

The Research Training Group "VALUE and EQUIVALENCE" based at the Goethe University Frankfurt and the TU Darmstadt offers one PhD Position (E13 TV-G-U/TV-TU, 65%-Teilzeit) in the field of **Social and Cultural Anthropology with a regional focus on Africa** beginning on April 1st 2016.

Monetary and non-monetary forms of exchange in West Africa and their interrelationship

In West Africa even today, the direct exchange of some particular everyday goods is still widespread in rural areas. Despite the dominant use of money there are some goods for which, from the perspective of the consumers, barter appears to be advantageous. The economic rationale behind this practice is related to the fact that, at least in the rural milieu, household budgets include significant amounts of non-monetary resources. The members of these households live on what they harvest from their own fields, which is never monetized. At the same time there are other fields which are cultivated for cash crops. No family budget is today without monetary funds. But income is always subject to certain socially defined restrictions, while the work on the subsistence fields is the duty of all household members.

The dissertation shall investigate these practices and the related reasoning behind them. Thorough research will provide a differentiated picture of not only the benefits, but also the risks in dealing with money. The motives for the ambivalence towards and for the distancing from "money" should be stated at the end of the thesis. **Supervision:** [Hans Peter Hahn](#)

We offer

- Intensive supervision throughout all stages
- Regular interdisciplinary research colloquiums
- Financial and organisational support for the independent organisation of Conferences and Workshops
- Coverage of travel costs and budgets for analysis of archaeological material
- Participation in the organisation of an exhibition curated by the RTG (2017/18)
- contract: fixed term of 2 years, extension of another 12 months possible

Please follow the links for further information about the [specific research topic](#) and [required documents for your application](#).

Please submit your comprehensive application and the required documents listed on the website via email to the spokesperson of the research training group by 17th January 2016.

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