



On the Fates of Famous Men
Wheel of Fortuna in an illustration from Vol. 1 of Boccaccio's
"De Casibus Virorum Illustrium" (Paris, 1467)

Research Projects

- Notions of Fate and Prognostication and their Taxonomies
- Ritual and Religion
- Techniques and Practices
- Modernity and Prognostication
- Prophecy, Eschatology and Apocalypse
- Cross-Cultural Theory of Prognostication
- Handbook of Prognostication and Prediction in Chinese Civilization
- Handbook of Prognostics in Premodern Western Societies

The Consortium further intends to pursue different research threads beyond the field of Chinese Studies and Medieval European History, and welcomes visiting fellows from other disciplines.

Stay in touch

- **STAY INFORMED** about the IKGf by subscribing to our mailing list (ikgf-info) on the website and receive our biannual newsletter, *fate*, which reports on the centre's projects and activities.
- **REGISTER FOR** upcoming events, listen to/watch past lectures online and read outstanding lectures in PDF format on our website.
- **CONTACT US** to discuss applying for a visiting fellowship: ikgf-application@fau.de
- **VISIT THE IKGf:** On Tuesday afternoons, staff members and fellows gather for informal exchanges at "Tea Time". You are very welcome to join us – just get in touch!



INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM
for Research in the Humanities

A Käte Hamburger Centre

Fate, Freedom and Prognostication

Strategies for Coping with the
Future in East Asia and Europe

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and Research

International Consortium for Research in the Humanities

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Strategies for Coping with the Future in East Asia and Europe

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Welcome



The Research Consortium has set as its objective the investigation of the historical and contemporary foundations of various ideas and techniques that have been developed with regard to coping with individual and collective futures.

In terms of its content and also organizational structure, the Consortium is located in a transnational and transcultural setting. Whether it is workshops, conferences, publications or single research projects while following our initiative, these would all be unimaginable without the inspiration of our researchers who come and stay with us from around the world.

As we hope that the Consortium will continue to be a place of true academic inspiration, I would like to encourage scholars of Sinology, Medieval European History and beyond to join the dynamic of the Consortium and shape our research endeavours in the future.

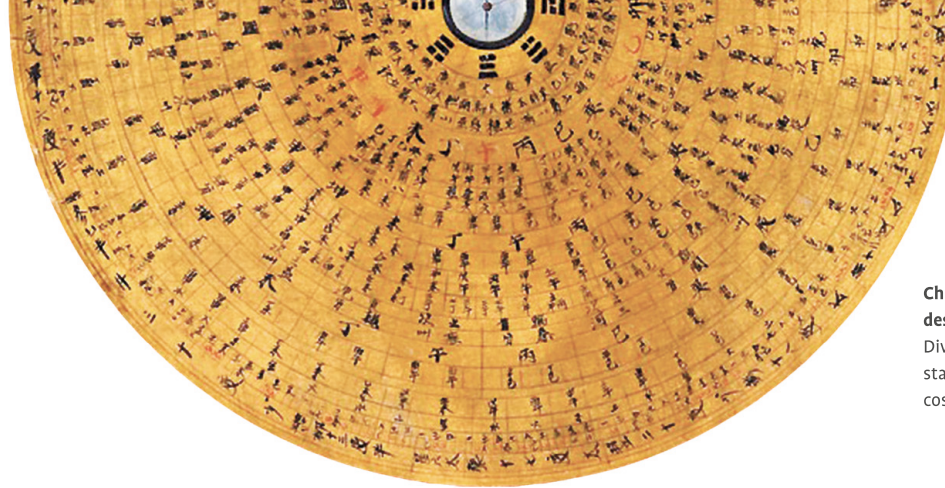
Prof. Dr. Michael Lackner
(Director)

Organisational Structure

The International Consortium for Research in the Humanities “Fate, Freedom and Prognostication” at the University Erlangen-Nuremberg is one of ten Käte Hamburger Centres in Germany set up as an initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research that foster pioneering research in the Humanities.

The Consortium is designed to host high-ranking visiting fellows from all over the world. Up to ten international experts from the field of Chinese Studies (Director: Prof. Dr. Michael Lackner), Medieval European History (Deputy Director: Prof. Dr. Klaus Herbers) and further disciplines are conducting research simultaneously at the institution, in collaboration with local researchers.

Various kinds of academic events provide the opportunity for our visiting fellows (and invited guest lecturers) to present their research projects and discuss various research threads and topics.



Chinese magnetic compass (Luopan) designed for geomantic purposes

Divination through an in-depth understanding of the present state of the cosmos.

Academic Events

- Weekly lectures
- Reading sessions
- Interdisciplinary Colloquia
- Work groups
- Workshops
- International Conferences

During the semester, the weekly lectures take place on Tuesdays at the Consortium (Hartmannstraße 14, Building D1, 91052 Erlangen). They start at 6:15 p.m. and end at 7:45 p.m. Interested visitors are very welcome to come along – and attendance is free.

Research Field

Prognostication and prediction are pervasive anthropological phenomena found in all cultures. The Consortium aims to uncover the historical foundations of prognostication together with their impact on our immediate present and our way of coping with the future. This approach will enable us to find new answers to the question of whether different views on fate and strategies of coping with destiny in Chinese modernity or the medieval European past constitute a characteristic difference from Western modernity.