

Information about Supervision and University of Exchange

a) PhD Candidates at FUB

At the Graduate School of Global Politics (GSGP), you have as a rule **two supervisors** for your dissertation thesis. The first is from FUB and the second one from a partner university in China (at the moment either Fudan University in Shanghai or Renmin University in Beijing, possibly also other universities). If you are enrolled as a PhD candidate at FUB, your first supervisor is a FUB professor collaborating with the Graduate School of Global Politics and the second supervisor is a professor cooperating in the GSGP program who teaches at Fudan University, Renmin University, or another partner university.

The second supervisor is also decisive for your stay abroad. As a FUB PhD candidate, you will spend one to two semesters in China (during the third and possibly also the fourth semester). This stay abroad will be at the partner university where your second supervisor works.

The **procedure for selecting supervisors** is as follows: When applying through the online application system at FUB to be admitted to the joint German-Chinese study program as a FUB PhD candidate, you can inform us of your preferred choice for first and second supervisors. Please refer to our website for professors collaborating with the Graduate School of Global Politics. We try to honor your wishes during the admissions process - provided, of course, that you are admitted to the program - but cannot promise that each student will always receive his or her first choice of supervisors. The assignment of supervisors depends not only on your wishes but also on the availability and willingness of the respective professor and whether he or she agrees to supervise a particular project. In the case that you do not receive your first choice, we will propose an alternative. This situation also applies to the second supervisor from one of the Chinese partner universities. Ultimately, it is the choice of the universities and of individual professors whether they agree to supervise you.

Of course, there is no rule without **exceptions**:

If for any reason we could not provide a supervisor who matches your highly specific research interests, there is also the possibility of selecting a third supervisor who specializes in your topic. He or she can be a professor at FUB, at a partner university or at any other university willing to cooperate with the Graduate School of Global Politics. However, please inform us of your desire to find a third supervisor before you begin your search. Any attempt to find and make contact with a third supervisor should be coordinated with the Graduate School of Global Politics and not undertaken completely on your own. Additionally, you should keep in mind that having more supervisors means also having to coordinate your project with more people.

If for any reason we could not meet your choice of university for your stay abroad, please contact us. We also ask you to keep in mind that our duties of maintaining a balanced number of students at each university and of selecting supervisors who

meet research interests, are available, and are willing to supervise several students are careful and complex endeavours. As such, it is sometimes difficult to make significant changes to our arrangements. However, if you have compelling reasons for a change of university, we can discuss the situation and see whether we can find a solution which suits you better. Unfortunately, we also cannot promise that you will have your first choice in this regard.

Finally, there are also students who want to enrol/are enrolled at FUB who, for certain reasons, cannot go to China for a research stay. For example, if you are the recipient of a scholarship whose conditions include that you stay at FUB during the full time period, you may not be allowed to participate in a foreign exchange. In some of these cases, we have been successful in negotiating a waiver for you with the scholarship donor, making it possible for you to go to China to do research and study (for recipients of scholarships from the China Scholarship Council, see below). If this is not possible, you can stay at FUB for the duration of the program. Our PhD program is tailored in a way that it makes it possible to fulfil all requirements at FUB. Moreover, in these cases, the second supervisor can be selected from our FUB pool (alternatively, a professor from a partner university may still act as your second supervisor if you have contacts in China or if you prefer to do it that way). Chinese students who receive a scholarship from the China Scholarship Council for a full three-year stay at FUB (to be enrolled at FUB as a PhD candidate) are expected to remain at FUB for the entire three-year period. They are only allowed to go back to China for a couple of weeks during this period. Since these students are already from China, it is not possible to waive the prohibition on returning.

b) PhD candidates at a partner university

If you are enrolled as a PhD candidate at one of our partner universities (at the moment, Fudan University in Shanghai and Renmin University in Beijing, possibly also other universities), you will have **two supervisors** for your dissertation thesis. Usually, when you apply for admission to the joint German-Chinese study program as a PhD candidate from a partner university, you have already a first supervisor at your home university who is cooperating with the Graduate School of Global Politics (GSGP). If you are admitted to the program, your second supervisor will be a FUB professor collaborating with the GSGP program. Additionally, your exchange stay will take place at FUB.

As a PhD candidate from a Chinese partner university, you will usually stay at FUB for two semesters, starting in the winter term after your application has been accepted. These are usually the first and second semester of the GSGP program, which normally correspond to the third and fourth semester of your PhD program at the Chinese university.

The **procedure to select supervisors** is as follows: When applying through the online application system at FUB for admission to the joint Chinese-German study program as a PhD candidate from a partner university, you can give us your first choice of a second supervisor. Please refer to our website for professors collaborating with the Graduate School of Global Politics. We try to honor your

wishes during the admissions process - provided, of course, that you are admitted to the program - but cannot promise that each student will always receive his or her first choice of supervisors. The assignment of supervisors depends not only on your wishes but also on the availability and willingness of the respective professor and whether he or she agrees to supervise a particular project. In the case that you do not receive your first choice, we will propose an alternative.

c) PhD candidates at a Chinese university that is not a partner university of FUB – exchange students

If you are enrolled at a university in China that is not a partner university of FUB in the Graduate School of Global Politics, you may come to FUB for one to four semesters and participate in the joint Chinese-German program at GSGP for that time period (without receiving a certificate). However, you will be supervised completely by your supervisor(s) from your home university. The rules for supervision and the selection of supervisors at the GSGP thus do not apply to you.

For any further questions, please contact:
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