Theologisches
STUDIENJAHR
Jerusalem

Call for Lectures

The Academic Year in Theology – Jerusalem, run by the Dormition Abbey Jerusalem in co-operation with the Pontifical Athenaeum Sant'Anselmo in Rome and funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), is an excellence programme for around 20 German-speaking students of theology. It comprises two consecutive semesters and focuses on biblical studies, ecumenical theology, and interreligious and intercultural questions.

The 54th cohort runs from **August 2027 – April 2028** and is devoted to the theme

Having to Remember – Being Able to Narrate – Being Allowed to Forget

Theological Narratives between Trauma, Tradition and Transformation

What does it mean to take responsibility for history? How should we approach humanity's history of suffering, which is not confined to the Bible but continues to be written today and is felt acutely by many? Anyone from the German-speaking world who pursues theology in the Holy Land inevitably faces these questions there in particular – but, not least given the rise of nationalism and populism, in Europe as well.
Remembering has always been a process in flux: witnesses pass away, and memorial sites decay or are transformed. Different narratives meet here, and the 54th Academic Year in Theology sets out to reflect on them, examining the interplay between memory, biblical and historical narratives, religious hope, and political appropriation. The questions this raises are wide-ranging and can only be indicated here:

- How should we deal with the religious, political and/or ideological interests that shape historical inquiry?
- Which hermeneutics of sacred texts and religious traditions are needed in order to remember suffering, narrate history and give an account of hope?
- Which religious narratives support constructive memory work? Which are entangled in humanity's history of suffering and carry risks?
- What ways of coping with suffering emerge from religious traditions?
- Can trauma be worked through, and if so, how?
- How can belief in God's sovereignty over history be responsibly upheld in this context?

- In what ways can theology open paths to reconciliation and forgiveness? How can religious hope for fulfilment be expressed in a way that is sensitive to history?
- How, if at all, can responsible forgetting be conceived without relativising guilt?
- What distinctive theological emphases do Christianity, Judaism and Islam place on the relationship between remembering, narrating and hoping, and what can they learn from one another?
- What tasks for religious education and the Church's proclamation follow from this? What role does liturgical practice play in remembering, narrating and hoping?

Within this overarching theme, we warmly invite scholars with a doctorate in any Christian theological discipline, Jewish or Islamic theology, philosophy, religious studies, Islamic studies, history, political science, Jewish studies, archaeology, or other fields in the humanities, cultural studies or social sciences to apply to teach a course at the 54th Academic Year in Theology. Applications should include an outline of the course's content, didactic approach and methodology. Courses (lecture, advanced seminar and/or colloquium) may be taught in German or English and consist of 6 or 10 sessions of 90 minutes each, held as a block course within one week.

What we offer:

- A highly motivated, academically advanced group of around 20 theology students
- Full coverage of travel costs, plus accommodation and full board at the Beit Josef study house, close to the Dormition Abbey and Jerusalem's Old City, for up to two weeks
- For an accompanying guest: a 50% subsidy towards accommodation and meals at the study house
- Free participation in the excursions of the Academic Year
- The opportunity to publish a scholarly article arising from your course in an edited volume of the series Jerusalemer Theologisches Forum (Aschendorff Verlag)

What we are looking for:

- A doctorate and publications in relevant academic journals
- A creative idea for a course – in terms of subject matter, didactics and methodology – that fits the annual theme
- Experience teaching in higher education

What we need from you:

- A one-page outline of the planned course
- A CV in tabular form (2–3 pages)
- Your preferred teaching load (6 or 10 sessions)
- Information on your availability during the Academic Year

Please send us your application by **31 December 2026**. You will hear by mid-March whether it has been accepted. Applications are reviewed by a committee made up of the directors of

the Academic Year, a representative of the Academic Advisory Board, and two students from the current cohort.

Please send your application as a PDF by email to office@studienjahr.de

We look forward to your ideas!

Prof. Dr. Friederike Eichhorn-Remmel, Dean
Prof. Dr. Daniel Remmel, Dean