THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR LBSU 2016 IS OPEN
DEADLINE: March 1, 2016

To apply, please send the following documents in PDF format to info@lbsu.de:
- a brief curriculum vitae (name, age, citizenship, home university, field of study, description of previous academic/professional experiences, internships, etc.);
- a letter of purpose (maximum 500 words) explaining your interest in the program and how it fits with your academic/career plans;
- for non-native speakers of English, a letter or statement from an instructor attesting to your facility to read, speak and write in English at an advanced level;
- an academic reference from a professor, who must send this via e-mail as an attachment (PDF) directly to LBSU in order to ensure confidentiality.

A fee of 2,000 € covers housing, tuition, health insurance, excursions and public transportation within Berlin. It does not include meals and other expenditures.

For more information on financial support, see our website.

LBSU
- is a six-week, accredited summer program in Jewish studies for advanced undergraduate, masters and beginning doctoral students, with five weeks of classes and a final week of intensive project work and presentations, held in English;
- focuses on German-Jewish history and contemporary Jewish life in Germany and elsewhere in the Diaspora;
- takes place from June 30 to August 12, 2016;
- is located at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin;
- enrolls a maximum of 25 students;
- provides courses, excursions and individual research supervision.

PARTNERS
LBSU was launched in 2007 with funding from the Transatlantic Program of the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Recovery Program of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi). Its partner institutions include:
- Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- University of Buenos Aires
- University of Warsaw
- University of Toronto
- Leo Baeck Institute New York

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DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (German Academic Exchange Service)

Supported by the Heinrich Böll Foundation

HEINRICHS BÖLL STIFTUNG

HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN (est. 1810)

With 40,000 students, Humboldt-Universität is one of Germany’s most prestigious academic institutions and is internationally renowned, ranking among the top ten of German universities. Scholars here research socially relevant and future-oriented topics and communicate these with the public. Humboldt-Universität has formed academic partnerships with more than 500 institutions on the basis of faculty-level research collaboration and has close cooperation with twenty of them. In addition to its longstanding partners in North, Central and Eastern Europe as well as Russia, the USA, Israel, Asia, Cuba and Southern Africa, the university is developing new connections in South America, Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

ZENTRUM JÜDISCHE STUDIEN BERLIN-BRANDENBURG

The ZJS is a joint project of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, Universität Potsdam, Europa Universität Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder), Abraham Geiger Kolleg and Moses Mendelssohn Zentrum für europäisch-jüdische Studien. The Center was set up to coordinate the existing, diverse range of Jewish studies in Berlin and Brandenburg, to facilitate and promote the training of young scholars and to contribute to internationalizing the research and teaching done in the region. The ZJS, which is also home to the LBSU, is located within a historic Jewish neighborhood.

ZENTRUM JÜDISCHE STUDIEN BERLIN-BRANDENBURG

Leo Baeck Summer University Advanced Program in Jewish Studies at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

June 30 to August 12, 2016
Berlin, Germany
LBSU
Leo Baeck Summer University is a six-week advanced program in Jewish studies, conducted in English at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, under the umbrella of the Zentrum Jüdische Studien Berlin-Brandenburg.

The program focuses on Jewish life in Germany from the 19th to 21st century and its relationship to other Jewish communities worldwide. LBSU participants reflect a variety of perspectives; past students have come from North and South America, Europe, Turkey and Israel.

LBSU uses Berlin, the cosmopolitan capital of Germany and a cultural and political center of Europe, as a classroom.

RABBI LEO BAECK
German Rabbi Leo Baeck (1873-1956) strove to combine tradition and modernity within Judaism and sought interfaith dialogue. He educated young rabbis at Berlin's Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums until the Nazis shut it down in 1943. Leo Baeck was deported to the Theresienstadt concentration camp outside Prague. He died in London in November 1956.

THE PROGRAM
The six-week program consists of five weeks of classes plus intensive project work. This is complemented by afternoon excursions, workshops and meetings with Jewish and other leaders in various fields. Credits granted for the program are transferable to home universities.

The two academic modules are taught by faculty members from different fields and universities and draw on history, cultural studies, sociology, religious studies etc. The seminar-style courses are intensive and discussion-focused. Students present their final projects on the last days of the program.

MODULE I
Modern German-Jewish History

Part I: 1800 to 1945: Emancipation, Integration, Anti-Semitism, the Holocaust.
We will examine political, social and cultural processes through which Jews became an integral part of German life, including their changing legal status; the rise of Reform Judaism; and the impact of bourgeois culture. We will then look at the rise of anti-Semitism, up to and including the Nazi period: persecution, resistance, emigration, the Holocaust.

Part II: Post-War Germany, Reunification and Current Migration Issues.
A consequence of World War II was Germany’s division into two ideologically opposed states. What impact did this split follow by reunification and massive post-Soviet Jewish immigration — have on Jews already here? And how do Jews in Germany relate to Muslim immigration, most recently from war-torn countries?

MODULE II
The South American Dream: European Jews in Latin America

This module intends to integrate Latin America into the greater picture of modern Jewish history. What started with small merchants’ settlements and in troubled colonies developed into a vibrant cultural sphere all over the subcontinent. Yiddish literature, printing presses and theaters blossomed while people danced to Yiddish tango. Jewish Latin America presents a history of hopes and dreams, persistent community building, and cultural friction. We will observe these phenomena by looking at the early communities of the Marranos and the colonists, at the establishment of modern urban life after mass immigration from Eastern Europe in the early 20th century, at the cultural impact of the newly arriving German-speaking Jews in the 1930s, and at Jewish life under military dictatorships. A historical understanding of present Jewish life in Latin America will be placed within the greater context of Jewish history in modernity.

PROJECT WORK
During the program, students work (in groups or as individuals) on projects expanding on course material as well as on their continuing research interests, with academic guidance.

WORKING TOGETHER
An advantageous teacher-student ratio encourages interaction and mentoring. Daily assignments, excursions and the final project and presentation promote collaboration between students. Shared housing enhances a sense of community.

EXCURSIONS
Excursions to historical and contemporary sites of Jewish life in the Berlin area are as integral to the program as are meetings with political and religious leaders, artists and journalists.

BERLIN
Berlin has the largest Jewish population in Germany, largely due to the influx of former Soviet Jews after German reunification. The city boasts synagogues, Jewish cultural events, international cuisine, numerous cultural venues and a vibrant alternative art scene. The natural environment - parks, lakes and rivers - contributes to the quality of life. In the summer, streets fill with people who enjoy the unique atmosphere of this urban magnet.