

Global Ideas – One University?



The question of the “idea of the university” will be critically examined in several courses at the South Asia Seminar in the winter semester 2025/26. The university will be viewed as a space for knowledge production, social change, political protest and state control. Our courses combine South Asian perspectives with transregional and global developments. Particular attention is paid to the role of students and academics as agents of social change, as well as to the tensions between institutional autonomy, public educational mandate and political appropriation. Students are invited to explore topics independently and to reflect critically on the conditions of the university.

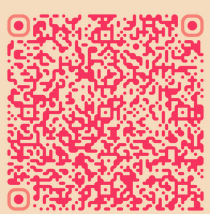
The idea of the university in colonial and postcolonial South Asia and beyond Dr. Sadia Bajwa

This course examines the idea of the public university in colonial and postcolonial South Asia. Students explore the historical development of universities in the region and analyze how these institutions are embedded in the context of civilizing missions, nationalism, and development discourse.



Hindi 5.1 – Universität im Fokus Dr. Monika Freier

In this course, we will explore different media and focus on topics related to university life. The course is offered in cooperation with Dr. Mateeullah Tareen's Urdu reading course. We will meet in individual sessions to discuss Indian, Pakistani, and other perspectives.



Critical Perspectives on Scholarly Activism and the Idea of the University Prof. Dr. Nadja-Christina Schneider

This course examines the concept of “scholarly activism” from a critical perspective. Students analyze the intersections between academic research and social engagement and reflect on the responsibility of the university in political and social movements.



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