

Spring Quarter 2018

BERLIN

Washington State Community College
Consortium for Study Abroad





Depart U.S.:
Thursday, March 22, 2018

Arrive Berlin:
Friday, March 23, 2018

Depart Berlin:
Friday, June 1, 2018

Berlin is one of the most vibrant and exciting European capitals. The East and West sides of the city have retained their own identity since reunification and the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Thanks to the rebuilding process Berlin has become a focus for modern architecture and remains a major center of art and international business.

The city, with its many famous parks and lakes, becomes especially full of life in the spring and summer when the locals are out on foot, bicycles and skates, populating the many beer gardens.

INCLUDED

- Housing in twin-bedded studios in a centrally-located apart-hotel.
- Travel pass for use on the buses, trams, S-bahn and U-bahn trains in zones A and B.
- Orientation program on-site in Berlin including an orientation meeting with AIFS staff, information packet, welcome dinner and half-day guided sightseeing tour of Berlin by private bus.
- German Life and Culture course.
- On-site AIFS Program Coordinator for information, personal advising/counseling and 24-hour emergency contact service.
- Weekly program of free and subsidized cultural activities such as a “Kaffee und Küche” boat cruise along the River Spree, opera tickets, a sporting event, museum visits, a street art workshop and walking tours.
- Guided tour of the Reichstag.
- Day trip to Potsdam including entrance to the Cecilienhof Palace and admission to Sanssouci Palace.
- Excursion with guided tour of the Memorial and Museum at Sachsenhausen.
- Student medical and program fee refund insurance policies.

FEES

Based on an enrollment of 25 or more with two faculty and two courses the fee per person is \$7,245 and based on 15-24 participants and one faculty member, the fee per person is \$7,195.

This fee excludes airfare, a \$250 refundable damage deposit, optional insurance upgrades, passport or visa fees, meals other than those listed, personal expenses, any WCCSA tuition or administrative fees, textbooks, additional field trips or excursions required by the WCCSA faculty and anything not specified.

These fees are guaranteed not to change as a result of fluctuations in the \$ exchange rate

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Students registering on or before Friday, October 27, 2017 will receive a \$100 reduction off of the program fee.

FINANCIAL AID

Many students are eligible to apply for financial aid, grants and loans to assist with the costs of the Berlin program. Early application is essential. Contact your home institution’s financial aid office promptly if you are interested in this possibility. Be sure to identify yourself as a potential Berlin program participant.

OPTIONAL TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

On a space-available basis, students may purchase the optional transportation package consisting of round-trip airfare between Seattle and Berlin and round-trip airport transfers between the accommodations and airport in Berlin for an additional \$775 plus mandatory U.S. government and airline-imposed departure taxes, fees and fuel surcharges of \$450 (subject to change) for which students will be billed separately.

A minimum of 12 students must purchase the flight for it to be offered.

OPTIONAL PRAGUE EXCURSION

An optional 3-day, 2-night excursion to Prague is available, including round-trip train tickets, accommodation in a centrally located hotel in multi-bedded rooms with daily breakfast, guided walking tour of Prague’s historical center and Jewish Quarter and traditional Czech group dinner, a travel pass for unlimited use on city buses, trams, subways, and funiculars in city center for \$445. A minimum of 10 students must participate for the excursion to be offered.

FACULTY

BEN KOHN, WHATCOM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Ben Kohn's scholarly training and personal enthusiasms have resulted in his applying an interdisciplinary approach to all of his courses. So you can expect a discussion of painting in his music class and a discussion of architecture in his film class! Ben pursued his graduate studies at the University of Washington in the field of Comparative Literature, with an emphasis in German, American, Russian, and Danish Literature, as well as literary and critical theory. He also studied the classical violin for over 20 years, receiving training at The Vancouver Academy of Music, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, and Det Fynske Musikkonservatorium, Odense, Denmark. He is currently a professor in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts and the Department of World Languages at Whatcom Community College, where he teaches humanities, interdisciplinary studies, music, film studies, and German language courses.

COURSES

Students will enroll for 15 credits to include the mandatory German Life and Culture course taught by a local guest lecturer, focusing on historical, political, economic and cultural aspects of Berlin and Germany.

See your campus coordinator for course numbering.

GERMAN LIFE AND CULTURE

German Faculty

Taught by a qualified local adjunct lecturer, this course focuses on the historical, political, economic and cultural aspects of contemporary Germany.

FILM 101: INTRODUCTION TO FILM (5 CREDITS)

Next to Hollywood, Germany has been home to one of the most influential and important film industries in the world. Indeed, during the 1920s and early 1930s, it was the undisputed center of cinematic creativity and quality. At the center of this center was Berlin, or more specifically, a studio on the outskirts of Berlin in Babelsberg. Babelsberg was a government-supported studio complex (which we will visit!) that was designed to advance German filmmaking before and during WWII and East German filmmaking after the war. While German filmmakers developed numerous technical innovations here, their most essential achievement was the development of cinema as an art, transcending its role as a provider of novelty and entertainment. As we will be examining film as art, we can easily use German films and film clips almost exclusively to illustrate in detail the technical elements of film (form, narrative structure, mise-en-scène, cinematography, editing, sound), as well as investigate how films can make us see, then feel and think differently.

