



Universität St.Gallen

School for Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS)

Transcultural Studies

«A place where knowledge is created» - As one of Europe's leading universities of economics and business administration, the **University of St.Gallen (HSG), Switzerland**, is committed to the education of over 8500 students and is one of the largest employers in the region, providing around 3100 employees with an attractive and innovative environment for research.

Transcultural Studies is a research Focus at the HSG School for Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) and explores contemporary cultural and social transformations, configurations and negotiations in an ethnographic, comparative and genealogical perspective. The particular focus lies on migration/mobility and cultural aspects of inequality and redistribution.

PhD Position in the SNSF-funded Project

***Europe's Un/Deserving: Moralizations of Inequality in Comparative Perspective
(Subproject Hungary)***

(start January 1st, 2021)

The project explores un/deservingness as a key and ascending mode of reshaping inequality within the contemporary transformations of European societies. Its aim is to understand un/deservingness registers in their varieties, similarities, and contrasts in three highly contested socio-economic fields, guided by the overall research question: How do claims and debates of un/deservingness play out with regards to citizenship, redistribution, and gender regimes?

The project will apply a set of triangulated methods including ethnographic fieldwork, qualitative interviews, and critical discourse analysis. The fieldwork in each case will take particular contestations as the empirical entry point from which to reveal and reconstruct different configurations and genealogies of un/deservingness on different scales (municipalities, cantons, companies, biographies, etc.). The project consists of three Subprojects (Switzerland, Austria and Hungary).

The 4-year project is headed by *Prof. Dr. Jelena Tasic* and co-coordinated by *Dr. Andreas Streinzer* (PostDoc) and is based on a cooperation with *Prof. Dr. Violetta Zentai* (Center for Policy Studies, CEU, Budapest).

Your Duties and Responsibilities: The essential duty will be to develop, write and submit a PhD dissertation at the University of St.Gallen based on the research in the *subproject "Productive families and capable mothers: Un/deservingness in Hungarian family policy"*, conducted in cooperation with *Prof. Violetta Zentai*, (CEU, Budapest). The project focuses on the re-organization of family policy in Hungary (in particular after 2010) and its ideological underpinnings ("proper" deserving family, gender-conservatism, nationalism etc.). It will explore ideals and practices of redistribution of resources (such as welfare, tax benefits, mortgage support and resources) in middle-class households in contrast to households of disadvantaged, low-educated, precarious and racialized minorities, and households headed by women (often divorced/single parents) caring for children, elderly, disabled, and sick family members and/or working as carers abroad.

The research will include *15 months of ethnographic fieldwork* in Hungary, with Budapest as the main field site. In addition to writing her PhD-Thesis, in the post-fieldwork stage the PhD student will be expected to contribute to project outputs (conference papers, edited volume and peer-reviewed

publications etc.). Apart from the fieldwork project phase, *the research will be based at the University of St. Gallen* (residence/work permit, office, regular project meetings, pursuit of the PhD).

Your Profile: The candidate holds a Master's degree in social/cultural anthropology, ethnology, sociology, geography or other relevant discipline. She/he provides over knowledge and experience in qualitative research and ethnographic fieldwork. Prior engagement with the issues of economy, inequality, gender and redistribution are an asset. The PhD student will be able to conduct research within the framework of the overall project and the subproject in Hungary both independently and in team-work.

The candidate is fluent in Hungarian. The candidate is fluent/advanced in English and will write her PhD thesis and other outputs in English. The call is open to candidates of any citizenship/nationality background.

Application and Contact

Applicants should submit their full application (in English) - including letter of motivation, CV, examples of their academic work (chapter of the MA Thesis or a published article), copies of relevant certificates and the contact details of two academic references – via jelena.tosic@unisg.ch no later than **31.7.2020**.

- Please familiarize yourself with the **DOK PhD-Programme (Organisation&Culture)** at the HSG (<https://www.unisg.ch/en/forschung/doktorat/organisationundkultur/zulassung>), considering that in the case of a project-funded PhD the overall topic, supervision and funding are given.
- For further inquiry, please send an email to Prof. Jelena Tasic (jelena.tosic@unisg.ch) and Prof. Violetta Zentai (zentaiv@ceu.edu).
- The job-interviews (skype) will take place in August and the recruitment process is expected to be completed by September 15th, 2020.