

Call for application

Georgia-Codicology and Preventive Conservation for Manuscripts

Within the DAAD programme *Ostpartnerschaften* several mobility grants are funded. In total, six projects from 2022 to 2024 will be performed. In the summer term of 2022, the first project starts.

Project 1:	Mobility from Germany to Georgia, summer term 2022
description:	<p>Seminar with practical input with a group of 6 persons (4 Students and 2 Prof., PhD or WMA) for 7 days.</p> <p>At the Tbilisi State University (TSU), introduction lessons in philology and codicology in cooperation with the National Center of Manuscripts (NCM). Topics are also book conservation and preventive conservation and handling of Manuscripts. At the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts (TSAA) the topics conservation and restoration are highlighted on didactical questions, and museology. Special topics of codicology are presented at the Georgian National Museum.</p>

The application deadline is 4th April 2022.

Four students in conservation and restoration from the CICS will be selected to participate in the workshop/project I.

Our goal is to create a workshop where high-level conservation and preservation conversation occurs and great advice is offered. Participants will benefit from making connections with other institutions and conservation students, getting to know the faculty mentors, and hearing the mentors' advice on manuscript conservation strategies and the culture of Georgia.

We are committed to accommodating all participants with disabilities.

The mobility support will provide travel costs and shared rooms for the four students.

Who is eligible to apply?

Bachelor and Master students from the CICS are eligible to apply as long as they are in the planned study period

How to apply?

Applicants must hand in a one-page motivation statement answering the question: why would you benefit from this workshop?

The written application is followed by an oral interview of 20 minutes.

Application deadline is 4th April 2022

We will notify all applicants latest after four weeks.

Please upload your files here: <https://th-koeln.sciebo.de/s/0IFSIEAMCiGELJK>

Project description from the DAAD German Academic Exchange Programme

<https://www.daad.de/de/infos-services-fuer-hochschulen/weiterfuehrende-infos-zu-daad-foerderprogrammen/ostpartnerschaften/>

2022-2024

Georgia - Codicology and Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts

Cologne University of Applied Sciences (TH Köln)

Partnerships:

Tbilisi State University (TSU) – Philology

Tbilisi State Academy of Arts (TSAA) – Conservation and Restoration and museology

Universität Hamburg (CSMC) – Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures

Kekelidze National Center of Manuscripts (NCM) – Conservation and Restoration

Georgian National Museum (GNM) – Conservation and Restoration

Brief description of the project

The present project proposal within the framework of the DAAD Eastern Partnerships Programme builds on the cooperation between the Cologne Institute of Conservation Sciences (CICS) at the TH Köln and the Cluster of Excellence "Understanding Written Artefacts" at the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) at the University of Hamburg, which manifests itself, among other topics, in a cooperative doctorate. The two German universities, represented by Prof. Dr. Andrea Pataki-Hundt (CICS) and Prof. Dr. Jost Gippert (CSMC), would like to put the bilateral cooperation with partner universities and institutions in Georgia on a sustainable basis. The partnership network focuses on codicology, the science of books, and preventive conservation. The partner universities in Georgia are Tbilisi State University (TSU) and the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts (TSAA). At the level of the humanities, competences and research work in codicology, linguistics and the preventive handling of manuscripts and books come together. Other strong partners are the National Center of Manuscripts and the Georgian National Museum in Tbilisi, which address relevant research questions both with their collections of manuscripts and with museological expertise. The research focus is on behalf of material technology such as the determination of parchment, paper and leather, as well as script analyses, quire structures and binding techniques of books and manuscripts. These research questions are flanked by the investigation of suitable climatic conditions for the storage of manuscripts and the quality of protective packaging under balanced and extreme climatic conditions. In addition, the topics of integrated pest management are a question that must be examined again and again. Here we are dealing with the question of the newly emerged grey silver fish, which infest the international collections and pose a great danger.

Abbreviations

CICS: Cologne Institute of Conservation Sciences, TH Köln

CSMC: Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures

TSU: Tbilisi State University

TSAA: Tbilisi State Academy of Arts

NCM: Kekelidze National Center of Manuscripts

GNM: Georgian National Museum

Project description

The six outlined institutions (CICS, CSMC, TSU, TSAA, NCM and GNM) would like to further deepen the German-Georgian cooperation for handling, understanding and preserving written cultural heritage. The already existing bilateral contacts are to be expanded through the "Ostpartnerschaften" programme in the direction of broader, interdisciplinary and more sustainable cooperation. With the six participating institutions, the fields of philology, codicology, preventive conservation of German and Georgian manuscripts, restoration and conservation, museology and scientific art technology are covered with a high level of expertise on both the Georgian and the German side. The diversity of the research material provides the actors and participants with a diversified view of the thematic fields described above.

