



First Call for Proposals: PICAIS Research-in-Residence Fellowships at the University of Passau, Germany
Application deadline: September 15, 2021
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The Passau International Centre for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies is the University's central platform for academic excellence and interdisciplinary research. It promotes research aligned with the University's [strategic guiding themes](#), supporting interdisciplinary project ideas that break new ground in terms of the topics examined and the methods employed. The centre is especially dedicated to the advancement of early career researchers and the creation of opportunities for network-building and interdisciplinary cooperation. PICAIS attracts international visiting scholars to Passau and integrates them into the University's academic community.

PICAIS invites applications for a visiting position at the University of Passau. PICAIS will fund full-time fellowships for short-term research stays of at least two months (preferably longer) and up to six months in duration. In cases where there are reasonable grounds for even longer visits, exceptions are possible: Longer stays are in fact preferred and can be split over several visits. The funding period will be arranged individually for each application.

The programme's main objectives are to create a free working space, support joint research projects, enhance early career training and promote interaction between our invited fellows and local researchers. Fellowship applications must, therefore, be endorsed by a member of the University of Passau, who will act as the host. Our goal is to enhance interdisciplinary cooperation and establish national and international networks.

The fellowship programme caters to internationally established academics and scientists as well as to promising junior researchers at the postdoctoral stage who are pursuing academically excellent, innovative research projects and are not currently members or employees of the University of Passau. It is open to applicants from all disciplines represented at our University, including the humanities, social sciences, business studies, economics, law, computer science and mathematics. The call is open to all research topics and methodologies.

Whilst there is no restriction on research topics, priority is given to topics that are related to one or more of our University's three [strategic guiding themes](#) which are:

- 1) Europe and Global Transformation
- 2) Migration, Sustainable Development and Just Order
- 3) Digitalisation, Networked Society and (Internet) Cultures

The current first call invites applications for the academic year 2021–22.

The application deadline is **Wednesday, 15 September 2021**.

Successful applicants will begin their fellowships in or after November 2021.

From this point forward, PICAIS calls will be issued twice a year.

For the fellows, the programme offers outstanding research conditions in an inspiring environment. Most of the University's buildings are located on an award-winning urban campus, and everything is within walking distance. The city itself, Passau, which has the bynames 'City of Three Rivers' and 'Bavarian Venice' due to its Renaissance Italian flair, is widely considered to be one of the most beautiful in Germany. It is situated in Lower Bavaria, in the southern foothills of the Bavarian Forest, close to Austria and the Czech Republic.

Our fellows are crucial to the centre's intellectual life and enjoy the freedom to focus on their own research projects and push forward their ideas in beautiful surroundings.

Funding

During their time here, PICAIS fellows have:

- affiliate status at the University of Passau
- full access to all University services
- a fully equipped office space
- access to the university computer network
- general access to the communal facilities and common room areas

Fellows receive a full-time fellowship, paid as a lump sum, which covers:

- the cost of accommodation in Passau
- travel costs/mobility allowance
- a contribution towards research costs (as stated in section D in the proposal).

The fellowship stipend depends on the applicant's country of residence and the length of stay.

Visiting fellows will conduct research and engage in the centre's programme, e.g. by holding a lecture, talk or workshop at least once during their time in Passau. The fellowship is predominantly designed to be completed in residence. Organisational matters and the work plan for the stay must be outlined in the proposal (sections B and D).

The PICAIS office, the Welcome Centre, the University's administrative services and the host at the University will support our fellows during their research stay at PICAIS.

Please see our **funding guidelines** [online](#) for details on funding.

Application Details

If you are interested in a PICAIS Research-in-Residence Fellowship and visiting the University of Passau, please send your application to the PICAIS office
 → by using the application form provided and
 → by sending an e-mail to picais@uni-passau.de.

The deadline for proposals for the first call is **Wednesday, 15 September 2021**.

Your proposal should not exceed ~ nine pages in sections A to D (Arial 11 pt, 1.2 pt line spacing, cf. template [online](#)) and must include the following six parts:

A	Applicant's details	up to 3 pages
B	General information, planned host and date of your research visit(s)	
C	Proposal, complete with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research programme that you propose to undertake during your visit • rationale for your visit and your proposed working programme • how your research will benefit from being undertaken at PICAIS 	up to 5 pages
D	Budget estimate including details for the estimated amount of the lump-sum compensation required for the fellowship stay (cf. the information leaflet on flat fees (published by mid August) and the Funding section in the Funding Guidelines)	1 page
E	Curriculum vitae	no page limitation
F	Letter of support from the host (a member of the University of Passau) stating the intended contribution of the fellowship and research stay to the University of Passau	no page limitation

The application must be submitted in English.

Page limitations may not be exceeded; however, there are no page limitations or specific formatting requirements for the curriculum vitae and the letter of support (cf. E and F above).

Selection Criteria

The Passau International Centre for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies is charged with carrying out the application and selection procedure. The proposals are evaluated by the [PICAIS board](#) and, if deemed necessary, by additional external reviewers. The funding and appointment decision for PICAIS Researcher-in-Residence fellowships is made on a competitive basis.

The selection criteria are focused on the promotion of research personalities. We will seek good social and intellectual diversity in our fellowship cohorts and intend to increase the number of female researchers and to promote gender equality.

The following criteria will be considered in the review process:

- 1) Quality and feasibility of the proposed project
- 2) Research profile of the applicant
- 3) Contribution to the University of Passau

Contact

For more information on the fellowship programme, the application process and funding guidelines, you can contact the PICAIS office directly via our website. If you have any further questions, please get in touch with:

Dr Kerstin Theis, PICAIS Managing Director
E-mail picaiss-office@uni-passau.de
Phone +49 851 509 1117
Web <https://www.picaiss.uni-passau.de/en/contact/>

Please note that during the summer break in August, a holiday stand-in scheme will be applied as noted in the out of office notice.