

The International Peer Mentoring Program for Students

Newsletter Takeover: Winter Edition/November 2025

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Letter From the Peer Mentors

Dear Peers,

We're delighted to be back with another Newsletter Takeover, this time for the winter season! As the days grow shorter and the weather gets colder, we believe it's the perfect time to connect, explore, and make the most of this semester. We're here to help you thrive, feel at home, and stay inspired throughout the months ahead.

To our first-semester and returning peers alike, we're excited to share this edition as a helpful resource to kickstart the semester and make the best of Berlin winter. In this issue, you'll find a selection of events and tips designed to support your studies and help you expand your network both on and off campus. Let's make this season one of vibrance, warmth, and memorable experiences together. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and getting to know you better. Together, let's continue to grow our wonderful community!

Sincerely,
Your Peer Mentors

Please note: Many of the events listed in this newsletter require prior registration. We advise you to sign up through the registration links provided to secure your spot.

The [International Peer Mentoring for Students](#) program is organized by the [International Student Support](#) department at Freie Universität Berlin. We welcome your questions and feedback at international@studienberatung.fu-berlin.de

Peer Mentoring Offers

- 06.11 [Weekly Check-in Circle](#) | 16:15–17:15
Room 005, Student Services Center, Ittisstr. 4 (EN)
- 13.11 [Weekly Check-in Circle](#) | 16:15–17:15
Room 005, Student Services Center, Ittisstr. 4 (EN)
- 14.11 [Hobby Hop](#) | 14:00–17:00
Room K009, Student Services Center, Ittisstr. 4 (EN/DE)
- 17.11 [Writing Group](#) | 12:00–14:00 | (EN)

- 18.11 [Navigating the German Medical System](#) | 14:00–15:30
online via Webex (EN)
- 19.11 [Late-Arrival Mentoring](#) | 13:00–14:00
online via Webex (EN/DE)
- 20.11 [Weekly Check-in Circle](#) | 16:00–17:30
Room 005, Student Services Center, Ittisstr. 4 (EN)
- 24.11 [Writing Group](#) | 12:00–14:00 | (EN)
- 27.11 [Weekly Check-in Circle](#) | 16:00–17:30
Room 005, Student Services Center, Ittisstr. 4 (EN)
- 28.11 [Let's explore the Christmas Market together!](#) | 16:30–21:00
The meeting point will be shared via email a few days
before the event (EN/DE)

Find out more about our offers and events by checking out the
[International Peer Mentoring Program for Students](#) website.

Peer Mentoring Recent Highlights

24.09 | Libraries in Berlin

New students got to explore FUB library systems, the Staatsbibliothek, and VÖBB services in this interactive online event.

04.10 | Roll the Dice, Pass the Snack

Despite the rain, students came together to enjoy a visit to the Futurium Museum and café board games, sparking new friendships and connections.

05.10 | Walking Tour

From Brandenburg Gate to Alexanderplatz, students and peer mentors enjoyed a relaxed city walk through Berlin's iconic sites, including the Reichstag, Bebelplatz, and Gendarmenmarkt.

10.10 | Light Festival Hangout

Nearly 50 students joined this lively walk, throughout an evening full of lights & high spirit.

15.10 | Student Network Meeting

Our peer mentors were delighted to join this networking event organized by different FUB international Master's programs at the Holzkopf Café, and support this warm gathering of first semester students and returning students.

31.10 | Halloween Party

From creative outfits to shared snacks and dancing, students and peer mentors came together for a lively evening at the [Student Services Center \(SSC\)](#).

FUB Career Service Events

- 07.11 [Who are you in 5 minutes? A workshop for a perfect self-introduction](#) (EN)
- 07.11 [Starke Stimme, starkes Auftreten im Job: Stimm- und Sprechtraining](#) (DE)
- 10.11 [From Books to Business: Insights about job market trends in Berlin and Germany](#) (EN)
- 11./12.11 [Souverän ins Online-Vorstellungsgespräch](#) (DE)
- 21.11 [Mastering telephone and video interviews](#) (EN)

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|-------|--|
| 21.11 | <u>Nachhaltiges Selbstmanagement mit dem New-Work-Mindset</u> (DE) |
| 25.11 | <u>Erfolgreich bewerben – Dein Weg zum Praktikum oder Job!</u> (DE) |
| 27.11 | <u>Successful CVs & Cover Letters for Germany: How to Impress Employers</u> (EN) |
| 28.11 | <u>German workplace hacks: the stuff no one tells you</u> (EN) |

studierendenWERK BERLIN Events

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|--------------------|---|
| 06.11 | <u>SprachCafé: Let's Speak German! Practice German and Meet New Friends</u> |
| 08.11 | <u>CultureTrip: Let's Go Bouldern!</u> (EN) |
| 12./26.11 | <u>Online-Schreibzeit im November</u> (EN) |
| 14./ 17./19./28.11 | <u>Online-Schreibzeit im November</u> (DE) |

