

Sample Topics for Doctoral Projects

The following list presents fictional doctoral projects that could be taken on by a third cohort at the IRTG “Baltic Peripeties” and tentatively categorises them within the [overarching research framework](#). The list is intended merely to outline examples of possible topics; doctoral projects may also focus on other topics and address different research questions within the research frames. A single project can also be situated within several research frames.

Sample Projects in the Research Frame “Shifting Expectations”

- Changing Gender Norms in the Baltics: When Politicians Break Norms
- The Composition of the Self. Experiences of Upheaval in Nordic Prison Literature
- False Expectations in Language Policy and Planning
- How to Do Things with Books. Libraries as Knowledge Generators and Everyday Pleasures in Scandinavian Female Court Life
- Networks of Knowledge in the Pre-Modern Baltic Region
- Shifting Expectations to Care in Narratives on the (Welfare) State

Sample Projects in the Research Frame “Narrative Escalation”

- The Baltic Sea Beach as a Scene of Crises and Turning Points: Social Practices, Class Relations, and Seaside Resort Antisemitism in Early 20th-Century German Literature
- Fictional Scenarios of Escalation as a Strategy of Prevention in Modern Ethics
- Like Buttons and Hate Groups: Structural Determinants of (De-)Escalation in Digitized Narratives
- Post-Wende Narrations as Stories of Violence: Narrative Escalation in Contemporary German Literature
- Understanding Gender Backlash in Highly Gender Egalitarian Countries

Sample Projects in the Research Frame “Conflicting Versions”

- The Christianisation of Estonians
- Historicising the Baltic: Maritime Historiography in the Early Modern Period
- Intra-party Conflict Narratives: Understanding Factionalism in Baltic Political Parties
- Museums as Spaces of Linguistic and Cultural Negotiation
- Conflicting Versions of the Gendered Division of Labour
- Narrative Experimentation and Competing (Sub-)Versions of History

Sample Projects in the Research Frame “Transregional Resonances”

- How Expectations of Youth Representation Spill Over Across Countries in the Baltic Sea Region
- The Challenge of Expansion: Religious Orders in the Baltic Region
- The “Positive Peace.” On the Political Migration of a Scandinavian Concept
- (Re-)Negotiating Scandinavia. Images of Scandinavia(s) in Baltic-Sea-literatures after 1990
- Representations of Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine in Nordic Film and Literature
- The Scandinavian Prison Movement. Abolitionism, Democracy and the Voice of the Incarcerated

Sample Projects in the Research Frame “Embodiments”

- Cassandras and Profiteers. (Body) Histories of Overheard Warnings in the 21st Century
- Failed (Welfare-)State? Scandinavia and the “Aids-Crisis”
- Staging Childhood in Narratives of the Baltic Region
- The Body as a Locus of Change in Scandinavian and Baltic Literatures

Sample Projects in the Research Frame “Biographies”

- Biographical Peripeties in Politics: How Politicians Frame Experiences of Harassment
- Narrating Conversion in the North, c. 1700-1800
- Peripeties and Transgenerational Female Collectives in Norwegian Holocaust Narratives
- The Ordinariness of Crisis. Revealing Turning Points through Life Writing