



Die Berlin Graduate School of Ancient Studies (BerGSAS)

The Berlin Graduate School of Ancient Studies (BerGSAS) is a fundamental building block of the Berliner Antike-Kolleg. It offers structured PhD programs for graduate students from Germany and abroad and encompasses all of the disciplines involved in ancient studies research at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin's Faculties of Philosophy, Humanities and Social Sciences, Language, Literature and Humanities and Theology and the Freie Universität Berlin's Departments of History and Cultural Studies, and Philosophy and Humanities. The two universities have equal status and both are represented by a spokesperson.

The programs are conducted by the universities in cooperation with non-university partners: the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, the German Archaeological Institute, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science and the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation. This arrangement provides doctoral candidates with opportunities unique throughout Europe, not only by offering a broader range of research-based instruction, but also by enabling candidates to gain experience through contact with research institutions specializing in various fields of advanced research. All of the programs at the Dahlem Research School and the Humboldt Graduate School are accredited, thus guaranteeing their continued adherence to international standards of excellence.

| www.berliner-antike-kolleg.org/en/bergsas

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Landscape Archaeology and Architecture (LAA)

A Doctoral Program of the Berlin Graduate School of Ancient Studies





Doctoral program Landscape Archaeology and Architecture (LAA)

The doctoral program Landscape Archaeology and Architecture (LAA) combines two research areas that in recent years have become increasingly important in archaeological research: landscape archaeology and historical building research. These two disciplines have a common goal: to address questions concerning the history of culture through the aid of specific, specialist methods.

Whereas building research involves studying historical buildings or entire settlements with the help of a full range of architectonic methods in order to reconstruct planning, construction and usage processes, which are then used as a basis for drawing conclusions about underlying sociocultural conditions in various epochs, landscape archaeology research focuses on analyzing past landscapes. The definition of the term landscape is deliberately broad here and is strongly influenced by the prevailing specialist conception. This means that landscape archaeology research can involve the study of the physical landscape in the vicinity of an archaeological site, focusing on, e.g. spatial distribution patterns of natural commodities, human interference with the natural environment or water supply. At the same time, landscape archaeology also integrates concepts from social and cultural anthropology, political ecology and philosophy, and analyzes how, e.g. ancient cultures perceived and ordered their environment.

The Landscape Archaeology and Architecture program focuses on a broad range of problems, research strategies and methods in landscape archaeology and building history. Basic techniques for reconstructing landscape dynamics and architectural complexities are conveyed through a fundamental curriculum. Candidates also choose from among the broad range of courses offered by the Freie Universität and the Humboldt-Universität, in order to ensure them the fullest possible support in researching and writing their dissertations.

As a partner of the universities, the German Archaeological Institute contributes its unique expertise in the fields of archaeology and building history to the candidates' training.



Partner of the doctoral program The German Archaeological Institute (DAI)

Since its founding in 1829, the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) has remained a leading internationally active institution in the fields of archaeology and ancient studies. Research today is conducted by a total of 15 branch offices on five continents – academic affiliations are maintained with countries in the Mediterranean region as well as with countries in the former Soviet bloc, Asia, Africa and South America. The activities of the institute's employees advance research interests while also furthering the analysis of the cultural legacy of the respective countries. Consequently, the DAI, as a research institution with an international scope, plays an important role in the foreign cultural and educational policy of the Federal Republic of Germany. Numerous DAI projects are pursued in the form of inter- and trans-disciplinary clusters whose research frequently unites the humanities and natural sciences.

The DAI contributes its exceptional expertise in archaeological excavation and landscape reconstruction to the Berlin Graduate School of Ancient Studies through its involvement in the doctoral program Landscape Archaeology and Architecture, where it offers training in data collection and analysis. In this way, the DAI provides support in an area of central importance to this program: method application, ranging from concrete field methods to analysis conducted with the aid of geographic information systems, as well as other modeling methods, from digital sharding to measurement and reconstruction methods used in building research.

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