



TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DARMSTADT

## Fully funded PhD Scholarship within the Graduate School “Topology of Technology”, Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany

The interdisciplinary PhD program “Topology of Technology” at Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany, announces a fully funded PhD scholarship, starting **April 1, 2010**, and running for 2 years (with the probable option of a third year).

The program is associated with the Department of History and Social Sciences. It is organized by teachers from the disciplines of history, sociology, philosophy, literature and language, mechanical engineering, informatics, civil/construction engineering, and planning. It focuses on the relationship between technology and space – at present, in history, and in a possible future ([www.ifs.tu-darmstadt.de/gradkoll-tdt](http://www.ifs.tu-darmstadt.de/gradkoll-tdt)). It has five thematic foci:

- Information Technology and the Topology of the Network Society
- Technological Spaces of the Body and the Perception of Space
- The Circulation of Materials — Mobility — Tourism
- Topologies of Technology and Forms of Representation
- Fields of Power and the Role of Technology

Within this program we’re currently inviting applications for a fully funded PhD scholarship at the chair for spatial and infrastructure planning. More particularly, we’re looking for researchers analyzing **how suburbs and technical infrastructures co-evolve** in different cities. How does the transition of technical infrastructure systems (e.g. commercialization, technological innovations, changes in governance) shape suburban development? How is the development of infrastructure shaped by suburban change (expansion/shrinkage, demographic shifts, gentrification)? What vulnerabilities, risks, failures and cost structures are typical of suburban infrastructures and what are the potentials, comparative advantages and place-specific inventions of suburban infrastructures? What is the nature of the governance and planning of suburban infrastructures? Within the PhD project a close collaboration with an international research network focusing on the co-evolution between infrastructures und suburbanization in North American, European and Asian regions is possible.

All applicants need to have a university-level master’s degree in planning, social sciences, environmental or urban studies, architecture, geography, or a related field of study. Since course work and seminars are carried out in both German and English, it is expected that applicants are willing to learn to read and to understand German. Fellows are expected to work together in our beautifully situated castle downtown Darmstadt and thus need to take



TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DARMSTADT

up their residence in the city or in the surrounding metropolitan region of Frankfurt. The program is primarily financed by the German Research Council (DFG); see [www.dfg.de](http://www.dfg.de). PhD scholarships range between 1,000 and 1,365 Euros.

Applications are only accepted in electronic form. They should include (1) a CV, (2) copies of academic diplomas, (3) a short description (max. 5 pages) of the planned doctoral dissertation, and (4) the names and addresses of two university professors as referees. Please send your application no later than **February 15, 2010** to [raumplanung\[at\]iwar.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:raumplanung[at]iwar.tu-darmstadt.de).

Please make sure that it includes a personally formulated explanation why you are particularly interested in the program and to which thematic focus your research will, in the first instance, contribute. If you have any questions on the scholarship or the program, you are very welcome to contact Jochen Monstadt ([j.monstadt\[at\]iwar.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:j.monstadt[at]iwar.tu-darmstadt.de)) or one of the directors of the graduate school Petra Gehring ([gehring\[at\]phil.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:gehring[at]phil.tu-darmstadt.de)) and Mikael Hård ([hard\[at\]ifs.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:hard[at]ifs.tu-darmstadt.de)).