

## Modelling the content of the Illustrated Iconclass as a Graph Database

### *Making Digital Art History semantic.*

ICONCLASS<sup>1</sup> is the de facto global standard for the subject classification of cultural heritage content. It has been translated into many languages, and is in use by many museums, libraries, archives and research institutes to catalog their content. The main thesaurus has been available in SKOS<sup>2</sup> format since 2015. In an on-going improvement, there are now also reference images being added to the system, incorporating contributions from many sources.

In your thesis, we will model the content being added to the system as an ontology (the II ontology), with links to other data sources like Wikidata<sup>3</sup>. An analysis of the source data will be done, mapping the contributed fields to the II ontology.

You will gain valuable hands-on experience in the practice of designing ontologies for real-world usage in a complex domain, working with practitioners in the cultural heritage sector. This will also improve the quality of how data is consumed in the Illustrated Iconclass.

This thesis will be supervised by **Prof. Dr. Harald Sack, Information Service Engineering at Institute AIFB, KIT, in collaboration with FIZ Karlsruhe.**

[1] <https://iconclass.org/>

[2] <https://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/>

[3] <https://www.wikidata.org/>

Which prerequisites should you have?

- Good programming skills in Python
- Interest in Semantic Web technologies

It also helps if you have an interest or affinity with Art History or Cultural Heritage Contents

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