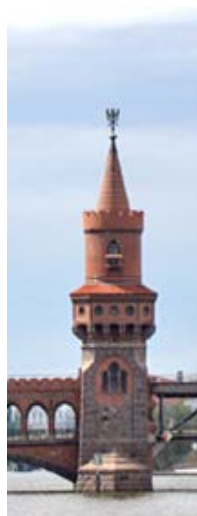
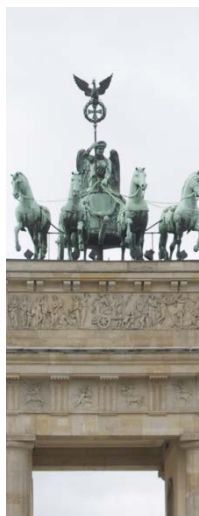


Berlin Perspectives

International Study Programme



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winter term 2013/14

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1. About Berlin Perspectives

Berlin Perspectives is a **supplementary and interdisciplinary** study programme for incoming international students at Humboldt-Universität. Geared towards students whose proficiency in German may not allow them to follow the German-speaking curriculum exclusively, the Berlin Perspectives programme offers international students the opportunity to complement their regular studies - subject to approval by their host faculty at Humboldt-Universität.

The programme combines **seminars** in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences taught in English and German with a mandatory **German course** at HU's Sprachenzentrum. All seminars are pitched at second year level of a Bachelor degree (EQF 5) and will provide students with opportunities to develop key academic skills and to improve their spoken and written academic German.

Moreover, using the city of Berlin as a focus point, the seminars invite international students to engage academically with key aspects of German history, society and culture.

In addition, through several study workshops and language tours, our **mentors** support Berlin Perspectives students in their study progress and can help with questions regarding study and life in Berlin.

Students may enrol **for one semester or for the full year**, depending on the type of exchange programme. Depending on their learning agreement and **subject to approval by their host faculty**, students may **earn up to 2/3 of their study points (20 ECTS max.)** per semester via Berlin Perspectives.

2. Frequently asked questions

1. Is the Berlin Perspectives programme right for me?

Berlin Perspectives is right for you if fulfil the following criteria:

- You are an International Incoming Student (Programmstudierende/r) and will be enrolled at Humboldt-Universität for one or two semester(s).
- You study Social Sciences or Humanities (students of other subject groups are welcome, if their host faculty agrees).
- Your German skills are between A and B2 level, and your grasp of German is not so well-developed that you are able to cover **all** of your course requirements from the German curriculum at Humboldt.
- You possess solid English skills (at least B2 level) and want to earn a part of your study points via English-speaking courses.
- During your time at Humboldt, you wish to improve and consolidate your German skills.

2. Is Berlin Perspectives a subject? Can I enrol in and study Berlin Perspectives exclusively during my stay at Humboldt University?

No. Berlin Perspectives is not a subject in its own right, but a flexible module consisting of free-standing seminars within the Arts and Humanities and the Social Sciences, which you may choose to complement your regular studies at Humboldt-Universität - **subject to approval by your host faculty**. You will be enrolled in your regular subject and, after consultation with your faculty, may elect seminars from the Berlin Perspectives programme.

We recommend that in total, you gain **no more than 2/3 of your study points/semester** via Berlin Perspectives.

3. How good do my German skills need to be in order to attend?

All our seminars take into account the specific challenges faced by International Incoming Students.

For seminars taught in English, your German level may be between A and B2. For seminars taught in German, you should possess at least B2-level German.

Please submit the results of your C-Test with your application to the programme.

4. How good does my English have to be in order to attend Berlin Perspectives?

You need to have at least B2-level in written and spoken English in order to participate in Berlin Perspectives.

Please include proof of your English language skills (e.g. TOEFL or IELTS) with your application. Alternatively, you can take the online C-Test English offered by the Sprachenzentrum **before** you apply to Berlin Perspectives. The test will be waived for native speakers of English and students on degree programmes taught in English.

5. Can I attend individual seminars without the German course or without participating in the mentoring programme?

Sadly not. The language course taught at the Sprachenzentrum and the regular mentoring sessions are essential components of Berlin Perspectives and crucial for your study progress.

6. Which German courses will I take at the Sprachenzentrum and how do I register?

The Sprachenzentrum offers a host of 'German as a foreign language' classes. They will look at your C-Test results and help you choose the right course level. You will **register directly with the Sprachenzentrum** at the start of term.

7. Can I gain academic credits (ECTS) via the Berlin Perspectives programme?

Yes. **Prior to applying**, you must have your course choices approved by

your home university as well as your host faculty at Humboldt-Universität.

Upon successful completion of the programme (seminar(s) + language course + mentoring), you will obtain a graded Schein for each Seminar and study points.

Each Berlin Perspectives seminar and the Language Course carry 5 study points (ECTS) respectively. As a rule, you can choose one to three seminars from the BP portfolio. We recommend that you gain **no more than 2/3 of your study points per term (20 ECTS max.)** via Berlin Perspectives.

Please check whether your home university will grant you study credits for taking language classes.

8. Do I need to apply or can I just show up for a seminar without formally registering?

No. You need to consult with your faculty first, then apply via email to berlinperspectives@hu-berlin.de. You will have to submit the Berlin Perspectives application form (pdf) together with your C-test results in German and (if applicable) English.

9. I've been admitted to Berlin Perspectives - what happens next?

At the start of term (October 2013), you will receive a confirmation email from us detailing what you need to do next:

- check all your courses via the **Agnes** online course listing – especially make sure that your class schedule is correct, including times, venues and the names of your lecturers. Occasionally, there may be some last-minute changes, so it is crucial that you double-check your timetable before you start classes.

