

# Call for Applications for HU-Circle U.-Teams

**\*\*\* Application deadline: 24. August 2022 (for the 2022/23 winter semester) \*\*\***

The bologna.lab of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU) promotes innovative forms of teaching and learning and, with the Circle U.-Teams, opens up scope for project based, research intensive and international learning formats from the Bachelor's degree onwards. In a Circle U.-Team, students take part in an international and innovative study project under the guidance of young academics.

For the HU winter semester 2022/23, we are looking for 4 Circle U.-Teams in cooperation with our Circle U. partners and are therefore accepting applications where the planned project is offered in English and the course is held digitally; the study projects have to be related to the Circle U. Knowledge Hubs: Climate, Democracy and Global Health.

## What is a Circle U.-Team?

### Circle U.-Teams

**Circle U.-Teams are digital seminars in an innovative teaching-learning format, initiated by postdocs or doctoral students.**

The Circle U.-Teams consist of min. 5 students from HU and other partner Universities. The students in the Circle U.-Teams gain insight into international cooperation on projects related to the topics of the Circle U. Knowledge Hubs.

In these project teams of students, Circle U.-Team leaders are coordinators and scientific contact persons for the students, but also participants in the process themselves

By leading a Circle U.-Team, junior researchers gain teaching and mentoring experience and at the same time gain insight into international research and teaching cultures..

### Circle U.-Team leaders

The implementation of a Circle U.-Team is remunerated as a teaching assignment. The Circle U.-Team leaders will be given a teaching contract for one semester at HU. The temporary contract pays 40,31 € per teaching hour for 32 teaching hours in the winter semester (from October 2022 to February 2023).

The Circle U.-Team leaders will participate in a didactic training course on the basics of higher education didactics from concept to implementation. This training course can be completed with a certificate.

### Participating students

The Circle U.-Team should be open to Bachelor's and Master's students from different partner universities and different subjects, so that interdisciplinary and international perspectives on the subject matter are possible.

The Circle U.-Team itself consists of at least 5 students of the Circle U. universities, who actively work on the study project and gain their first experience in an international and interdisciplinary team.

## Who can apply?

We are looking for PhD students or postdocs who are interested in leading a student team. Young academics who are not employed at the Circle U. partner universities can apply. We are looking forward to applications from all disciplines and all Circle U. partner universities. PhD students and postdocs, whether they are scholarship holders and employees of non-university research institutions are welcome to apply.

## How are the Circle U.-Team leaders selected?

The applications received will be assessed by an interdisciplinary selection committee with members from all status groups.

The committee evaluates all applications according to:

### Criteria

- the connection to the Knowledge Hub,
- the coherence of the didactic concept,
- the involvement of the students in the design of the project,
- the planned implementation of the teaching-learning format,
- the motivation of the applicants.

The [guiding questions](#) for the selection committee can be found on our [website](#).



### Which projects are possible?

Innovative teaching-learning projects that focus didactically on student-centered participation and science mediation address the following criteria:

#### Student-centered teaching

- projects are open to students experiencing small scale research
- projects enable students to co-design the study project
- in the projects students actively contribute to the process
- projects foster student collaboration towards a final product

The proposed innovative teaching-learning projects could be:

#### Possible projects

- projects with a focus on social engagement and science communication
- projects aimed at the overarching competence development of the students
- projects that allow the students to put the topic in a social context
- projects where the students are encouraged to connect their physical surroundings to the topic
- ...

[Examples of former Circle U.-Teams](#) can be found on our websites.

### What are the tasks of the Circle U.-Team leaders?

The role of the young researchers as teachers and initiators of the Circle U.-Teams includes the following activities:

#### For the Application

Contacting the Chair of the [Circle U. Knowledge Hub](#) at your university to connect your CU-Team to the Knowledge Hub, and to obtain organisational support (regarding the crediting of study points, finding student participants, etc.).

#### Preparation of the course

Planning the semester, preparing the materials and activities. Preliminary organization for the course: technical and didactical preparation (the bologna.lab offers didactical training on higher education teaching).

#### Implementation of the course

Supporting the students regarding content and methodological questions during the process and supporting the preparation and presentation/publication of the results obtained in a suitable form.

