

## Further Contact Points for Doctoral Researchers at TH Köln

### **AStA (Students' Union) of TH Köln**

Semester ticket, legal advice on tenancy law, LGBT\*, general legal advice, debt advice, social advice, accessibility; anonymous counseling possible  
E: sekretariat@asta.th-koeln.de

### **Center for Academic Development (ZLE)**

Current teaching and learning research, university and media didactic support in teaching  
E: hochschuldidaktik@th-koeln.de  
E: digitalelehre@th-koeln.de

### **Department for International Affairs**

Study abroad, funding, Erasmus+  
E: international-affairs@th-koeln.de

### **Equality**

Gender, diversity, and inclusion, discrimination, sexual harassment, academic careers for women  
E: gleichstellungsbeauftragte@th-koeln.de

### **Family Services**

Childcare, maternity protection and parental leave, care of relatives, pursuing a doctorate with a child  
www.th-koeln.de/familien-service

### **Feedback Management**

Questions, ideas, criticism / complaints or praise on topics that concern you at TH Köln  
E: feedback@th-koeln.de

### **Health Promotion**

Program for holistic health promotion with free workshops and seminars  
E: gesundheitskompetenz@th-koeln.de

### **Ombudspersons at TH Köln**

Confidential advice on good scientific practice and scientific misconduct  
E: wilma.castro-lesching@th-koeln.de  
E: christoph.haag@th-koeln.de

### **Research Data Management (RDM)**

Structured framework for research data  
E: forschungsdaten@th-koeln.de

### **Research Funding**

Funding opportunities for research projects, application procedures, cooperation agreements  
E: forschungsfoerderung@th-koeln.de

### **Writing Counseling at the Writing Center**

Writing advice, workshops, writing rooms  
E: schreibzentrum@th-koeln.de

## Psychological Counseling / Mental Health Counseling Centers

### **AStA (Student Union) of TH Köln**

Psychosocial counseling  
E: sekretariat@asta.th-koeln.de

### **Cologne Student Services**

Psychological counseling for enrolled doctoral students  
E: bksa-sekretariat@kstw.de

### **Disabilities, Chronic or Mental Illnesses**

Support and advice for enrolled doctoral researchers  
E: nadine.fischer@th-koeln.de  
E: sebastian.hopp@th-koeln.de

### **normaleralsdudenkst.de**

Overview of all topics related to mental health in Cologne  
[normaleralsdudenkst.de](https://www.normaleralsdudenkst.de)

## Interdisciplinary Networking Opportunities

### **ArbeiterKind.de**

Support for first generation students  
www.arbeiterkind.de

### **Erste Generation Promotion e. V.**

Non-profit initiative by doctoral researchers and graduates offering counseling and networking  
www.egp-verein.de

### **Women in Science**

Support programs, information, tips, and examples of pathways for women in science  
[www.frauen-in-der-wissenschaft.de/vernetzung/](https://www.frauen-in-der-wissenschaft.de/vernetzung/)

All contact points [↗](#)

### **TH Köln Graduate Center**

The Graduate Center (in German: Graduiertenzentrum) is the central contact point for anyone interested in or already pursuing a doctorate at TH Köln, as well as for postdocs and supervisors. Whether you have organizational or interdisciplinary questions regarding doctoral research, you will find the right contact person at Graduate Center. Questions, ideas, criticism / complaints or praise on topics that concern you at TH Köln.

Contact:

### **Graduate Center Service Desk**

T: +49 221-8275-3300  
E: graduatecenter@th-koeln.de  
[www.th-koeln.de/early-stage-researchers](https://www.th-koeln.de/early-stage-researchers)



## Graduate Center

We support your  
scientific career!

Services, offers and funding programs  
for doctoral researchers at TH Köln

Graduate Center

**Technology  
Arts Sciences  
TH Köln**

# Path to a Doctorate at TH Köln

## 1. Doctorate at the Graduate School for Applied Research in North Rhine-Westphalia (PK NRW)

Numerous professors at TH Köln are members of the Graduate School for Applied Research in North Rhine-Westphalia (PK NRW), a state-wide research network of universities of applied sciences ([www.pknrw.de/english](http://www.pknrw.de/english)). PK NRW offers structured doctoral programs in eight different departments, providing doctoral researchers with an advanced scientific curriculum as well as intensive supervision. In addition, there are diverse networking opportunities for professors and doctoral researchers. You are supervised by a professor of TH Köln who is a member of PK NRW as well as two other professors. The doctoral degree is awarded by PK NRW and TH Köln.

