ALMA Fellows

The Arnold Bergstraesser Institute is an independent research institute associated with the University of Freiburg. Its focus is socio-political issues in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East with an emphasis on conflict and migration, state and governance, and resource policy. Apart from research, the Institute's remit includes the transfer of knowledge to the general public, its application in development practice, and teaching. It also includes the mentoring of young scholars. Doctoral candidates and postdocs may become affiliated to the ABI while conducting their research projects. Their supervisors can be an ABI staff member or an external professor.

In 2016/17 the ABI launched the ALMA Research Series, Freiburg's interdisciplinary colloquium on social transformations in Asia, Latin America, Middle East, and Africa. ALMA fellows are doctoral candidates or postdocs conducting interdisciplinary research who deploy comparative methods. They empirically examine phenomena relevant to the social sciences which focus on non-European contexts and societies.

An affiliation with the ABI offers the following benefits

- Institutional association with a renowned research institute
- Co-working space in the ALMA studies room and use of the institute’s infrastructure
- Access to the ABI library which hosts one of the largest and best-sorted collections in Germany – with a particular focus on social, cultural and political developments in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East
- Incorporation in existing working groups and research clusters
- Participation in academic events as well as in professional development activities of the ABI
- Regular career planning meetings with clusters coordinators and ALMA fellow meetings
- Exposure to practice-oriented research projects in the field of development policy
- Discuss own research and receive quality feedback through foreseen exchange mechanisms (e.g. internal colloquia “Thursday Rounds”, ABI Working Papers series)

Requirements

University graduates interested in pursuing their doctoral degree in affiliation with the ABI should fulfil the following requirements:

- Work on a dissertation topic that fits with the ABI research clusters and focuses on ALMA
- Hold an excellent university degree (Master, German Diploma)
- Have been accepted for PhD by a supervisor or university
- Submit a written concept of their research or doctoral project with a clear time plan
- Regularly attend the institute as well as participate and have the predisposition to cooperate in the organization of activities in the ABI

Funding

- The ABI cannot offer funding for (doctoral) positions. Nevertheless, an affiliation with the institute can be helpful for applying to project funding or scholarships

Application

- Applications can be submitted at any time to the cluster heads, the general director, or the executive manager of the ABI