#### Follow-up and Presentation

Reflection on the study project and on the teams' experiences with the format. Presentation of the course results in a public Circle U. workshop.

### Which application documents have to be submitted?

Please send your documents to [qbologna@hu-berlin.de](mailto:qbologna@hu-berlin.de) (**until 24.08.2022**). For the application 3 documents are needed:

1. the Chair's agreement form (*see page 4-5*)
2. the project proposal and
3. the CV.

### 1. The Chair's agreement:

*The form is attached to this Call* The Chair's agreement form contains information about you as the applicant and about the connection of the HU-Circle U.-Team to the Knowledge Hub. Please fill out the form and have it signed by a Knowledge Hub Chair who supports the Circle U.-Team in terms of content and organisation.

### 2. Project description (max. 3 pages with the following points):

**Study project and student contribution** What is the relevance of the proposed study project? How does it fit into the current debates? What insights will be generated in the project?  
With which Knowledge Hub is the Circle U.-Team connected? How does the Circle U.-Team interconnect with the work of the Knowledge Hub? How is the work of the students brought back into the Knowledge Hub? How does the Knowledge Hub gain from the Circle U.-Team?  
*Clarify the points of connection to the Knowledge Hub topic and how the students in the Circle U.-Team interact with the overarching theme and the Knowledge Hub.*

**Target group** What prior theoretical and methodological knowledge should students bring with them? Is the Circle U.-Team open to Bachelor's and/or Master's students? Do the students need to bring specific competencies, experiences, or certifications? Which fields of study should or could be represented?  
Which perspectives can students from different European universities add to your course and how are you going to incorporate them? What do the different student groups stand to gain from your Circle U.-Team?  
*Describe the envisaged student target group as clearly as possible.*

**Final product** What results are the students working towards together? In what form could the results be published or presented to a wider public (e.g. anthology, scientific article, symposium, lecture, poster, exhibition, film, website, blog,...)?  
*How does the final product tie in with the work done in your Circle U.-Team and with the Knowledge Hub?*

**Work and time schedule** What steps are planned during the semester and what is their timeframe? How are the steps implemented didactically? What didactical methods belong to the specific steps?  
What questions/topics/tasks could the students work on themselves? How do the students shape their course experience and how is their active participation planned?  
How does your Circle U.-Team differ from other university courses? What is innovative about your proposed seminar?  
*Since this is an innovative teaching-learning project, make sure that the didactic components of the semester plan are presented in detail. Include a detailed didactical syllabus of your proposed course.*

**Personal motivation** For what reasons would you like to offer a Circle U.-Team? What appeals to you about innovative teaching and learning formats? How do you see your own role in the joint process with the students?  
*How has your former experience with teaching shaped your plans for teaching a Circle U.-Team?*

### 3. CV:

table, 1-2 pages

#### **Do you have questions concerning your application?**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!  
Write us at [qbologna@hu-berlin.de](mailto:qbologna@hu-berlin.de) with your questions or to make an appointment.

**We look forward to receiving your application!**



# Chair's Agreement

## Information regarding the applicant

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address for correspondence:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Academic background:**

PhD student at

\_\_\_\_\_

Postdoc at

\_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship holder at

\_\_\_\_\_

Academic staff member at

\_\_\_\_\_

other positions

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature (applicant)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Institution**

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
bologna.lab | Circle U.  
Hausvogteiplatz 5-7, 10117 Berlin

**Contact**

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Tel.: +49 030 2093 708 -07/-85

**E-Mail**

qbologna@hu-berlin.de  
**Web**  
<https://www.circle-u.eu>

## Information on the Circle U.-Team

### Title of the Circle U.-Team:

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### Information on the Knowledge Hub to which the Circle U.-Team will be linked:

University:

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Knowledge Hub:

- Climate
- Global Health
- Democracy

You should establish a contact with the Chair of a Knowledge Hub at your university. Please indicate which professor is informed about your application. They may provide contact to the examination office at your university and help you find professional exchange and interested students. The supplementary teaching contracts are assigned by bologna.lab at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

**Name (Chair)**

**Signature (Chair)**

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#### Institution

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
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#### Contact

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