

Participating in the GCSC Curriculum

The GCSC Study Programme is designed to support you in your work on your dissertation project. The core of this programme, which aims at helping you advance and qualitatively improve your project, is the interdisciplinary research colloquium. The colloquium usually takes place fortnightly and gives you the opportunity to present your work every semester and to discuss it with teachers and fellow postgraduates. The **Core Course** is designed for students at the very start of their PhD and provides methodological and theoretical knowledge as well as further key skills that are central to your doctoral studies. It furthermore offers practical help on all organisational, financial, methodological, and structural issues connected with postgraduate studies. The content of the **Intermediate Course** forms a natural progression from the core course. Unlike the latter, which addresses PhD questions on a general level, the intermediate course concentrates on the students' individual PhD projects. The table below provides an overview of the core elements of the curriculum and how we recommend you make use of it:

Semester	Module	Aim
1	Core Course	To decide the focus of your dissertation, to define the methodological and theoretical frame
1-4	At least one <i>Career Service</i> Workshop	To prepare for professional activity; to gain additional vocational qualifications
1-4	At least one <i>Teaching Centre</i> Workshop	To acquire didactic skills and further skills for the transfer of knowledge
3	Intermediate Course	To identify a methodological and theoretical framework for your own PhD project
1-6	Every semester: Interdisciplinary Research Colloquium	To discuss individual chapters of your PhD thesis
	GCSC-Research Workshops and Master Classes	To discuss specific research topics with renowned international researchers in the study of culture
	One International Conference, Summer School	To gain conference experience and to present your PhD project in an excellent, international context
	Prepare and organise a workshop or seminar	To acquire and enhance skills in project management
6	Preparatory Course for the Dissertation Defence	

You are of course free to divide the modules among your semesters according to your preferences, depending on what would suit your timetable and the stage you have reached in your work. We do recommend, however, that you keep your later semesters relatively free in order to use the time as an intensive writing phase so you should fulfil the majority of the programme outlined above in your first semesters. This is all the more advisable since you would be able to benefit from ideas and feedback during the formative stages of your PhD project. Please note that active participation in the core study programme is mandatory for all GCSC members.

All courses can be found in the 'Study Calendar' on our homepage in the beginning of the semester.