- book your German course at the Sprachenzentrum: registration takes place during the first and second week of term, and you will have to register in person.

There are no specific “Berlin Perspectives” German classes – the Sprachenzentrum staff will help you choose the course that’s right for your level.

3. Courses

This is the course programme for the winter term 2013/2014. Please check our website for a more detailed description of all courses, including learning objectives and preliminary bibliographies: bolognalab.hu-berlin.de/bp

History, Politics and Social Sciences

Nation and City: Changing Identities in Changing Berlin

In crossing disciplinary boundaries between History, Politics and Social Sciences, this seminar uses the rapidly changing capital city of Berlin as a lens to enable students to observe important facets of German nationalism since the 19th century.

Berlin 1945-1990: The Divided City

This seminar will provide insights into the key political developments in Berlin's recent history, from the fall of the Third Reich, through the decades of political and physical division, to the collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and Germany's subsequent reunification.

Berlin 1933-2013: From Capital of the Third Reich to Germany's Centre of Remembrance Culture

2013 marks a crucial year in Germany's remembrance culture. This History seminar aims to equip students with a basic understanding of the National-Socialist dictatorship, its ideology, machinations and its catastrophic reign of terror, which culminated in the horrors of the Holocaust and World War II, the legacy of which continues to resonate in Germany's collective consciousness.

Traces of the Shoah in Berlin

This seminar will take a close look at Jewish life and German-Jewish relations in Berlin before 1933, and, more importantly, between 1933 and

1945, as well as the long and difficult process of Germany's "coming to terms" with her past.

Leaving Home, Coming Home: Berlin and the Affective Engagements of Migrants

This seminar is suitable for students with an interest in migration studies and post-nationalist concepts of identity and investigates the mutually transformative relationship between Berlin and her migrants. Besides introductions to key theoretical works on migration, post-nationalism and identity, the seminar will incorporate the perspectives and experiences of migrants within the Berlin landscape in order to understand the complexities of the multiple attachments of migrants.

Literature, Urban and Cultural Studies

Film in Berlin-Berlin in Film

This course will explore the history of German film through the focal lens of Berlin, from the beginnings of Expressionist cinema to post-modern representations of the unified and multicultural city.

Berlin: The African Experience

This course introduces international students to key aspects of German (post-)colonial history as well as concepts of migrant and post-national identities through its focus on Berlin's rich ties to the African continent.

Berlin's Contemporary Art Scene

This practical art seminar reflects on Berlin's role as a world-renowned centre for contemporary art and will allow students to explore the rich art scene that Berlin has to offer these days.

Narrating the City - Berlin-Romane des 20. und 21. Jahrhunderts (wird auf Deutsch unterrichtet)

Dieses Seminar ist für Studierende der Literaturwissenschaften und

anderer geisteswissenschaftlicher Fächer geeignet, und setzt sich zum Ziel, die Stadt Berlin als literarisches Sujet, sowie die Gattung des „Berlin-Romans“ literaturwissenschaftlich zu untersuchen.

20th-Century Art in Berlin and Germany

This History of Art seminar shall give a sound overview of some of the canonical artistic movements of the 20th century through specific case studies.

Re/Inventing Berlin - Architecture after 1945

Following the complete destruction of the Third Reich's former Capital, many architects and urbanists saw a chance to rebuild Berlin in a visionary, proto-modern way. This seminar traces key developments in Berlin's urban landscape after WWII and is suitable for all students within the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences who wish to engage with the crosscurrents between History of Art, Cultural Studies, History and Metropolitan Studies.

Berlin's Many Faces: Exploring the Social Dimension of Urban Change

This seminar focuses on one of the most controversial aspects of present-day life in Berlin: urban development and the resulting changes in the social fabric of the city. Students are invited to engage with the broader theoretical framework of urban ethnography and change.

All the City's a Stage: Berlin Theatre

'All the world's a stage' – and Berlin perhaps more so than other worlds. As a matter of fact, vastly diverse and multicultural social spaces coexist in the capital of Germany. This seminar investigates theatrical spaces in Berlin as part of a wider socio-cultural discourse on the city as a catalyst for new forms of creative and urban identities.

4. How to apply

Before you apply to Berlin Perspectives:

Please liaise with your home university about the minimum number of study points that you have to gain during your stay at HU and about the terms of validation for study points gained during your year abroad.

You can gain up to **2/3 of your study points/ term** via the Berlin Perspectives programme.

For Students of Philosophische Fakultät II:

Students of the Philosophische Fakultät II must seek permission from their faculty before applying to Berlin Perspectives. Please contact the **coordinator for international affairs of PhilFak II**, Frau Stephanie Trigoudis (trigoudis@staff.hu-berlin.de).

Applying to Berlin Perspectives:

Please apply **via email** to **berlinperspectives@hu-berlin.de**

with the following **supporting documents**:

1. Please fill in our application form on the computer. You can download it on our website:

bolognalab.hu-berlin.de/bp

2. Proof of German test score and proof of academic-standard English proficiency. This proof of English proficiency is waived for native speakers and students at an Anglophone university. For all other applicants, please provide an informal proof via the language centre online test.

Application deadline for the winter term 2013/14 :

October 11, 2013, 4pm CET.

5. Contacts

For further information, please visit our website:

bolognialab.hu-berlin.de/bp

For any questions concerning the Berlin Perspectives Programme, please contact:

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