In the enclosed schedule for the years 2022 to 2024, a total of four topics are to be developed in four seminars, which will enable the respective groups of participants in both Georgia and Germany to deepen their expertise in the relevant fields. The topics will be finalised at a conference to be held at the end of the funding period. The topics of the seminars are in detail:

Codicology: The science of the book is a special subject of the historical auxiliary sciences and is taught by historians, art historians and conservators. It deals with book structure, quire protocols, bookbinding specials, materiality, writings and the context of manufacturing. In introductory courses, Georgian and German students and scholars will jointly expand their expertise at both the TH Köln and the CSMC (input mainly: NCM, TH Köln, CSMC).

Philology: The humanistic examination of the textual evidence of the written cultural heritage and its classification in the historical context is the task of philology based on linguistics. In introductory overview lectures, German and Georgian students and academics are introduced to the range and contextualisation of philological issues. The introductory lectures impart basic competences and insights (input mainly: TSU, NCM, CSMC, NM).

Preventive conservation, protective wrapping: In a seminar setting, selected manuscripts are used to discuss the dangers and risks involved in handling written cultural property. This includes climatology, integrated pest management (IPM), conservation strategies and methods of climate monitoring. Suitable protective wrapping for different groups of materials will be presented and developed and applied by the participants (input mainly: TSAA, NCM, TH Köln, NM).

Materials science: Parchment, leather, paper, painting materials: Materials science goes hand in hand with the preventive conservation strategies to be employed in order to preserve written cultural heritage. The specific properties of parchment, leather and paper are elementary when it comes to determine the appropriate climate and applying protective wrapping. The basic knowledge of the painting media used in medieval and more recent manuscripts is also the subject of consideration. In seminar form involving familiarisation with the materials, this unit of expertise is characterised by the linking of material science presentation and haptic experience (input mainly: TH Köln, TSAA, NCM).

Conservation history: The look back into the procedures and possibilities of conservation is instructive and sensitises the participants. This is particularly exciting in the dialogue with German and Georgian listeners, as the Georgian colleagues have been able to gather different approaches and experiences from history. The strategies and procedures from the time of the Soviet Union are visible in the NCM's holdings and form the basis of a highly reflective discussion (input mainly: NCM, NM, TH Köln, TSAA).

Emergency alliance: The tragic events surrounding the collapse of the historical archive in Cologne, the fire at the Herzogin Anna Amalia Library in Weimar, the devastating fire at the National Museum in Rio de Janeiro or even the fire in South Africa call for joining forces to create emergency plans and establish emergency alliances. The latest developments surrounding efforts in this regard and the installation of a mobile emergency container are the subject of these courses. The vulnerability of written cultural heritage requires explicit precautionary measures to prevent irreparable damage from occurring in the first place (input mainly: TH Köln, TSAA, NM).

Book conservation: Initial preservation measures and conservation strategies are summarised under the term book conservation, as are thorough measures on a book object. Through the presentation of a large number of case studies and the demonstration of book conservation procedures, the understanding of the processes involved in book conservation is illuminated and explained. Since the decision-makers for object-relevant measures are curators and conservators alike, it is an extremely important approach to know the process of book conservation and to make all actors aware of it (input mainly: TH Köln, TSAA).

Projects 2022-2024	
Project 1:	Mobility from Germany to Georgia, summer term 2022
description:	Seminar with practical input with a group of 6 persons (4 Students and 2 Prof., PhD oder WMA) for 7 days. At the Tbilisi State University (TSU) introduction lessons in philology and codicology in cooperation with the National Center of Manuscripts (NCM). Topics are also book conservation and preventive conservation and handling of Manuscripts. At the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts (TSAA) the topics conservation and restoration are highlighted on behalf of didactical questions, and museology. Another partner is the Georgian National Museum.
Project 2:	Stay of two persons in Germany, winter term 2022/23
description:	Stay with practical input, 2 persons (doctoral student, student) for 3 months (doctoral student) and 6 monthss (student). Insight in the aereas of preventive conservation, risk managsment, first aid management. Course at the didactic Center at the TH Köln Excursion to the CSMC Hamburg für material science and codicology.
Project 3:	Mobility from Germany to Georgia, summer term 2023
description:	Seminar with practical input with a group of 10 persons (8 Students und 2 Prof., PhD or WMA) for 7 days. Presentation of case studies: conservation of the mokvi gospel and KALA lectionary. The conservation strategies and solution finding are the main topics of the wokshops. Seminars are held at the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts (TSAA) und at the National Center of Manuscripts (NCM).
Project 4:	Stay of one person in Germany, winter term 2023/24
description:	One lecturer can stay at the CICS for one month and research on the following topics: codicology, preventive conservation. The Center for

	<p>didactic studies is also open. Lectures can also be offered for CICS and CSMC students.</p> <p>TH Köln opens its network for the topics first is management and IPM.</p>
Project 5:	Mobility from Germany to Georgia, summer term 2024
description:	<p>Conference for a group of 9 persons (students, Prof., PhD or WMA) for 4 days.</p> <p>The conference for a larger group presents the interdisciplinary character on behalf of the topics codicology, philology, preventive conservation, book conservation and first aid management. Lectures should come from CICS, CSMC and the the Georgian partners.</p>