inherit Fellowships 2026-7, Berlin

Käte Hamburger Kolleg, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Oct 1, 2026–Jul 31, 2027
Application deadline: Apr 14, 2025

Laetitia Modot

Call for fellows: Käte Hamburger Kolleg | Centre for Advanced Study inherit. heritage in transformation, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.

The Centre for Advanced Study inherit. heritage in transformation, a BMBF-funded Käte Hamburger Kolleg based at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, is pleased to invite applications for its fellowship program, which will run from October 1st, 2026 until July 31st, 2027. The Centre explores historical, contemporary, and potential future transformations in heritage. Annually, up to fifteen international fellows engage in research activities at the Centre. This opportunity is open to both experienced and early-career postdoctoral researchers, as well as artists, filmmakers, and curators.

The topic for applications for fellowships for 2026-7 is addressing "Heritage Loss". Applications should also relate to one or more of our guiding themes:
decentring the west. decentring the human, and transforming value

Requirements:
Applications for fellowships should clearly address the topic above.
We invite applications that consider the dismantling, destruction and letting go of heritage, as well as issues of disinheritance, disposal, renouncing and revising. We encourage original research that addresses past, ongoing or possible future consequences of, and responses to, such undoing of heritage. Our interest is also in research-based creative – including both practical and artistic – approaches to addressing heritage loss.

Applications should also relate to one or more of our guiding themes:
- decentring the west, decentring the human, and transforming value.

Researchers and topics from areas currently underrepresented in heritage scholarship, including the global South and Eastern Europe, are especially encouraged to apply.

Successful projects are likely to be based in original empirical or archival study/analysis of source material (which may have already been undertaken) or creative work.

Commitment:
During the fellowship, fellows are expected to be based in Berlin and devote their time to their work in the Centre (except for a small number of possible short visits elsewhere, such as to give talks or participate in workshops). This includes actively participating in inherit's events, such as the regular colloquium, workshops, the annual lecture series and conference. It is also encour-

aged to contribute to our dissemination platforms. A work space at our Centre is provided. Unfortunately, members of Humboldt-Universität are not eligible to become fellows.

Duration and conditions:
Fellowships can be awarded for a maximum period of 10 months. Preference may be given to applications for the full time period. Other than for short visits elsewhere, it is required that you spend the time of your fellowship in Berlin and that you participate in the work of inherit.

A monthly stipend whose rate is determined by career stage and whether family members accompany the fellow, or, in the case of applicants based in Germany, replacement cover, will be awarded. In addition, the costs for the return journey (economy) to Berlin and any necessary visa costs will be reimbursed. You are required to cover accommodation, health insurance and any further costs.

Application requirements:
Applicants should have completed (submitted and successfully defended by the application deadline) a PhD to an excellent standard and significant publishing from this or, in the case of artists and practitioners, should have a substantial portfolio of accomplished work.

Applicants should submit the online application form, where they will be asked to submit the following documents:
- Cover letter stating proposed start date and length of fellowship, title of proposed project and brief motivation for applying to inherit.
- Project proposal – up to 2 pages of A4 (in a font no smaller than Times new Roman pitch 11) but with further annex of up to 6 pages of images, where relevant. To include: title and abstract (150 words), summary of proposed work, including making clear how it relates to the topic of Addressing Heritage Loss and one or more of the guiding themes of inherit: decentring the west, decentring the human, and transforming value, as well as its relations to your previous work; timetable; and any resources necessary to completing the work.
- CV that includes:
List including dates and locations of the beginning and completion of all further and higher education, including PhD in the case of academic researchers. The title of the PhD should be given. Funding sources should also be listed.
- List of academic- or practice-related activities, including exhibitions, film or conference presentations, organizational activities, teaching etc.
- Any fellowships, prizes or awards, with dates, sources and funding amounts.
- Full list of publications, making clear which emanate from the PhD (where relevant). If written in a language other than English, please provide a translation of the title. Include full reference details, including page numbers and online links where relevant.
- In addition (either as one or two separate pdfs or together with the above), please submit EITHER two articles or chapters (published or unpublished) of a maximum of 20,000 words altogether, OR (in the case of artists) portfolio of art works, films or exhibitions, making clear own role and providing details of times and locations of showing.

Selection process:
The selection process is made by an internal committee together with the advisory board. We receive high numbers of excellent proposals. Inevitably, this means that we end up having to not

accept many of these. In making our selections, we give emphasis to the quality of the proposal, especially the originality of the ideas and capacity to go beyond existing scholarship or practice. A key criterion is how well it speaks to the areas emphasised in the call, ideally not just providing illustration of these but also exploring, theorizing and possibly expanding upon these in interesting ways. Relevance to our themes and the heritage field is also important. Beyond these matters, the strength of CVs – taking into account career stage and other contextual considerations – including the quality of work submitted and that undertaken previously, are also addressed during the selection. In the final selection, issues of diversity, geographical spread and disciplinary mix are also considered.

How to apply:
To submit your application for the fellowship program, please click here: https://umfrage.hu-berlin.de/index.php/525266?lang=en

The deadline for submission is 14th April 2025.

For more information about the call, see: https://inherit.hu-berlin.de/open-call

If you have any questions, please have a look at our FAQ or contact Ms. Gultakin Bayramova (fellowships-inherit@hu-berlin.de).

Reference:
STIP: inherit Fellowships 2026-7, Berlin. In: ArtHist.net, Feb 25, 2025 (accessed Nov 24, 2026), <https://arthist.net/archive/44040>.