Berlin Doctoral Program in Economics and Management Science

SOLUTIONS FOR TOMORROW’S CHALLENGES
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Building on Berlin’s unique and manifold academic environment, we offer an excellent structured doctoral program which brings together expertise from all major universities and research institutions in Berlin.

This brochure offers an overview about BDPEMS. In particular, the program’s structure, the application process and our ongoing research are covered on the following pages.

With the help of comments by our current faculty members, students, and alumni, the brochure introduces you to our international and diverse research atmosphere. This booklet will exhibit the extensive profile of our program and may support to make a good decision.

Please enjoy the brochure!
Yours sincerely, Alexandra Spitz-Oener
Leading to an early start of research.

University support

PROUD TO BE PART OF BDPEMS

Economics and management scientists support the corporation between the Berlin institutions and are strongly committed to it. Their presidents and directors are proud to be part of BDPEMS.

„The BDPEMS is an outstanding opportunity for both Berlin’s universities and its research institutions. Thanks to this program, they achieve a world-class doctoral education by attracting the best young scientists. Through the cooperation of all participating economic institutions in Berlin, this program achieves a variety and depth that is unique in Germany.”

„The Free University Berlin is very dedicated to the Berlin Doctoral Program in Economics and Management Science. The BDPEMS gives young academics great opportunities by combining the pronounced potential and manifold expertise of its participating universities and research institutes in the area of Berlin. Having a structured program together with high levels of (mentoring/) assistance, as well as a close cooperation of institutions makes the BDPEMS an internationally highly attractive doctoral program for excellent students.”

JAN-HENDRIK OLBERTZ
HU - HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY

PETER-ANDRÉ ALT
FU - FREE UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN
INTRODUCTION

"The close and fruitful collaboration across institutions enables doctoral students to study a variety of high-quality PhD level courses spanning from finance, management, labor economics, macroeconomics, and behavioral economics all the way to advanced level classes in econometrics and statistics. BDPEMS opens the door to a vibrant academic life in Berlin and includes workshops, conferences, and seminar series with international experts in the numerous subfields it covers. At ESMT, we believe in synergies between business and economics, many of which may be found in BDPEMS."

"From the perspective of the TU Berlin, the BDPEMS is an important facility for young scientists in Berlin. The program offers, similar to the BMS (Berlin Mathematical School) for mathematicians, the widest range of variety and the best supervision possible to doctoral students in economics and management. Due to the promotion of the Einstein Foundation, a close cooperation with research institutions is supported which concentrates Berlin’s potential in this area."

"Since the formation/establishment of the BDPEMS, the WZB has been dedicated to this program with firm conviction. We acknowledge proudly and with pleasure that the international concept of a structured doctoral program has proved of high value in and for Berlin. Last but not least the structure of the BDPEMS served as a role model for the other established graduate schools in the social sciences, such as the Berlin Graduate School for Transnational Studies (BTS) and the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSS)."

"The BDPEMS is a very important part of post-graduate education. It makes Berlin one of the best places in Europe for an excellent doctoral program in economics. Especially its good cooperation - also with the Graduate Center of the DIW Berlin - creates an outstanding network for doctoral students."

University support

PROUD TO BE PART OF BDPEMS

CHRISTIAN THOMSEN
TU - TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN

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JÖRG ROCCHOLL
ESMT - EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

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JUTTA ALLMENDINGER
WZB - BERLIN SOCIAL SCIENCE CENTER

MARCEL FRATZSCHER
DIW - GERMANY INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH
Building on Berlin’s unique and manifold academic environment, the Berlin Doctoral Program in Economics and Management Science provides outstanding doctoral students with state-of-the-art training in economics, finance, econometrics, and management science. It brings together expertise and excellence from all major universities and research institutions in Berlin and seeks to evolve into one of Europe’s leading programs for top-level graduate education in economics and management. The participating institutions are:

HU - Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
FU - Freie Universität Berlin
TU - Technische Universität Berlin
ESMT - European School of Management and Technology
WZB - Social Science Research Center Berlin

BDPEMS closely collaborates with the Research Training Group (RTG) 1659 „Interdependencies in the regulation of markets“, which builds on BDPEMS first-year training, and the International Research Training Group (IRTG) 1792 „High Dimensional Non Stationary Time Series“, which cooperates with Xiamen University in China.

The program further concurs with the Graduate Center of the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW) and all major research centers and initiatives in Berlin. Embedded in this broad and inspiring academic network, students select from a wide variety of courses and activities. Since 2011 the program has been funded by the Einstein Foundation Berlin. It follows leading international standards with an emphasis on rigorous analytical methods and quantitative analysis preparing students for cutting-edge research in a broad range of fields.

