

DAAD

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
German Academic Exchange Service

PhD in Germany

South African PhD Conference

Johannesburg, 6-8 May 2009

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DAAD Information Centre Johannesburg





Why a PhD?

Knowledge based economies:
Increasing demand in high-end skills

Internationalisation:
Increasing demand for international
experience



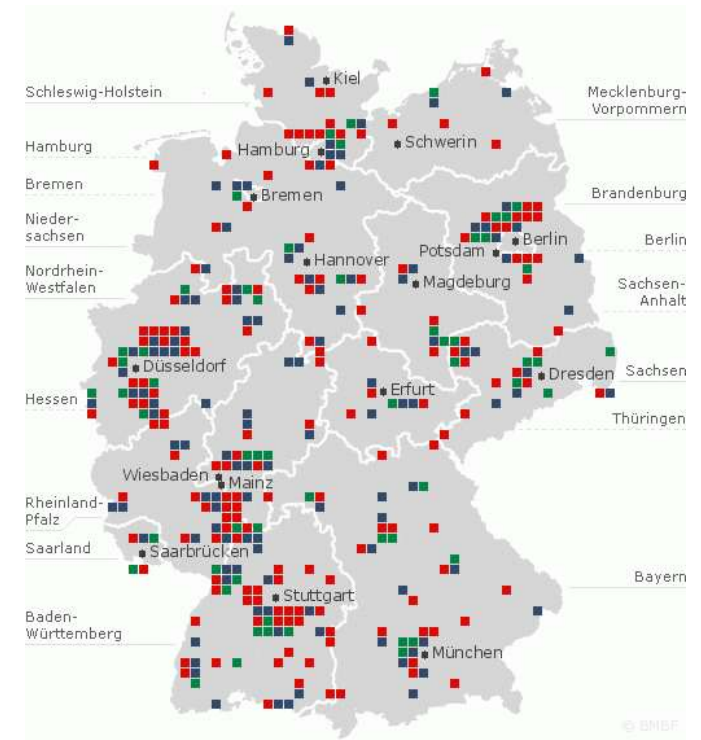


Doctorate and PhD in Germany

at 120 HEIs

about 25,000 PhD/doctorates p.a.
(82 mio inhabitants)

top PhD production rate (2.6)





Paths to a doctoral degree in Germany

Entry requirement: Excellent University degree – usually Master/Diploma
NB: University regulations binding

Path 1: Independent research under supervision
Thesis („Dissertation“) + public defense
No course work
Dr. (Doktor)

Path 2: Graduate Schools
Often international focus
Team research
Incl. course work
PhD





Research Associations in Germany

Max Planck Society – 78 Institutes

52 International Max Planck Research Schools (IPMRS)

Helmholtz Association: 15 interdisciplinary institutes, PhD in collaboration with universities

Leibniz Association

Fraunhofer Society

(DFG: German Research Society)



Step by step

Topic of your thesis and abstract of your research plan

Contact to your supervisor: abstract, CV, letter of intent, possibly reference letter

Contact to Faculty or International Office about admission procedures

NB: decision by the university – no central authority involved!



Beyond the language barrier!



Benefits of foreign language skills

Access to a wider range of scientific literature

Foreign language skills asset to your CV!

Can I do it in English?

Many PhD programmes entirely in English (cf. DAAD database)

Offer accompanying language courses



Web sources in English

www.daad.de

www.daad.de/deutschland/studienangebote/international-programmes/

www.academics.de

www.hochschulkompass.de

www.forschungsportal.net

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Thank for your attention!

