

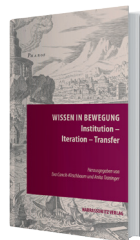
POOLING EXPERTISE – DISCIPLINARY VARIETY AND COMPARATIVE RESEARCH

The Collaborative Research Center draws on a unique reservoir of academic disciplines examining the history of culture, art and literature both at the Freie Universität in particular and in Berlin as a whole. Its rich variety of disciplines includes, among others, Philosophy, Art History, Medieval Studies, Egyptology, Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Arabic Studies, Greek Studies / Greek Language and Literature and Korean Studies. Pooling the expertise of disciplines belonging to different departments, including the so called ‘small’ disciplines, enables comparative work on a vast spectrum of phenomena – ranging from ancient Egyptian pyramid texts to early modern foreign language manuals for foreign travels.

RESEARCH RESULTS

The Center’s website announces current highlights, upcoming events as well as new and forthcoming publications: www.sfb-episteme.de

In our Listen, Read & Watch section, you can access papers and talks, reports, publications and working papers.



In collaboration with the publishing house Harrassowitz we initiated the book series *Episteme in Motion. Contributions to a Transdisciplinary History of Knowledge*. All volumes are available in print and as ebooks – most of them open access.

To receive a quarterly update on our activities, please subscribe to our newsletter: www.sfb-episteme.de/nl

Or follow us on Facebook: @epistemeinbewegung

The Center commenced its work in 2012 with more than 80 members as a joint venture with the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Since its second funding period, an information infrastructure project has been included that draws on additional expertise provided by the Department of Computer Linguistics at TU Darmstadt as well as the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT).

The Collaborative Research Center is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

Collaborative Research Center 980
“Episteme in Motion”

Freie Universität Berlin
Schwendenerstraße 8
D – 14195 Berlin-Dahlem

Tel. +49 (0)30 838 70123

info@sfb-episteme.de
www.sfb-episteme.de



Design: grafikbuero.berlin

Collaborative Research Center 980 Episteme in Motion. Transfer of Knowledge from the Ancient World to the Early Modern Period



THE COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTER “EPISTEME IN MOTION”

is dedicated to studying knowledge change in selected premodern cultures from Europe and beyond. The Center investigates *longue-durée* processes of knowledge change in particular historical configurations and develops a methodology for their description. While there has been a widespread tendency to view premodern knowledge as primarily static – both within the premodern cultures themselves but also in the eyes of modern scholars – the Center’s guiding hypothesis is that premodern knowledge was subject to constant change, especially in cases where there have been powerful claims to the contrary.

KNOWLEDGE IN MOTION

For the purpose of understanding the specific dynamics of premodern knowledge change, the Center has developed two closely-linked analytical terms: ‘episteme’ and ‘transfer’. Episteme conceives of knowledge as a ‘knowledge of something’ that is always invested with some claim to validity – a claim which becomes manifest in particular discourses and practices and can never be understood without a consideration of its mediality and materiality. The term transfer, as understood by the Center, denotes a form of knowledge change that consists in re-contextualisations that transform knowledge within new configurations and entanglements. Precisely because knowledge change is thus marked by constantly shifting reciprocal relations, its analysis makes it necessary to overcome traditional categories such as ‘period’ or ‘culture’. The concept of oikonomies of knowledge encapsulates the multidirectional dynamism of premodern processes of knowledge change. It also renders analytically accessible the implicit norms, selection processes, invisible rules and power structures that shape the transformation of knowledge. During the Center’s third funding period, a new concept, momentum, is designed to yield insight into the particular impulses within the multidirectionality that is central to knowledge change.

PROJECT AREAS AND PROJECTS

The three project areas are derived from the concept of episteme. Against this backdrop, we understand knowledge as the object of processes of negotiation – of telling, showing and doing.

TELLING

Ao1 Episteme as Configurative Process: Episteme between Theory and Practice in Cuneiform Law
PROF. DR. EVA CANCIK-KIRSCHBAUM
(Ancient Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Freie Universität Berlin)

Ao2 Ancient Egyptian Philology
PROF. DR. JOCHEM KAHL
(Egyptology, Freie Universität Berlin)

Ao3 The Transfer of Medical Episteme in the 'Encyclopaedic' Compilations of Late Antiquity
PROF. DR. PHILIP VAN DER EIJK
(Classics / History of Science, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

Ao4 Processes of Tradition Building in the Works of Aristotle
PROF. DR. GYBURG UHLMANN
(Classics / Greek Philology, Freie Universität Berlin)