**Scholarship**

The program offers scholarships up to three years conditional on academic excellence and study performance with an option for extensions.

The financial assistance ranges between 900 and 1200 Euro depending on whether your highest previous degree is a bachelor’s or master’s degree. Every year BDPEMS offers approximately 10 scholarships. Applications from students with other sources of funding (i.e., a different scholarship) are welcome.

The program does not charge tuition fees. The universities charge an enrollment fee per semester. This gives access to public transport. A reasonable assessment of living costs in Berlin amounts to roughly 800 Euro per month – although many students manage to cover their living costs with less.

**Fast Track for Bachelor Graduates**

Bachelor graduates may choose BDPEMS’ fast track option. They have to take additional courses in order to obtain a master’s degree from one of Berlin’s universities. Students who choose the fast track are enrolled as master’s students while credits awarded from BDPEMS’ courses count both for the completion of the master’s studies and the BDPEMS.

Students entering the program with a bachelor’s degree are expected to finish their doctoral degree (including a master’s degree) after about five years.
BDPEMS comprises two mandatory years of course work in economic theory and quantitative methods. In total, students have to pass 90 ECTS. During the first year, students have to take at least three out of four core fields with a minimum of 54 credits. Core fields are:

Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Econometrics and Management Science.

In the second year, students find their supervisors and start working on their first research paper. In parallel, they take the elective courses of their specialization track to broaden and deepen their knowledge in specific areas of interest. Elective courses typically focus on selected topics. The students become acquainted with advanced techniques as well as current research trends. The courses help them to develop own research projects or apply insights from other fields to their own work. Some of the courses are delivered as short courses. Students have to take at least 24 ECTS from these courses or the remaining core courses. The courses might be freely combined (dependent on research interests) and/or might be taken in structured form in order to specialize in the following major areas:

Behavioral & Experimental Economics, Finance, Accounting, Econometrics & Statistics, Quantitative Labour and Public Economics

Up to 12 ECTS can be taken from suitable courses in other fields, soft skill courses, or own teaching. Finally, students enter the research phase. During that phase students devote their time primarily to their own research and the writing of research papers, which culminate in the dissertation. They participate in seminars according to their interests. In some seminars, invited speakers introduce BDPEMS students to leading research in the respective field.
BDPEMS obviously enhances the skills of its participants and teaches them all state-of-the-art methods that are necessary in order to conduct internationally rewarded research in economics. The impact on the regional and national level is huge, since the researchers themselves as well as Germany’s capital Berlin clearly benefit from an agglomeration of highly skilled experts in economics, enriching both its intellectual and cultural scene.

BDPEMS leads faster to Ph.D. by supporting the students and their research activities where it can. Besides granting 10 scholarships per year, the program offers additional financial support for the orientation and research phase. For example, 70% of your travel expenses for workshops, summer schools, and conferences are reimbursed by BDPEMS.

Furthermore, BDPEMS cooperates with Humboldt Graduate School and Dahlem Research School (Freie Universität), where students can visit a variety of soft skill and management training courses. The acquired skills help them prepare for the academic and non-academic job market.

Study coordinators, mentors and supervisors will advise doctoral students in all they need to know and guide them on their way to their Ph.D.
The BDPEMS motivates international mobility, and students are expected to target an international research outlet for their work. During the research phase, students visit conferences abroad and may become visiting students at universities and research centers abroad in accordance with the corresponding supervising professor in Berlin. Apart from the semester courses, BDPEMS organizes guest lectures with professors from all over the world to hold a lecture lasting between two days and two weeks. Students can propose experts that will be invited for these courses. During those short courses, students get in touch with international experts and become part of the international research community.

The program aims to attract as many international students as possible in order to enrich the academic atmosphere in Berlin and it also tries to attract German students who completed their master’s/bachelor’s degree abroad. Today, half of our student body comes from outside Germany.

Apart from the daily semester courses, BDPEMS organizes short courses with high ranked professors from all over the world to hold a lecture from two days to two weeks running time. Students can propose experts that will be invited to cover the most of the research interests.

During those short courses students have the possibility to get in touch with international experts.

As half of our students come from 24 different countries (effective Feb 2015) all our courses are taught in English.
The program consists of cooperation of three universities and two research institutions. Each participating institution has high reputation. The curriculum of BDPEMS courses is really broad.

“High standards in the friendliest academic atmosphere I have ever seen.”

GRZEGORZ DLUGOSZEK (POLAND)

About 120 students currently participate in BDPEMS; half of them are from abroad and about 40% are female. The majority holds a master’s degree in economics or business, but we also supervise graduates with previous degrees in mathematics, physics, engineering, law, or psychology. What all of our participants have in common is that they all have achieved great merits and they are well trained for successful academic work.

