

RTG agreement

For doctoral researcher:

The Integrated Research Training Group (RTG, as we say) is an integral part of the TRR that organizes the continuing education of the doctoral and postdoctoral members of the TRR. It is headed by Dr. Ricarda Kurock (Psychology) as a coordinator and Dr. Andrea Karsten (Writing Scholarship, Psycholinguistics) as the coordinator for writing services. The scientific director is Prof. Dr. Ingrid Scharlau.

The RTG organizes and provides advanced training for doctoral and postdoctoral researchers. To this end, it offers a workshop program for the development of research-, career-related and personal skills, as well as personal consulting, networking and mentoring. Its central focus is on the preparation for and support of interdisciplinary research and the support of scientific writing.

Participation in the RTG program is mandatory for doctoral researchers and part of their employment contract. The details are specified in this RTG agreement.

Mandatory parts of the RTG program are

- three workshops on interdisciplinarity (2026, 2027, 2028),
- a workshop on good scientific practice (2026),
- an offer on open science (2027),
- two preparatory workshops on scientific writing (2026 and 2027),
- semesterly check-ins,
- annual development meetings,
- and elective further training as specified in the RTG plan
- plus participation in the Activity Afternoons and TRR retreats.

The stay abroad should be registered in the first six months of employment. It will be confirmed by the RTG team and can only be financed by the RTG in the year for which it was confirmed. When registered later, we cannot guarantee financial support, but will of course do our best.

The doctoral researcher shall submit a Supervision Agreement (Betreuungsvereinbarung) to the responsible faculty for the dissertation within six months and submit a copy to the RTG. If this is not possible for any reason, the RTG Supervision Agreement shall be submitted, which “only” regulates the modalities of cooperation between the supervisor and the doctoral researcher.

The doctoral researcher undertakes to respond promptly to emails from the RTG team, to register for RTG activities in good time, and to cancel only for important reasons. If costs are incurred due to non-participation or cancellations, these will be deducted internally from funding for writing retreats or stays abroad.

Participation in writing retreats and support for stays abroad can only take place if all mandatory RTG offerings have been attended by that point.

Confirmation of RTG continuing education can only be issued if the mandatory requirements have been fulfilled.

The RTG workshop and event program will be published yearly in December for the upcoming year. Services lasting one day or less will usually take place on Wednesdays. 1st and 3rd Wednesday of a month must be kept free of other obligations for this purpose.

Late-comers and premature termination

If a doctoral researcher starts late, they immediately contact the RTG coordinator for onboarding and an individual plan is made. If doctoral researchers miss a mandatory offer due to a later contract start date or other compelling reasons, they develop an individual solution with the RTG coordinator.

In the event of premature termination of the contract or discontinuation of the dissertation, the doctoral candidate shall report immediately in writing or in a consultation with the RTG coordinator or head on the status of the dissertation and future prospects.

Practicalities

Members of the Research Training Group receive information via the homepage, the RTG mailing list and the RTG KOMO course. Please check back from time to time!

Signatures

Doctoral Researcher

RTG Coordinator

PhD Supervisor

RTG head

Attachments

- RTG Supervision Agreement (applicable only if the Supervision Agreement for the dissertation is delayed more than 6 months after the employment starts)
- Elements of elective further training (as a list, only if applicable)
- Training plan for 2026 and overall plan until 6/2029