



**ELITE MASTER'S PROGRAM**  
Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures

Elite Network  
of Bavaria



**FAU**

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität  
Philosophische Fakultät und  
Fachbereich Theologie

## Call for Applications 2022

### Elite Master's Program "Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures" (SDAC)

In 2017, Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg (FAU) has established the Elite Master's Program (M.A.) Standards of Decision-Making Across Cultures (SDAC), generously funded by the Elite Network of Bavaria.

The transdisciplinary SDAC-program has a strong focus on cultural studies and the social sciences (particularly Anthropology and Sociology) as its guiding disciplines, while also including courses in Political Science, History, Economics, Religious Studies, Human Rights and Asian Studies, alongside thematically defined interdisciplinary courses. Each course foregrounds the respective discipline's contribution to the study of (trans-)culturally embedded decision-making and social agency. The program combines a regional focus on Asia (especially China and Maritime Southeast Asia) with a general training in intercultural competences from a decidedly non-Eurocentric trans-regional perspective. Before the pandemic, all SDAC student spent their third semester at Peking University (PKU), hosted by the European Centre for Chinese Studies in Beijing, with PKU's study fees being covered by the Elite Network of Bavaria, and various activities organized by a locally based SDAC lecturer. The cooperation with Peking University is suspended at the moment due to the pandemic, but other options for a semester abroad are available.

During their stay abroad, students apply their theoretical and methodological training in everyday life situations and systematically reflect upon it. They may conduct fieldwork and/or internships in Germany or another country. The program also organizes career talks and workshops with practitioners from various fields, in order to prepare students for leadership positions in international and intercultural settings in (and beyond) Asia and Europe.

The SDAC Elite Master's Program is international, with highly motivated students from across the world and an exceptionally small student-faculty ratio. Students receive various forms of personal mentoring and support. All classes are taught in English. The program actively cooperates with distinguished institutions in Europe, Asia, and North America.

The four-semester Elite Graduate Program (M.A.) **requires a B.A. degree of open disciplinary orientation.** The latest submission date for applications is **July 15<sup>th</sup>** every year. Teaching starts in mid-October. Early applications are encouraged, especially for international students. The SDAC admission committee will be meeting in **April, May, and July** and sends out invitations for selection interviews shortly afterwards. Applications can be submitted as soon as the online portal "campo" opens on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is **recommended to apply as early as possible** to guarantee early processing of the application. Applicants from outside Germany should **pay attention to visa processing deadlines.** Depending on the country, visa processing may take several months. Should your application have been reviewed but not be accepted for **early admission**, you will be informed whether you have been placed on the waiting list.

As it is common at German public universities, the M.A. program does *not* charge tuition fees (except a small administrative fee per semester). For further information, please contact us or consult our website at <https://www.sdac.studium.fau.de/home/application/> and see the FAQs: <https://www.sdac.studium.fau.de/faqs/>.

#### Contact

**Prof. Dr. Dominik Müller** (SDAC Speaker, Professor of Cultural and Social Anthropology):  
dominik.m.mueller@fau.de

**Prof. Dr. Stéphanie Homola** (SDAC Director, Assistant Professor of Ethnology): [stephanie.homola@fau.de](mailto:stephanie.homola@fau.de)

**Oleg Vasilchenko** (SDAC Coordinator): [oleg.vasilchenko@fau.de](mailto:oleg.vasilchenko@fau.de)