ideally proven experience in animal handling/research

9. Geophysics

- Master's degree (preferably in Physics or related fields)
- Basic knowledge of fluid dynamics and applied mathematics

10. Astrophysics

- Master's degree (preferably in Physics or related fields)





- Relevant knowledge of solar physics, statistical methods, solar/stellar activity

11. Cosmology

- Master’s degree (preferably in Physics or related fields)
- Knowledge in Astrophysics and Cosmology, basics in Hydrodynamics and Electrodynamics
- Basic scientific computing and programming skills (e.g. C++, Fortran, Python)

In the framework of this Call for Applications, persons with disadvantaged backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply and, in cases of equal qualification, aptitude and expertise, they will be given preferential consideration in selection.

The Lehmann-Haupt International Doctoral School promotes equal opportunities and inclusion for all participants regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or ideology, disability and chronic illness, ethnic and social background. The actions aim at facilitating the access to the participants with disadvantaged groups and special needs. ISU and UGOE recognize that faculty, staff, and students need an environment in which they are respected and valued for their contributions in order to work and study effectively. This applies irrespective of their age, (dis)ability, gender, sexual orientation or identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, ethnic origin, and religion and belief.

V. Submission of the Application and Deadline

- Applications must be submitted in English. Documents issued in languages other than English can only be recognized if submitted in combination with a notarially certified translation.
- Applications must be submitted by E-Mail to: doctoralschool@iliauni.edu.ge by the end of the application deadline. Please indicate “**Application Ph.D. Scholarship**” in the subject line.
- The application documents (see below under VII.) must be scanned and compiled into one PDF (one e-mail attachment only!). Other file formats will not be accepted.
- The application deadline is **June 12, 2019, 18:00 Georgian time (GET)**.

Please note that only complete applications submitted by the end of the application deadline will be considered.

VI. Selection and Admission Procedure

1. Pre-Selection Phase

Complete applications which meet all formal criteria will be evaluated by the prospective supervisors of both universities. The pre-selection phase is based on the submitted application documents only. All applicants will be informed via e-mail after the pre-selection phase has been completed. Shortlisted candidates will receive an invitation to an interview with the prospective supervisors. Upon receipt of the invitation the candidates must confirm their availability for the personal interview.



2. Interviews

The next stage will consist of personal interviews with the applicants shortlisted after the pre-selection. The interviews will be held with the prospective supervisors in person and/or via Skype. The interviews will prospectively take place in the second half of June 2019.

3. Final Selection

After the interviews and in consideration of the recommendations given by the Georgian and German supervisors the Advisory Board of the Carl Friedrich Lehmann-Haupt International Doctoral School will finally select the participating Ph.D. student. The results will be announced on the ISU website by the end of June 2019.

4. Admission

Upon acceptance of the offer by the candidate, the enrolment and admission procedures at ISU will get started*.

***In case foreign (non-Georgian) educational documents have been submitted with the application:**

Please note that the admission to doctoral programs/schools at ISU is subject to the recognition of the relevant academic degree certificates and their supplements (transcripts of records, grading scales etc.) by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement (NCEQE) of Georgia! Admission cannot take place if for any reason the certificates and their supplements cannot be recognized by the NCEQE.

VII. Required Documents

A complete application must consist of the following documents*:

- Completed and signed Application Form
- Letter of Motivation (max. 2 pages)
- Research Proposal/Exposé incl. research question(s) and topicality, methodology, work-time-plan, sources, literature (max. 10 pages)
- Curriculum Vitae indicating any science-related skills, relevant previous research, professional or other experience
- Copy of a Proof of Identity (ID Card or Passport)
- Copies of relevant Academic Degree Certificates/Diploma and their Supplements (Transcripts of Records, Grading Scales etc.), if issued in languages other than English a notarially certified translation into English is required as well
- List of at least two Academic References (at least Ph.D. Holder) with Contact Data
- Proof of English Language Proficiency of at least B2 according to the CEFR. Accepted certificates and scores are: TOEFL (PBT min. 550 points; IBT min. 80 points), IELTS (min. Band 6), FCE (min. Grade A).
 - In order to get admitted to doctoral studies at ISU, applicants who cannot present one of the above mentioned certificates have to prove their English language proficiency of at least B2 through an English exam administered by ISU. The minimum score is 65 out of 100 points.





- **In case of German as language of instruction (only applicable to applications for “Religious and Cultural Studies” and “Theology”):** Valid proof of German language proficiency of at least B2.2 according to the CEFR. Accepted certificates are: TestDaF (Test Deutsch als Fremdsprache); DSH (Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang); ZOP (Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung); KDS (Kleines Deutsches Sprachdiplom); GDS (Großes Deutsches Sprachdiplom).
 - In order to get admitted to doctoral studies at ISU, applicants who cannot present one of the above mentioned certificates have to prove their German language proficiency of at least B2.2 through a German exam administered by ISU. The minimum score is 65 out of 100 points.
 - Additionally required: Valid proof of English language proficiency of at least B1 according to the CEFR. Accepted certificates and scores are: TOEFL (PBT min. 437 points; IBT min. 41 points), IELTS (min. Band 4), FCE **or** a valid certificate issued by the National Evaluation and Examination Centre Certus which gives evidence of the candidate’s English language proficiency of at least B1.
 - In order to get admitted to doctoral studies at ISU, applicants who cannot present one of the above mentioned certificates have to prove their English language proficiency of at least B1 through an English exam administered by ISU. The minimum score is 40 out of 100 points.
- Optional: List of Publications

***All documents must be submitted in English. Documents issued in languages other than English can only be recognized if submitted in combination with a notarially certified translation into English.**

