Application Requirements

For the Bachelor program:
- For general information about eligibility, please visit: www.uni-potsdam.de/de/studium/zugang/vor-bewerbung-immatrikulation/hzb
- If you are qualified to enroll at an institution of higher education but have obtained such qualification in a country other than Germany and/or your native language is not German, you must provide evidence of German language skills at an academic level.

For the Master program:
- An academic degree qualifying you for postsecondary education (e.g. a BA) in a relevant subject; for specific requirements, please consult the regulations of the Master program
- For enrollment in the MA Program, German language skills are not required.

For further information, please see: www.juedischetheologie-unipotsdam.de/en/index

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The School of Jewish Theology (University of Potsdam)

»Jewish Theology is an attempt to think through consistently the implications of the Jewish religion.« (Rabbi Louis Jacobs)

With the founding of the Potsdam School of Jewish Theology in the fall of 2013, the academic discipline of Jewish Theology was established for the first time at a European institution of higher education.

Thus, almost two hundred years after the German-Jewish scholar Abraham Geiger made his public plea for equal recognition, Jewish theology is finally academically on par with Christian theology – as well as with the new Islamic Theology institutes being established in Germany.

At the School of Jewish Theology seven chairs have been established teaching and researching the rich and multi-faceted history of Judaism in order to understand and shape the contemporary Jewish experience. The curriculum comprises the following core subjects: Hebrew Bible and its Exegesis; Talmud and Rabbinical Literature; History and Philosophy of the Jewish Religion; Jewish Law; Jewish Liturgy; Practical Theology (consisting of four sub-disciplines: religious education, homiletics, pastoral care and community organizing); History of Jewish Music; Hebrew and Aramaic Philology.

Bachelor of Arts / Master of Arts in Jewish Theology

The BA/MA degree program in Jewish Theology – the only one of its kind in Europe – is open to all interested applicants regardless of their religious affiliation. The scope of material covered by the degree program is extensive: from the Hebrew Bible and the great theological works of the Middle Ages to the thinkers and intellectual debates of modern times. Thus, the BA Program in Jewish Theology not only gives students a basic intellectual grounding in Judaism, but also provides them with critical academic expertise as well as valuable insights into Jewish religious practice. The program places particular emphasis on acquiring solid proficiency in the Hebrew and Aramaic languages, so that students can work with texts in their original languages as soon as possible. Another focal point of study is Judaism’s relations with other faiths, particularly Christianity and Islam. The MA Program in Jewish Theology enables students to deepen their knowledge and to embark on further exploration of rabbinical literature as well as specific aspects of Jewish religious history.

As of 2018 the School of Jewish Theology also offers a BA Program in Jewish Theology with an emphasis on Biblical Archeology.

Vocational Training

For those Jewish students who are considering a career in the rabbinate or cantorate, the comprehensive BA and MA courses are complemented by vocational training programs provided by the Abraham Geiger College (Progressive) and the Zacharias Frankel College (Masorti).

For more information, see:
www.abraham-geiger-kolleg.de
www.zacharias-frankel-college.de