Ao6 *Alchemia poetica*. Chemical Knowledge and Poetry around 1600
PROF. DR. VOLKHARD WELS
(Early Modern German Literature, Freie Universität Berlin)

Ao7 *Erotema*. The Question as an Epistemic Genre in the Learned Societies and the Periodical Press of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries
PROF. DR. ANITA TRANINGER
(Romance Studies / History of Rhetoric, Freie Universität Berlin)

SHOWING

Bo1 Artefacts, Treasures and Ruins. Materiality and Historicity in the Literature of the English Middle Ages
PROF. DR. ANDREW JAMES JOHNSTON
(English Studies, Freie Universität Berlin)

Bo2 The Marvellous as a Configuration of Knowledge in Medieval Literature
PROF. DR. JUTTA EMING
(German Literature, Freie Universität Berlin)

Bo4 The Knowledge of Art. Aesthetics and Semantics of Figural Imagery in the Renaissance
PROF. DR. KLAUS KRÜGER
(Art History, Freie Universität Berlin)

Bo6 Dimensions of Knowledge Oikonomies: Theory and Practice in Premodern Mining and Cosmology
PROF. DR. JÜRGEN RENN
(History of Science, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science)

Bo7 The Anecdote as a Form of Knowledge
PROF. DR. MELANIE MÖLLER
(Classics / Latin Philology, Freie Universität Berlin)

Bo8 Sibyls & Prophets. Constellations of Figural Knowledge in Premodernity
PROF. DR. ANNE EUSTERSCHULTE /
PROF. DR. ULRIKE SCHNEIDER
(Philosophy / Romance Studies, Freie Universität Berlin)

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROJECT

PR Showcasing Knowledge Transfer
DR. KRISTIANE HASSELMANN
(Science Communication, Freie Universität Berlin)

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROJECT

Spokesperson: PROF. DR. ANNE EUSTERSCHULTE
Deputy Speaker: PROF. DR. ANDREW JAMES JOHNSTON
Scientific Coordination: DR. KRISTIANE HASSELMANN
Financial Coordination: STEFANIE FRÖHLICH

DOING

Co1 Transfer of Apocryphal Knowledge through Translation in Ancient Christianity (and Judaism)
PROF. DR. CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES
(Protestant Theology / Ancient Christianity, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

Co6 Transfer and Overlap. Configurations of Knowledge in the Era of the Greek *Homines Novi* in the Ottoman Empire (1641–1769)
PROF. DR. MILTOS PECHLIVANOS
(Modern Greek Studies, Freie Universität Berlin)

Co8 Teaching and Learning Foreign Languages: Reconfigurations of Vernacularity in the Early Modern Period
PROF. DR. HORST SIMON
(Historical Linguistics / German Studies, Freie Universität Berlin)

Co9 Evaluations of Knowledge in Confucian Academies
PROF. DR. EUN-JEUNG LEE
(Korean Studies, Freie Universität Berlin)

C10 Verses and Sayings. Impetus and Range of Scholarly and Popularising Discourses in the Arabic World
PROF. DR. BEATRICE GRÜNDLER
(Arabic Studies, Freie Universität Berlin)

INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

INF *Corpora in Motion*. Making Accessible Epistemic Transfer in Premodern Cultures through Digital Means
PROF. DR. GYBURG UHLMANN /
DR. ALBERT GEUKES / PROF. DR. ANDREA RAPP /
DR. DANAH TONNE
(Greek Philology / Digital Humanities, Freie Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Darmstadt, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology)

AUDIO-PODCAST



HINTER DEN DINGEN. 5000 JAHRE
WISSENSGESCHICHTE ZUM
MITNEHMEN UND NACHHÖREN

The Center's podcast series takes historical artefacts as a point of departure for acoustic journeys into the history of science. In each episode, our members explore the (various) narratives related to a specific object located in Berlin. Hinter den Dingen is produced in German. It is available on Podigee, Spotify and iTunes or at www.hinter-den-dingen.de

Follow us on Twitter: @PodcastHDD

The podcast is produced in cooperation with the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin. Our media partner is Deutschlandfunk Kultur.

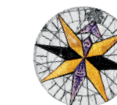


Staatliche Museen zu Berlin
Preußischer Kulturbesitz



Deutschlandfunk Kultur

LOGBUCH WISSENSGESCHICHTE



In order to emphasize that we understand the exploration of conceptual epistemological coordinates and the mapping of oikonomies of knowledge as a work in progress, the Center's third funding period revolves around the publication of an epistemological logbook – both as a digital blog and in print.