FILMUNIVERSITÄT
BABELSBERG
KONRAD WOLF

Call Predoc-Program

Filmuniversität Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF

The Film University Babelsberg KONRAD WOLF is a lively place of independent research, teaching and art. Founded in 1954, it is now the largest film school in Germany and has an international reputation. With its unique interdisciplinary educational profile, successful productions and innovative research projects, the Film University makes a decisive contribution to the future of moving image media. The Film University is an integral part of the Babelsberg media city with close links to Berlin. Nowhere else in Germany are film history, present and future so concentrated in one place.

Doctoral students are an important element of a vibrant research culture, but this phase is associated with a number of risks, both structurally and individually. In order to minimize these, the Film University is launching a **Predoc program for the first time in the winter semester 2025/26**. For this program, **we are looking for particularly talented applicants who are interested in pursuing a doctorate in media studies or in the scientific-artistic field.**

The one-year Predoc program as part of the ESF + third-party funded project PERFEKT advises prospective doctoral candidates on conceptual and financial planning for an optimal start to the doctoral phase and offers a wide range of other interesting support services (workshops, coaching, mentoring, e-learning, peer-to-peer exchange).

What the Predoc phase offers

■ Optimal support for a successful start to the doctoral phase from the office for young academic talents (Graduiertenakademie) and professors at the Film University (preparation of exposé, time planning, financing options)

■ Workshops / coaching / mentoring (by trained coaches) on various topics related to the doctorate (writing training, presentation techniques, project management, resilience, etc.)

■ Opportunity to take part in doctoral colloquia, junior researcher days, seminars

■ Kick-off event, future PERFEKT event at the end of the predoc phase + certificate of participation

■ Peer-to-peer exchange with existing doctoral candidates at the Film University

■ Provision of e-learning units on academic writing and time management

■ Rapid completion of the doctorate (ideally in three years, extension is possible)

■ Highlighting various career options after the doctorate

■ **Participation in the program is free of charge**

Application requirements

■ A very good degree (Master's, Diplom or Magister) in a film-related subject, or proven expertise in the field.

■ The intention to complete a doctorate.

■ If accepted into the program, binding participation is expected: Willingness to attend regular meetings with the junior researcher support officer for accompanying support and adherence to the work plan, as well as participation in workshops, coaching, events

How is the selection made?

■ All formally admitted applications go through an internal review process after screening. The selection committee selects the applicants for the predoc phase.

■ A maximum of 8 people can be accepted.

Which application documents must be submitted?

■ Letter of motivation (max. 2 pages). Here you should express why you would like to participate in the Predoc program and why you think you are particularly well suited for it.

■ Curriculum vitae in tabular form

■ Degree certificate (Master's, Diplom, Magister)

■ Exposé (max. 5 pages) on the subject, methodology of the planned project, details of possible publications, art projects, etc.

■ Letter of recommendation

Please submit the application documents by June 30, 2026 as a compressed pdf file by e-mail to: j.scho@filmuniversitaet.de and d.kobelt@filmuniversitaet.de.

We look forward to receiving your application!

If you have any questions, please contact us:

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