The Berlin campuses are well equipped and very diverse. They offer a variety of opportunities to interact with other students and faculty members from all over the world. In the BDPEMS study rooms our doctoral students share thoughts and insights on their respective research.

We realized that an excellent doctoral program has to go beyond the mere requirements of academic excellence or as Simon Jurkatis (BDPEMS student since 2011) expresses it:

“If you want to study in a not only great academic, but also social environment, Berlin, hence the BDPEMS, is the place to be. After all, a true economist is never only an economist. And the BDPEMS provides just the right environment to be not only an economist.”

Simon Jurkatis
STUDENT SINCE 2011

Our students highly acknowledge the program’s various social activities, such as welcome meetings and excursions. To ensure that the experience at BDPEMS is personally and academically rewarding, the team makes sure to arrange events, organize resources, and provide services to support doctoral studies.

Alltogether, the program constitutes an unique doctorate program with respect to both academic excellence and vital inspiration in Germany’s diverse capital.

“WHAT MAKES BDPEMS SPECIAL FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW?”

SABRINA HAHM (GERMANY)

“BDPEMS makes a significant contribution to bringing researchers together and giving postgraduate students an overview of the different scientific fields represented in Berlin.”

GRZEGORZ DLUGOSZEK (POLAND)

“The program consists of cooperation of three universities and two research institutions. Each participating institution has high reputation. The curriculum of BDPEMS courses is really broad.”

HOMAYON MORADI (IRAN)

“High standards in the friendliest academic atmosphere I have ever seen.”
Career and Placement

BDPEMS TRAINS THE RESEARCHERS OF TOMORROW

The number of successful graduates at high job positions shows that learning and researching in Berlin is worthwhile. The placement procedure of BDPEMS starts during the third year. Students are trained and prepared for academic and non-academic job markets. Depending on the individual, BDPEMS offers peer-and one-to-one-mentoring.

Workshops like „upward leadership“ and „media training“ prepare the graduates for an easy entry into the job market. Our international network of economists and researchers may help finding the best positions. Looking back BDPEMS already has a high number of successful graduates that work in good positions in research institutions, consultancies and the financial sector. Those who chose researching and teaching as their profession were called directly into chairs or research assistants positions.

“BDPEMS gives doctoral students a unique curriculum. Particularly, I enjoyed the opportunity to take courses at all three universities in Berlin, as well as several research institutes. This was a convenient way to get an overview the Berlin research community.”

Richard Ochmann (BDPEMS Alumni 2006-2011)
Research Associate in the Department of Public Economics, Fiscal Policy, DIW Berlin
BDPEMS - Expertise
FROM THE FACULTIES

HU
1. TIM ADAM
2. CHRISTOPH BREUNIG
3. MICHAEL BURDA
4. BERND DROGE
5. DIRK ENGELMANN
6. BERND FITZENBERGER
7. JOACHIM GASSEN
8. WOLFGANG HARDLE
9. ULRICH HORST
10. FRANZ HUBERT
11. ULRICH KAMECKE
12. DANIEL KLAPPER
13. BRENDA LÓPEZ CABRERA
14. ALEXANDRA SPITZ-OENER
15. ALEX STOMPER
16. ROLAND STRAUSZ
17. WEINIG WANG
18. LUTZ WEINKE
19. GEORG WEIZSÄCKER
20. NIKOLAUS WOLF

ESMT
21. SUMITRO BANERJEE
22. ÖZLEM BEDRE-DEFOLIE
23. MATTHEW BOTHNER
24. FRANCIS DE VÉRICOURT
25. PAUL HEIDHUES
26. CATALINA S.-CUNTZE
27. STEFAN WAGNER

FU
28. HELMUT BESTER
29. IRWIN COLLIER
30. GIACOMO CORNEO
31. FRANK FOSSEN
32. ANDREAS LOFFLER
33. DIETER NAUTZ
34. CHRISTIAN OFFERMANNS
35. RONNIE SCHOEB
36. VIKTOR STEINER

TU
37. KNUT BLIND
38. FRANK HEINEMANN
39. MARCO RUNKEL
40. AXEL WERWATZ

WZB
41. STEFFEN HUCK
42. DOROTHEA KUBLER
43. FERDINAND VIEIDER

DIW
44. MARCEL FRATZSCHER
45. HELMUT LÜTKEPOHL

HU - HENNBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
ESMT - EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
FU - FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN
TU - TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN
WZB - WISSENSCHAFTSZENTRUM BERLIN FÜR SOZIALFORSCHUNG
DIW - DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG
Places and Location

1. HU  HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
2. ESMT  EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
3. FU  FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN
4. TU  TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN
5. WZB  WISSENSCHAFTSZENTRUM BERLIN FÜR SOZIALFORSCHUNG
6. DIW  DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG
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