



Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

The Anthropology of Risk in a Financialised World: Finance, Labour and Householding

Date: 16th October 2026

Venue: Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin

Morning Sessions: Grounding the FinancialLives research project

9:00 – 10:00 Opening and Framing

Minh Nguyen (Bielefeld University; Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg 2026/2027)
The Anthropology of Risk in a Financialised World: Finance, Labour and Householding

10:00 – 11:00 **Ngoc Luong and Hairuo Jin** (Bielefeld University)
Commercial Banking: Practices and Rationalities of Commercial Banks with Working Households

11:00 – 11:30 Break

11:30 – 12:30 **Huyen Duong, Jiarong Wu, Phonesavanh Sitthideth** (Bielefeld University)
Financial Householding: Household relationships to the financial system and labour market

12.30 – 14:00 Lunch at WiKo

Afternoon Sessions: Concepts, Global Comparisons, New Directions

14:00 – 15:30 Panel: Risk and Household Finance in Global Contexts

Marek Mikuš (Institute for Migration Research/ Institut za istraživanje migracija)
Common Peripherality, Diverging Risks: Household finance in Eastern Europe

Hadas Weiss (Centre for Research in Anthropology/ Centro em Rede de Investigação em Antropologia)
Family Responsibilities in the Financialized Household: Perspectives from Germany and Spain

Marie Kolling (Danish Institute for International Studies)
Debt by Design: Opacity and Inequality in Brazil's Digital Credit Economy

Isabelle Guérin (Institute of Research for Development/Institut de Recherche pour le Développement)
Beyond Risk Transfer: Social Reproduction and the Deferred Realization of Financial Risk

Moderator: **Luisa Steur** (University of Amsterdam)

15:30 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 18:00 Symposium (hybrid)

***Understanding Risk in Time, Social Reproduction, and Market:
The Commodification and Universalisation of a Social Construct***

Discussants:

Arjun Appadurai (New York University)

Deborah James (London School of Economics and Political Science,
Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg 2022/2023)

Ursula Mense-Petermann (Bielefeld University)

Andrea Muehlebach (University of Bremen)

Tobias Werron (Bielefeld University)

Moderator: **Minh Nguyen** (Bielefeld University; Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg 2026/2027)

19:00 Dinner at a restaurant

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