## 2. Cooperative Doctorate

A cooperative doctorate is carried out in cooperation with a university in Germany or abroad. The research usually takes place at TH Köln, and is supervised by a professor of TH Köln and a second professor from a university with the right to award doctoral degree in Germany or abroad. The doctoral degree is awarded by the cooperating university.

# Formal Steps

## 1. Registration at Graduate Center

To ensure your inclusion in the Graduate Center's register of doctoral researchers and to guarantee that you receive the newsletter as well as regular updates about events and current offers via email, you are required to register through the form available on Graduate Center website or directly contact the Graduate Center.

## 2. Enrollment for Doctoral Researchers

It is possible to enroll as doctoral student at TH Köln. Cooperative doctoral researchers who are employed as research associates at TH Köln are free to enroll. PK NRW doctoral researchers and cooperative doctoral researchers without an employment contract at TH Köln are required to enroll as students.

# Events and Offers for Doctoral Researchers

## Workshops and Seminars

In cooperation with the Center for Soft Skills Development, Graduate Center offers tailored workshops for doctoral researchers to acquire competencies and skills for a successful accomplishment of a doctoral project. The program includes workshops on scientific writing, presenting, and publishing, as well as workshops on how to cope with various phases in the doctoral process in German and English.

## Good Scientific Practice

Courses on good scientific practice are regularly offered in both German and English. The guidelines for good scientific practice at TH Köln are available on TH Köln's website in the »Research«-Section.

## Afternoon for Doctoral Researchers and Postdocs

The Afternoon for Doctoral Researchers and Postdocs takes place once or twice a year and offers an interesting program and the opportunity to get to know each other and network across disciplines.

## Coaching for Doctoral Researchers

In cooperation with the Equal Opportunities Office and the Center for Academic Development (ZLE), Graduate Center offers

professional coaching specifically for doctoral researchers at TH Köln. Several coaching workshops are held each year to discuss process steps, formulate challenges, and reflect on perspectives in the format of a collegial coaching.

## Offers of Language Learning Center

Doctoral researchers have the opportunity to participate in language courses offered by the Language Learning Center. In addition, there are specific individual consultations in German language for doctoral researchers and visiting scholars.

## Further Workshop Offers by HR Department

For employees of TH Köln, the Department of Human Resources offers an internal training program. This includes offers for the enhancement of personal, methodical, and social competencies.

## Didactics Workshop Program

The Center for Academic Development (ZLE) regularly offers didactics workshops for doctoral researchers seeking to gain and reflect upon their (initial) teaching experiences.

# Good Supervision

Good supervision during the whole doctoral process is one of the crucial aspects for a successful doctorate. Thus, Graduate Center has published »Guidelines for the good supervision of doctoral researchers«. The conclusion of a supervision agreement which regulates all rights and duties of the doctoral researchers and their supervisors is recommended. The guidelines and a template for a supervision agreement are available at the Graduate Center website.

# Funding Program for Doctoral Researchers

## Internal Funding Program for Conferences

The support of early-career researchers is a major focus of TH Köln. Therefore, TH Köln grants doctoral researchers financial support for expenses related to scientific activities within the context of their doctorate.

You can apply for funding if you would like to attend a scientific conference to network in your scientific community. More information and funding conditions are published on the website.

## Abstract Proofreading Service

Trained translators at the university support doctoral researchers of TH Köln by proofreading their abstracts for scientific publications or calls for conference contributions. If you are interested, please contact the Graduate Center.

## Open Access Publication Fund

TH Köln supports publishing in Open Access with a publication fund. Applications for financial support can be made for Open Access journal articles and for Open Access books and are limited to one application per calendar year and per person. The Publication Service of the University Library provides further information and advice.

## External Funding Opportunities

There are various external funding opportunities for doctoral researchers. On our website, we publish information about scholarships for doctoral researchers, funding for stays abroad and conference participation, and will be pleased to advise you.

