



The University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr) joins together the competences and resources of the Ruhr-University Bochum, the Technical University of Dortmund, and the University of Duisburg-Essen with the aim of further developing their performance and competitive position.

Within the framework of the Volkswagen Foundation's sponsorship of the graduate research group ***Scripts for Postindustrial Urban Futures: American Models, Transatlantic Interventions*** (see <http://www.amstudies-ruhr.de>), the universities of the UA Ruhr seek to fill the following positions for a total of four years from the period September 1, 2018-August 31, 2022:

**7 Research Assistantships for Doctoral Candidates (TV-L 13, 65%)
as well as
1 Postdoctoral Position (TV-L 13, 100%)**

The objective of the UA Ruhr's graduate research group is to carry out transatlantic research on acutely influential scripts that seek to design a sustainable, creative, or (socially and culturally) inclusive future for postindustrial urban communities in the USA and Germany. These scripts are directives and guidelines with a significant societal impact. They are communicated narratively, medially and figuratively; they pick up development trajectories from the past, continue them into the present and develop scenarios for the future. The emphasis here is on transatlantic processes of exchange that refer back to the pioneering American self-stylizations and interpretive patterns of the late 20th century. Working with a solid foundation in American Studies, each member of the graduate research group will research one project on developments in selected postindustrial cities (list of projects to be carried out: <http://www.amstudies-ruhr.de>).

Organizational Structure:

- For the advertised positions, employment includes a practical internship phase of up to one year, in which in-depth cooperation with public institutions and/or private companies involved in urban development in the relevant German and American regions is an essential component.
- The graduate research group is located in the Department of Anglophone Studies at the University of Duisburg-Essen. The primary workplace will be in Essen during academic training; further locations will be defined by the internship.
- The postdoctoral position provides impulses for the graduates and is located in Essen; for this position, different internships can be combined during the practical phase. Employment will be with the Department of Anglophone Studies at the University of Duisburg-Essen.
- Three of the seven doctoral candidates will be employed by the Department of Anglophone Studies at the University of Duisburg-Essen (projects four, five and six).
- Two of the seven doctoral candidates will be employed by the Technical University of Dortmund, Faculty of Culture Studies (projects one and two).
- Two of the seven doctoral candidates will be employed by the Ruhr-University Bochum, Faculty of Philology (project three) and Faculty of History (project seven), respectively.

Your Profile:

- Candidates interested in one of the doctoral positions will have already completed their Master's degree (or equivalent degree) with a prerequisite focus in American Studies, Anglophone Studies, American history or in other related fields. Candidates interested

in the postdoctoral position will have completed their doctoral degree in American Studies, Anglophone Studies, American history or in other related fields.

- Candidates are willing and able to cooperate with our practical partners and with other members of the graduate research group.
- Candidates have the requisite language and content expertise to cooperate in a transatlantic context within the framework of the graduate research group.

The graduate research group is part of the one-time funding program “Scholarship and Professional Practice in Graduate Education” sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation. The program aims to allow doctoral candidates to gather (up to) one year of practical experience in professional fields and thus also to qualify themselves for work outside the university context in the course of their doctoral education.

The universities of the UA Ruhr aim to increase the diversity of their members (see <http://www.uni-due.de/diversity>; <http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/chancengleich/>; <https://www.tu-dortmund.de/uni/de/Uni/Diversitaet-an-der-TU-Dortmund/Aktive/Stabsstelle-CFV/index.html>).

They also seek to increase the proportion of women among their academic personnel and, therefore, expressly invite qualified women to apply. Women will be given preference in the case of equal qualification according to the federal equality act.

Applications by qualified individuals with disabilities or handicaps (see § 2 Abs. 3 SGB IX) are also desired.

Please send your documents in PDF form (max. three attachments) with the subject line “Application: Scripts Graduate Research Group” and **the code 201-18** to the speakers of the group, Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau (e-mail: barbara.buchenau@uni-due.de) and Prof. Dr. Jens Martin Gurr (e-mail: jens.gurr@uni-due.de), by **April 13, 2018**. The documents should include a cover letter, résumé, copies of transcripts and degrees, a copy of your Master’s thesis, an exposé of five pages for a project including the mention of two possible alternative projects that would also interest you. The selection committee is composed of the principal investigators of the research group – Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau, Prof. Dr. Jens Martin Gurr, Prof. Dr. Josef Raab (University of Duisburg-Essen), Prof. Dr. Kornelia Freitag, Prof. Dr. Michael Wala (Ruhr-University Bochum), Prof. Dr. Walter Grünzweig, Prof. Dr. Randi Gunzenhäuser (Technical University of Dortmund) –, a representative of the Volkswagen Foundation as well as selected practical partners. Interviews are going to take place May 3 and 4, 2018.

For any questions about the research program or the application process, please contact the speakers of the graduate research group. Detailed information on the group, the possible dissertation projects, and the training program, including its practical phases, are available on the website of the RuhrCenter of American Studies, which is maintained by the three universities: <http://www.amstudies-ruhr.de>.