Master's Program in Dependency and Slavery Studies in Bonn, Germany

Germany: at the heart of Europe

Germany lies at the crossroads of many European countries connecting Eastern and Western Europe. It is the country of poets and thinkers. Research in Germany has a high reputation all over the world:
- Germany is among the top countries in terms of promotion of and investment in education and research.
- It hosts highly respected research institutions and centers for advanced studies.
- A degree from a German university is internationally highly esteemed.

The University of Bonn: “We are a University of Excellence”

The University of Bonn was founded more than 200 years ago and enjoys the status of being one of the most prestigious universities in Germany and abroad.

The University of Bonn is characterized by:
- being one of the world’s leading research-based universities.
- its status as a University of Excellence with six clusters of excellence.
- “Beyond Slavery and Freedom” is one of these clusters of excellence and is hosted by the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies.
- its international visibility due to eighty collaborations with renowned universities worldwide.
- offering a place of study for more than 38,000 students, who benefit not only from the University’s strong interdisciplinary research profile, but also from support in all matters.

Bonn: the place to be

Bonn is an international student city on the river Rhine, and home to the United Nations in Germany. Moreover, Bonn is:
- the birthplace of the composer Ludwig van Beethoven.
- host of important federal ministries and NGOs as well as many museums, diplomatic missions and the United Nations University.
- close to several hubs in central Europe.
- offering a variety of cultural events and entertainments such as carnival and musical festivals.
- host of a University that enjoys an outstanding reputation at national and international levels.
Join the Bonn Center for Dependency and Slavery Studies (BCDSS)

We offer a broad and in-depth Master’s program that is unique and innovative. Our Master’s program in “Dependency and Slavery Studies” covers state-of-the-art research on slavery and dependency.

Due to its excellent local, regional, national and international network, the BCDSS offers an ideal environment for intensive interdisciplinary and intercultural exchange. With our research we aim at overcoming the binary opposition of “slavery versus freedom” and propose instead “asymmetrical dependency” as a new key concept encompassing all forms of bondage across time and space.

Our Master’s program is a two-year, research-oriented degree program offering you a broad perspective on interdisciplinary research into slavery and other forms of strong asymmetrical dependencies through time and space.

The basic modules (1–3) establish a sound knowledge of relevant historical phenomena as well as the methodological and theoretical tools to pursue your own study and research interests. In accordance with the broad perspective and innovative character of our program, the study program includes classes on transcultural comparison and current research debates (4 & 7).

The fourth semester is dedicated to preparing and writing your Master’s thesis.

**Admission requirements**
- A 3-year B.A. or equivalent degree acquired in Germany or abroad in Archaeologies, Asian or Islamic Art History, Comparative Religious Studies, Egyptology, English Studies, German Studies, History, History of the Islamicate World, History of Law, Japanese Studies, Korean Studies, Latin American Studies, Slavic Studies, Social Sciences, South East Asian Studies, Theologies, Tibetan Studies, or similar disciplines.

**Language requirements**
- Proficiency in English (documented by, e.g., a B.A. program taught entirely in English, minimum scores of TOEFL iBT 94/IELTS 7.0)
- German language proficiency is not required.
- Proficiency in source languages is recommended.

**Costs**
- University fee (~600 € p.a.)
- Living expenses

**When and how to apply?**
- Application period: May 4 – June 15, 2020
- Apply online via our University of Bonn Online Application Portal for Graduate Programs.
- Start: Every winter term. The next start date is October 1, 2020.

**Funding opportunities**
- For funding opportunities and further questions related to our Master’s program, please check our website.

**Contact**
- Sarah Dusend, Head of Research and Study
- ma-program@dependency.uni-bonn.de

---

### Module Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First semester</td>
<td>Module 1 (10 ECTS)</td>
<td>Phenomena of Slavery and Other Forms of Strong Asymmetrical Dependency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second semester</td>
<td>Module 4 (10 ECTS)</td>
<td>Dependency and Slavery: Case Studies I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Module 5 (10 ECTS)</td>
<td>Dependency and Slavery in Transcultural Comparison</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third semester</td>
<td>Module 6 (10 ECTS)</td>
<td>Research Problems and Debates in Dependency and Slavery Studies: Case Studies I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Module 7 (10 ECTS)</td>
<td>Dependency and Slavery: Case Studies II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth semester</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Master Thesis (30 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### Classes on Case Studies (4 & 7)
- Classes on case studies (4 & 7) and Compulsory Elective Modules provide the room to follow your own interests and to explore textual sources, material culture, and data. Special support is offered to improve your source language skills.

### Compulsory Elective Modules
- The Compulsory Elective Modules also offer the opportunity to do an internship in national or international institutions.

### Module Details
- **Module 1 (10 ECTS)**: Phenomena of Slavery and Other Forms of Strong Asymmetrical Dependency
- **Module 2 (10 ECTS)**: Slavery and Other Forms of Strong Asymmetrical Dependency: Methodological Approaches
- **Module 3 (10 ECTS)**: Slavery and Other Forms of Strong Asymmetrical Dependency: Theoretical Approaches
- **Module 4 (10 ECTS)**: Dependency and Slavery: Case Studies I
- **Module 5 (10 ECTS)**: Dependency and Slavery in Transcultural Comparison
- **Module 6 (10 ECTS)**: Research Problems and Debates in Dependency and Slavery Studies: Case Studies I
- **Module 7 (10 ECTS)**: Dependency and Slavery: Case Studies II
- **Compulsory Elective Modules I (10 ECTS)**
- **Compulsory Elective Modules II (10 ECTS)**
- **Master Thesis (30 ECTS)**

---

### Additional Information
- **C1 proficiency in English** (documented by, e.g., a B.A. program taught entirely in English, minimum scores of TOEFL iBT 94/IELTS 7.0)
- German language proficiency is not required.
- Proficiency in source languages is recommended.
- **University fee** (~600 € p.a.)
- Living expenses

---

**Find out more**

---