MUSIC 105: MUSIC APPRECIATION (5 CREDITS)

This course will explore the extremely varied and rich history of Western art or composed music, popularly and somewhat inaccurately (our first discussion!) referred to as the "Western Classical Tradition." Because we are lucky enough to be situated in Berlin, we will focus most intensely on the musical contributions of the composers and performers of this region. What is even more exciting is that we will be in the most musically innovative, dynamic, and vibrant city on the face of the planet at the very moment it is exploding with all kinds of new sounds! As genre boundaries are constantly being blurred in this contemporary music, we will necessarily undertake some Jazz and World Music studies, as well as some informal investigations of House, Techno, and Trance sounds.

SECOND FACULTY (WHEN ENROLLMENT REACHES 25 PARTICIPANTS)

GREGORY S. HINCKLEY, SEATTLE CENTRAL COLLEGE

As a high school student, Gregory Hinckley spent a year as an exchange student in Bonn, Germany, an experience that laid the foundation for his deep appreciation of Germany, the power of cultural exchanges to change lives, and the discipline of sociology. Greg completed his studies in anthropology and sociology at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, and since 1996 has taught as a full-time Sociology faculty member at Seattle Central College. Greg's student-centered pedagogy encourages a strong sense of personal responsibility and inspires students to be compassionate human beings and active agents of social change.

COURSES

See your campus coordinator for course numbering.

SOC 101 - INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY - IMAGINING BERLIN (5-CREDITS)

Why do you believe the things you do? To what extent does our culture determine who and what we are able to become? How does our exposure to institutions, such as media, shape how we understand our place in the social world? How does American society differ from German society? Do cities have a culture of their own? What can we learn about German culture from deep and wide-ranging exploration of Berlin, from the stretch of Berlin's modern history to the graffiti that is currently displayed across its walls?

The answers to these and related questions involves using our sociological imaginations—our understanding of the reciprocal relationship between self and society—to gather and synthesize data, draw conclusions, and, where possible, make generalizations about social patterns. In this interactive course, we will shop, eat, drink, visit flea markets, farmers markets, neighborhoods, museums, the Reichstag, and cultural events to better understand Berlin's complex and ever-changing culture.

SOC 201 - SOCIAL PROBLEMS - LESSONS FROM THE MOST BOMBED CITY ON EARTH (5-CREDITS)

Have you ever wondered how people in other societies understand the social issues that are currently being debated in the United States, issues like immigration, gender, sexuality, race, social class, and religious freedom? What can we learn about social life by comparing ways in which societies define and approach social problems? Using the German capital, Berlin, as our cultural canvas, we will examine how major systems of power, such as racism, sexism, classism, and heterosexism, are interrelated and result in numerous social problems. We will explore ways in which social problems are part of the organization of German society and use our newly acquired knowledge to better understand and address our own society's social issues. Our research-based, scientific perspective will rely extensively on the use of street ethnography, an approach that focuses on interacting with public exterior spaces, streets, parks, lakes, rivers, buildings, and such neighborhood spaces as cafes, grocery stores, and shops.



AIFS REFUND POLICY

All notification of withdrawal must be made in writing via fax or certified mail to: Registrar, Customized, Faculty-led Programs, AIFS Study Abroad, 1 High Ridge Park, Stamford, CT 06905. The fax number is 203.399.5597. Postmark date or date of fax transmission is considered date of withdrawal. All withdrawal statements must be signed by the applicant, or they will not be processed.

If a student withdraws on or before Wednesday, December 27, 2017, a full refund will be made less \$150 plus any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

If a student withdraws after Wednesday, December 27, 2017, but on or before Friday, January 26, 2018, for any reason except medical covered by the AIFS Fees Refund and Medical Insurance Policy, the \$450 deposit fee is forfeited, along with any non-refundable deposits paid either by the student or by AIFS on the student's behalf.

If a student is forced to withdraw from the program because of covered medical reasons after final fees have been paid but before departure, a refund will be made through the Fees Refund and Medical Insurance Policy, less a \$150 processing fee and the \$210 insurance premium. The policy requires written proof of medical reasons provided by your physician.

Students withdrawing voluntarily for any reason after Friday, January 26, 2018, including withdrawals because of medical reasons not covered under the medical refund policy, receive no refund of fees paid unless they are able to provide a qualified replacement. In this case, they receive a full refund of all payments made less the \$150 processing and cancellation fee and any non-refundable deposits.

Replacement students must pay in full at the time of application. Flights cannot be arranged for replacement students applying after Wednesday, December 27, 2017. Once the program has started, students withdrawing receive no refund under any circumstances. This refund policy is necessary because the booking of facilities in Berlin requires substantial non-refundable payments and commitments by AIFS in advance.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

AIFS provides each student with a group insurance policy issued by the Ace American Insurance Company. Please see https://www.aifscustomized.com/pdf/insurance_seme ster.pdf for full details of the insurance coverage, including the optional medical insurance upgrade and personal effects coverage.



DEADLINES TO APPLY

Friday, October 27, 2017

(students applying by this date will receive the \$100 early bird discount)

Friday, December 8, 2017

(for students wishing to purchase the group flight)

Friday, January 12, 2018

(for students wishing to purchase own flight)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY:

Go to www.wcccsa.com, and make an appointment with the study abroad coordinator on your campus:

Bellevue College

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offered in
partnership with



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