



Call for Applications: Interdisciplinary Academic Summer School, “Co-constructing Oman: Global Knowledge Production and the Making of National Identity”

29 September–5 October 2024

In this interdisciplinary summer school organized by scholars from the universities of Mainz, Frankfurt, Heidelberg, and their research collaborators in Oman, we wish to foster an interactive engagement with contemporary forms of knowledge production about Oman. Building upon recent work within Science Studies, which foregrounds the political nature of science and recognizes its contribution to our world as much as it describes it, we will discuss how international and interdisciplinary scientific practices, national science and policy, and the public intersect and interact with each other. By asking which disciplines and perspectives have come to dominate knowledge production about Oman, who and what remains excluded or sidelined, and how this may be challenged by new ways of engaging local communities through citizen science, we will encourage a critical reflection on research in and on Oman which challenges the longstanding boundaries between North and South, past and present, science and humanities.

By bringing together both graduate students and more experienced scholars, we strive to 1) foster and move forward methodological discussions that engage with knowledge production about Oman at a meta-level, 2) provide a constructive and safe space to openly discuss challenges inherent in developing more meaningful and equitable research collaborations, and 3) to discuss and develop concrete proposals on how to reconfigure knowledge production about Oman.

Successful applicants will receive funding for travel and accommodation to participate in the Summer School in Mainz, Germany. As part of this summer school, participants will attend seminars and engage in guided discussions with experts (including the organizers) and their fellow participants on issues related to the themes of the event. Participants will be asked to provide a short introduction to their research and/or work within this field and will have the opportunity to workshop their ideas with their colleagues during the event.

Funding for this program was generously provided by the Volkswagen Stiftung initiative on “Researching research.” For more information about the event, please visit our website:

<https://summerschool2024.archaeoman.de>

Overall Themes:

- Historical/archaeological research and its contemporary place within Omani society:
- The roles and relationships between foreign and Omani scholars in the social sciences, particularly in postcolonial contexts:

- The potential for Citizen Science in Oman as a collaborative endeavor and its impact on knowledge production:

Event Details:

Date: 29 September–5 October 2024
Location: Leibniz-Zentrum für Archäologie (LEIZA)
Ludwig-Lindenschmit-Forum 1
55116 Mainz, Germany
Language: All events will be conducted in English

Who Should Apply?

Graduate students (advanced masters and PhD) and early career postdocs across disciplines with a keen interest in the intersection of history, archaeology, anthropology, geography, and the evolving landscape of knowledge production in Oman. The participation of students from Oman and/or adjacent Gulf States who conduct research in/about Oman are particularly encouraged to apply.

There are 24 spots available in total. Travel and accommodation expenses for accepted participants will be covered by the organizers.

Application Requirements:

Applicants should submit the following documents to the organizers by email before the application deadline.

- 1) Name and affiliation of the applicant
- 2) Curriculum Vitae (CV) highlighting relevant academic and research experience.
- 3) Statement of Interest (max 500 words, in English) explaining how this program will contribute to their intellectual development as scholars.

Application Deadline:

Applications must be received no later than **1 April 2024** to receive consideration.

More information and How to Apply:

For further information, please visit our website: <https://summerschool2024.archaeoman.de/>
To apply, please submit your CV and statement of interest to:
summerschool2024@archaeoman.de

Yours Sincerely,

The Co-Constructing Oman Summer School Organizers:

Prof. Dr. Julia Verne
Prof. Dr. Stephanie Döpfer
Prof. Dr. Veronika Cummings
Jun.-Prof. Dr. Franziska Fay
Dr. Lucas Proctor
Dr. Pia Maiorano