- 14.11 [CultureTrip: Berlinische Galerie & DADA Exhibition](#) (EN)
- 17.11 [Online Workshop: Overview of Employment Law in Germany](#) (EN)
- 18.11 [Goodbye Loneliness! Encountering Yourself and Others](#) (DE)
- 19.11 [Trans, Inter, Non-Binary Meet-Up](#) (DE)
- 20.11 [SprachCafé: Let's Speak German! Practice German and Meet New Friends](#) (DE)
- 25.11 [FLINTA* Workshop: Embodiment & Lachcoaching](#) (DE)
- 27.11 [Dark Nights](#) (EN/DE)

We've only highlighted a selection, but you can explore the full event calendar at [studierendenWERK Berlin website](#)

Freie Universität Berlin Events

FUB Diversity and Antidiscrimination

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|-----------|--|
| 06.11 | <u>Empowerment-Workshop für von Rassismus betroffene Studierende und Mitarbeitende "Empowerment & Racialized Emotions"</u> |
| 10.11 | <u>Workshop für Studierende "Repräsentation, Tokenism und Stereotypisierung im Diversity-Kontext"</u> |
| 10.–11.11 | <u>Empowerment-Workshop für neurodivergente Studierende "ADHS im Blick: Gemeinsam neuroinklusive Strukturen schaffen"</u> |
| 12./19.11 | <u>Empowerment-Workshop für Studierende im Autismus-Spektrum "Selbstwahrnehmung stärken – Stigmatisierung begegnen – Lösungen gestalten"</u> |
| 13.11 | <u>Empowerment-Workshop für jüdische Studierende</u> |
| 14.11 | <u>Empowerment-Workshop für Studierende "Queer sein und behindert werden"</u> |

- 19.11 [Empowerment-Workshop und Coachingangebot für von Anti-Asiatischem Rassismus betroffene Studierende](#)
- 28.11 [Empowerment-Workshop für Studierende im Autismus-Spektrum | "Hilfe und Unterstützung annehmen"](#)
- 20.–21.11 [Empowerment-Workshop for Neurodivergent Students | "Navigating ADHD & Co-Designing Neuroinclusive Structures"](#)

[FUB Center for Academic Advising and Psychological Counseling:](#)

- 11.11 [Bumpy start in Berlin? – an empowerment group for international students \(in English\)](#)

[FUB Department of History and Cultural Studies:](#)

- 12.11 [Berlin Life Hacks for international students](#)
- 12.11 [HCS Jour Fixe \(Doctoral Studies Program\)](#)

20.11

[Talk Series: Audrey Truschke \(Rutgers University Newark\), "Fieldnotes from Battles over Indian History, Society, and Sciences"](#)

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

18.11, 20.11, 25.11, 27.11 | [CAMPAIGN DAYS 2025 Against Sexualized Harassment, Discrimination and Violence](#)

Berlin Events

01. – 10.11

[Berlin Science Week](#)

08. – 15.11

[Berlin Freedom Week](#)

12./19./26.11

[JIB – Live Concert Series–Student Jazz Concerts](#)

14. – 15.11

[Expolingua Berlin – Language & Culture Fair](#)

All Month

[Palais Populaire](#)

(Mondays Free Entry/Tuesdays closed)

Berlin Winter Tips

We asked our peer mentors about their best tips for making it through winter in Berlin and here's what they said:

"Berlin winters can feel very long and dark. In December it gets dark by 4 p.m. so it helps to take Vitamin D during the winter months. Try to go outside during your lunch break or in the morning to see some sunlight. Even a short walk or a coffee break in the fresh air can make a big difference for your energy and mood. Oh, and even though snow looks beautiful, it can make life a bit slower in the city. Trains and buses are often delayed or crowded, so plan some extra time when going to class or work. It's always better to leave a bit earlier than to rush in the cold!" – Barbara, MA Global History Program

"Studying is important, but so is networking. Do your best to come to things and show up to meet new people. Volunteer, go to various different types of gatherings, and work to take advantage of what the city has to offer. When prepping for your future, it's always good to see avenues that are possible!" – Nai, MA Global East Asia Program

“My best Berlin winter tip must be: Don’t wait for plans, make them! Reach out to someone for coffee, explore a Christmas market together, or just take a walk with a colleague and talk. Winter can feel much warmer when you share it with others...” – Merna, MA
Interdisciplinary Studies of the Middle East Program

*This edition was brought to you by the [International Peer Mentoring Program for Students](#) program, organized by the [International Student Support](#) of the Student Services Center, Freie Universität Berlin, located at Illtisstraße 4, 14195 Berlin.

Disclaimer: This newsletter was written by students; honest, direct, and based on their own experiences. It’s not official advice from Freie Universität Berlin, but personal insights and opinions. Just as diverse as campus life itself!

Credits

A heartfelt thank you to all our incredible peer mentors for their enthusiasm, creativity, and openness during this month's Newsletter Takeover! And to our peers– both mentors and mentees– thank you for making the Freie Universität Berlin a truly welcoming and inclusive experience to everyone!

Content & Contributions

Barbara

Merna Mahmoud

Nai Harano Grey

Sara

Editing & Layout

Merna Mahmoud

Typefont Attribution:

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