Summer Schools

BMS Summer Schools are concentrated periods of lectures that focus on specific mathematical topics.

If you have an idea or a specific academic interest that you would like to cover more thoroughly, but have no opportunity for during the semester, let us know! We welcome input from all students and we may be able to turn your idea into the next BMS Summer School or a BMS workshop.

Lounges and Computer Pools

There are BMS lounges at the FU, HU and TU. These lounges serve as meeting places for BMS students to relax, discuss ideas over coffee and meet the staff of the One-Stop Office. BMS students have computer access at all the three universities. Just let us know if you would like to use the computers and need an account.

Office Space

The BMS provides office space for Phase I students, and Phase II students usually have space in their research group.

Sports Courses

All three universities offer a wide variety of sports to their students at very reasonable prices.
http://www.hochschulsport.fu-berlin.de/en
https://www.hochschulsport.hu-berlin.de/en/
www.tu-sport.de (in German)

Cultural Events

The staff of the One-Stop Office can help with advice on Berlin’s cultural life. Ask us or have a look at these websites for information about Berlin, concerts, theaters, cinemas, bars, restaurants, etc.
www.visitberlin.de/en
www.math-berlin.de

Conference Travel Support

The BMS encourages all students (in both Phase I and Phase II) to attend mathematical conferences. To help you do so, the BMS will cover registration fees and travel costs for one conference over the course of Phase I and one conference per year during Phase II.
**Buddy Program**

The BMS offers a buddy program to help welcome new students to Berlin. Your buddy will be an experienced BMS student who can help you find your way around when you first arrive in Berlin. He or she may be able to pick you up at the airport, help you settle in to your new environment or assist you with unfamiliar German bureaucracy.

Please consider volunteering to be a BMS Buddy!

**Language Courses**

The BMS offers assistance to those international students with little or no German language skills by covering the cost of one preparatory language course in “German as a Foreign Language” (Deutsch als Fremdsprache aka DaF). The BMS offers a DaF course in September, four to six weeks before lectures begin. For those students who are unable to attend the BMS language course, the BMS will reimburse the cost of another DaF course up to 150 euros. To be eligible for reimbursement, the student must complete the course with an attendance rate of 80%.

**Orientation**

The BMS Orientation takes place one week before winter semester classes begin. This is a one-week program of academic and social activities designed to introduce you to life and study in Berlin and at the BMS. It includes a welcome and information day hosted by the BMS Chair, One-Stop Office staff and BMS Student Representatives. In addition, there is a one-day Intercultural Training workshop, campus tours, a sight-seeing tour of Berlin, and an info session about BMS regulations, the Qualifying Exam, and each university’s master degree regulations. Attendance is compulsory for all events, except the tours.

**Soft-Skills Seminars**

Becoming, being and staying a successful mathematical scientist requires more than excellent research. You must be able to speak in front of large audiences in lecture halls or at conferences, write applications for research grants, and prepare posters. You also have to be able to write up your research results compellingly. In the future, you may have to manage a research group, its staff and projects, and advise PhD students. To help you along that path, the BMS offers seminars on key competences with a special focus on the needs of graduate students.

**Mentoring**

**Phase I**

Phase I students are assigned a mentor and an advisor from the BMS faculty. They should give guidance and advice throughout Phase I, while providing perspectives for Phase II. These two faculty members are often, but not always, the same person.

**Phase II**

Each Phase II student has a thesis supervisor who provides support in all aspects relating to the dissertation, including advice on choosing the right conferences and publishing articles. In addition, Phase II students have a separate mentor who can help resolve problems and provide non-scientific advice.

**Families at the BMS**

The BMS can help arrange individual study solutions for student parents and parents-to-be. For example, the student can take study leave, continue on a part-time basis, or study with a reduced workload. FU, HU and TU Berlin have suitable rooms available for parents with children. In order to cover some of the costs associated with childcare, the BMS will top up the student’s BMS scholarship with an additional 400 euros per month for the first child and 100 euros per month for every further child. The BMS Diversity Manager can advise you in all matters associated with childcare.

**For Women**

The BMS offers informal meet-ups for its female students with the intention of exchanging experiences and offering mutual assistance. The Sonia Kovalevskaya Colloquium (part of the regular BMS Friday lecture series) features female mathematicians, both junior and senior, who are regarded as successful role models in their field. These distinguished speakers are also asked to share their experiences as women in the mathematical community with the female student body of the BMS. This exchange takes place during the Kovalevskaya Lunch which is held before the main Friday Lecture.