



APPLICATIONS

Postgraduate students with an interest in German theology are invited to apply.

Applicants should

- have a first degree in theology, divinity, religion or related fields
- be proficient in English
- have some basic knowledge of German

Candidates should not hesitate to contact the organizers if in doubt as to meeting the requirements.

The total costs are EUR 1,280.– and include:

- teaching equivalent of 6 certifiable ECTS
- accommodation in host families or student housing (meals are typically not provided and not included)
- excursions (including entrance fees)
- JGU certificate after successful completion

A limited number of grants will be available to help covering the costs. Registration is through the ZWW website (with detailed conditions of participation) using the URL overleaf.

Deadline for applications: 15th April 2026
(deadlines for grant applications vary)



The International Summer School
German (and) Theology
is a project of
Evangelisch-Theologische Fakultät (FB 01)
in cooperation with
Zentrum für Wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung and
DaF – Deutsch als Fremdsprache, FB 05

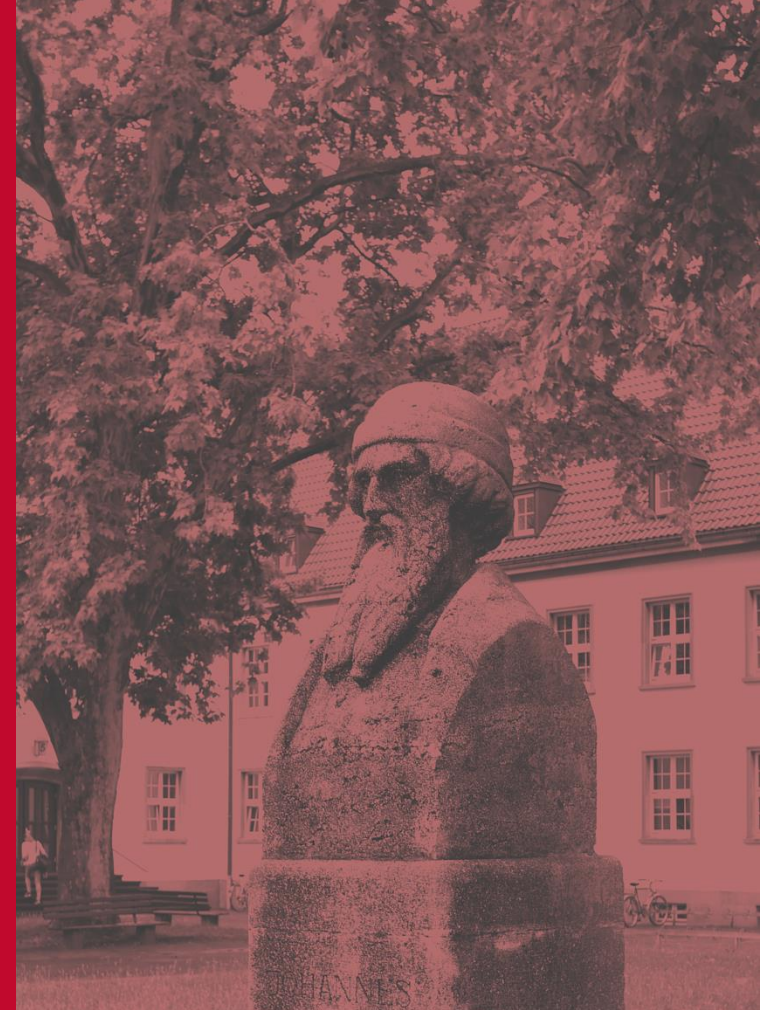
Further information and online application:

<https://summer.theology.uni-mainz.de>



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**11th International Summer School
German (and) Theology**

29th June – 17th July 2026

JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ



International Summer School German (and) Theology

From Martin Luther to Friedrich Schleiermacher, from Dietrich Bonhoeffer to Rudolf Bultmann and Karl Barth, theology in German has been hugely influential in the Protestant tradition. The Protestant Faculty of Theology, University of Mainz, invites postgraduate students and young international scholars to attend a three week summer school in June and July 2026. The summer school is an opportunity for theologians (even with little previous knowledge of German) to immerse into language, thought, and the intellectual world of German theology. Over 160 participants from 33 countries have successfully profited from the program in the last decade.



The curriculum consists of three one-week modules and daily classes:

- Theological German language classes (daily throughout)
- Three German theology modules:
 - Week 1: German theologians from Luther to Barth
 - Week 2: German biblical scholarship
 - Week 3: The making of intercultural theology in Germany

It is the aim of the summer school that all participants will be able to read and understand important German theological source texts upon completion of their courses even if they have not had the chance to study German in depth before. International doctoral and postgraduate students will thus become familiar with the thought processes and dynamics of German theology which may prove to be immensely fruitful for anybody striving to pursue a career in theology or related fields.

In addition, there will be excursions to places significant to German ecclesiastical and Jewish history.



MAINZ

Academic theology has had an institutional place in the heart of Mainz for almost 1000 years. The theology faculty of the *kurfürstliche Universität* was established in 1477 and soon became one of the largest theology faculties in Europe. At that time the talmudic school had long been an important part of the rich intellectual world of the Jewish communities in Mainz, Worms and Speyer in the Middle Ages. Today, the University is named after the local inventor of the printing press Johannes Gutenberg. Over 100 theologians teach over a thousand students in one of the largest schools for theological education in Germany.

The diverse cultural heritage of the region, the central location (only 20 minutes from the largest German airport Frankfurt), but also the attractive setting and *Lebensart* on the river Rhine has made Mainz a favorite destination.

Accommodation for the participants in the summer school will be provided by German host families or halls of residence in and near Mainz and is organized by the University's own *Zentrum für Wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung*.



TEACHING

The 2026 courses will be taught by

- Professor Ulrich Volp (Ecclesiastical and Intellectual History),
- Professor Sebastian Grätz (Old Testament),
- Professor Ruben Zimmermann (New Testament),
- Professor Esther Kobel (New Testament),
- Professor Volker Küster (Intercultural Theology),
- Professor Jochen Schmidt (Systematic Theology),
- Christina Ersch and other specialized language tutors from the department of *Deutsch als Fremdsprache*,
- and others.

All participants are entitled to visit the regular lectures of the Faculty of Theology in order to gain an insight into the teaching at one of the leading theological schools in Germany. They will also have unlimited access to all the libraries and campus facilities.

All successful participants will be awarded a certificate from the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz.

