

HONOURS PROGRAMME FOR FUTURE RESEARCHERS

Friedrich Schiller University Jena

The programme is located at the Graduate Academy. It is part of the "LIGHT, LIFE, LIBERTY" strategy of the University of Jena and is funded by the Excellence Strategy of the German Federal and State Governments.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES



- to allow in-depth insights into research processes
- to get involved in the scientific community
- to support an informed decision for or against a doctorate
- prepare for an academic career

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TARGET GROUP



The "Honours Programme" supports talented students of all disciplines who are interested in research. The students apply with their own small research project.

The application must be supported by a supervising researcher. Each year, up to 80 new students can be selected for the programme.

COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAMME

Honours funds



With this fund, we support activities of the selected students that are not directly related to their studies but to their research project, e.g. travel expenses for congress participation or other material costs up to a maximum of 1,000€ per year.

In addition, initiatives by the selected students, such as inviting guest speakers or organising student research congresses, may be funded.

HONOURS WORKSHOPS

For the selected students, the Graduate Academy offers various events and workshops. These workshops focus on specific issues that are outside the scope of undergraduate degree programmes.

For example, workshops are offered on scientific writing and presentation, good scientific practice, philosophy of science, research ethics and the first steps towards a scientific career. This enables participants to train key research skills at an early stage and reflect on their experiences with research and the research culture they have experienced. During the workshops and regular networking meetings, interdisciplinary exchange and affiliation with the scientific community are promoted.

HONOURS MENTORING



Students are supervised by the researchers with whom they have applied in tandem. Depending on the research culture, the supervision can involve carrying out a small own research or publication project or contributing to a joint research project. In addition, involvement in graduate programmes, advanced seminars or doctoral colloquia and participation in congresses or conferences is highly recommended. In addition to subject-related supervision, mentoring on personal development and career issues may be provided.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications for the Honours Programme can be submitted once a year. As a rule, applications are possible from the beginning of April to the middle of May. Applicants must submit their application via the University's online application portal. Funding starts on 1 July. The funding period is initially limited to one year, but can be extended for another year. The application can be submitted in German or English.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Eligible to apply are students of all disciplines of the University of Jena who are at least in the 4th semester of their studies and have a special interest in science. The application is made in tandem with a professor or a supervisor with an advanced postdoc status (that means at least two years of post-doctoral research experience).

WHICH DOCUMENTS DO I NEED FOR AN APPLICATION?

- a motivation letter and a CV
- final certificates, academic achievements of previous studies, current grade average
- Research project exposé
- a description of the supervision and the participation in academic exchange

OTHER EVENTS AND OFFERS

- Exchange opportunities for Honours Mentors
- Excursions & Hikes
- Evening talks with researchers
- Peer mentoring & regulars' tables
- Honours Days with peer project presentations and discussions
- Advice on all aspects of doctorate



<https://www.uni-jena.de/en/honours-programm>
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