

Eighth Berlin Program Interdisciplinary Summer Workshop
June 24 – 26, 2019
Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies
Freie Universität Berlin
Call for Papers

DISORIENTATIONS/ DESORIENTIERUNGEN

Once again, Europe and Germany are dealing with extraordinary political, economic, cultural, and administrative crises. Britain is leaving Europe. Other countries are also considering their own exit. There is potentially another global financial crisis on the horizon. Nationalism is on the rise throughout the region. The largest minority party in Germany's parliament is now the neo-nationalist Alternative für Deutschland (AfD). The #MeToo and #BlackLivesMatter movements have galvanized attention around sexual assault and racial violence.

And if these issues are not disorienting enough, there are the overarching challenges of global warming and immigration, and the European project itself is seriously at risk of disintegration. This list, by no means comprehensive, identifies some of the most important issues facing Germany and Europe politically, culturally or economically in the present moment.

Yet periods of cultural, social, political, and personal confusion often lead to opportunities for substantive reflection and even radical interventions into prevailing assumptions and norms. How do moments of upheaval create spaces for political and cultural engagement? How do disruptions, social anxieties, cultural conflicts, gender troubles, racial reflections, calls of conscience, transformations in technologies, and the indeterminacy of language allow for restructuring, aesthetic evolutions, even transformations in collective sensibilities? How could analyses of past moments of disorientation/Desorientierung shed light on those faced in contemporary society?

For its 8th annual summer workshop, the Berlin Program welcomes proposals from a wide variety of disciplinary practitioners, scholars and academics of various affiliations, engaged and active artists and makers, independent scholars and figures in cultural and political institutions to submit an abstract and to present on the ways in which disorientations/Desorientierungen help refigure disciplinary, social, cultural, political, historical, or personal identities and even reshape the role of academia itself.

APPLICATION & DEADLINE: Please submit one PDF file containing a 250-word abstract and a two-page CV by **April 1, 2019** to [bprogram\[at\]zedat.fu-berlin.de](mailto:bprogram@zedat.fu-berlin.de)

FORMAT: The Berlin Program workshop is focused on creating dialogue and knowledge across and among disciplines. The event serves as a forum for Berlin Program fellows and alumni, but invites participation of all other scholars. During the workshop, scholars will present for ten minutes on papers that participants will have read prior to the workshop. A substantial period of time will be reserved at the end of the panels for discussion of the papers.

REQUIREMENTS: Presenters are required to submit a 25-page paper or an existing publication of similar length and a one-page bio for circulation to workshop participants by **May 31, 2019**. All workshop participants are asked to read these submissions prior to the workshop. A selection of two or three optional background readings may also be circulated.

SUGGESTIONS FOR BACKGROUND READINGS: Presenters will be invited to suggest one text (max. 25 pages) for the optional background reading list.

WORKSHOP TIMELINE

- April 1:** Deadline abstract (250 words) and two-page CV (in one pdf file)
- April 15:** Notification of acceptance or rejection emailed
- Late April** Circulation of our preliminary program and general readings
- May 31:** Deadline for full-length essays (max. 25 pages) and bio (one page max)
- Early June:** Essays distributed to workshop participants

WORKSHOP VENUE is the Freie Universität Berlin, Ehrenbergstr. 26/28, 14195 Berlin.

WORKSHOP LANGUAGE is English

TECH SUPPORT: The workshop is equipped with a beamer and computer. Technical assistance will be present. Please bring your PPP on a stick.

FEES: Participation in the workshop is free of charge.

COFFEE BREAKS & LUNCH will be provided and served at the venue.

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION: Participants are responsible for organizing and paying for their travel and accommodation. We encourage participants to seek funding from their home institutions or alternative sources to cover these costs. Detailed information on logistical matters (hotels, public transport, etc.) will be provided to the participants with the draft program.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- Dr. Deborah Barton | Université de Montréal
- Dr. Mark Cassell | Kent State University
- Dr. Jeremy DeWaal | University of Exeter
- Karin Goihl | Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin Program
- Dr. Thomas O. Haakenson | California College of the Arts

The Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies promotes North American scholars in the humanities and the social sciences working on dissertation or postdoctoral research projects on Germany and/or Europe. In close cooperation with our North American partner, the German Studies Association, our Summer Workshop and other events offer opportunities to engage with timely topics and strengthen ties between the program and scholars working in these fields.

www.fu-berlin.de/bprogram