



**CAMP GROUP gGmbH**



**RespAct**

  
**Washington**  
University in St. Louis  
BROWN SCHOOL

# SUMMER INSTITUTE

REFUGEE EMPOWERMENT,  
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT

**20  
19**

**BERLIN, GERMANY**

# WILLKOMMEN

## WELCOME TO YOUR SUMMER INSTITUTE

Congratulations on for successful acceptance into this competitive, two-week intensive program curated to expand your understanding of social problems, services and delivery in Berlin and how these indicators intersect with other disciplines like policy, community mapping, and culture which all collectively impact the overall functionality of a society in the midst of heavy migration and a housing crisis.

This program is a collaboration between the Brown School and CamP Group gGmbH which is a "Think-and-Do-Tank" devoted to addressing socially rooted problems by developing new solutions in the form of devising new products and services, research and consulting in order for be institutionally and financially independent.

### WHAT IS THE SUMMER INSTITUTE?

Since 2016, graduate students at The Brown School of Social Work in St. Louis Missouri studying social policy, public health and or social work in the U.S. with a focus migrants and migration, human rights, international development and or global health have been hosted by CamP Group employees who have been creating and employing programs, projects and workshops with the local NFP and NGO network in Berlin.

During the program students attend panels, discussions, site visits from a variety of organizations - from hospitals, to refugee intake centers, long term housing for elderly and substance dependent, to the German Parliament.

All these visits are on a spectrum of formality and professional and academic disciplines giving students the freedom to practice diplomacy, critical thinking, and experience the diversity of social structures and norms to become a more qualified and versed agent of change.

### WHAT WILL I EXPERIENCE?



#### Residence

The Summer Institute tries to fully immerse you in the midst of Berlin. You will live in a multipurpose occupied space for the duration of the course called **Regenbogen Fabrik** in a historically known neighborhood for social justice called Kreuzberg (Xberg). Your home in Berlin is a space once occupied by activists and transformed into a bike shop, theater, kindergarten, hostel, and restaurant with the overall goal of social wellness and communalism.



#### Content

Everyday participants begin in a **morning debrief** about the schedule and expectations for the day before visiting 1-3 organizations. You will become acquainted with the metro system, BVG, and the local geography as you travel throughout the city of Berlin together. **At the end of visits** or back at your home, **participants facilitate self or group reflection** to process the complex learnings of the day and how it resonates with student's perspectives.



#### Engagement

It is most important to us at the institute that **you gain as much information and insight as possible at every site**. Thus, prior to arrival participants choose a site which is most interesting to them and aligns with their passion or career, whether it be medical services for migrants without a legal status or a tour of a refugee's neighborhood from their perspective **and become the ambassadors of the visit to ensure each visitation answers the deeper academic inquires of the students.**



*At the Summer Institute, you will have the chance to learn about the history, landscape, and future of social welfare of people with a migration background and structural components of their lives within the colorful and diverse city-state of Berlin*



# TESTIMONIALS

## EXPERIENCES OF 2018 PARTICIPANTS

"This course provide me with great chance to know Berlin and asylum, housing and refugee situation, and help me to reflect the broader scale of their situation and policy related in the whole world. I fell in love with Berlin, everything."

SHUQIN YU, MSP '18

"I've never known of the programs and services offered under a socialist government. It's almost like visiting another world. Yet, at the same time, this experience has taught me that it's real. Since the end of our time in Berlin, I have come to see things more optimistically."

Though Germany/Berlin is so different, perhaps it the whole system of government/structure that we have already doesn't have to change to provide services more equitably and openly to vulnerable populations than we do now.

This hope is necessary because, as the trip also made clear, the right-wing, xenophobic, racist and discriminatory parties, policies, movements and such are growing-even in a place like Berlin, and Germany with its history of Nazism.

*In that sense, I am coming to appreciate the value of holding onto and ensuring the basics of our social work profession: dignity and self worth of every human being.*

*Our work is important and necessary. It's timely and timeless."*

ANDREA WILLIS, MSW '19

"I have a deep appreciation for this course and the thought that Dr. Cameron and her team put behind organizing it for us. I learned a lot that has definitely informed how I will move forward as a social worker and public health practitioner. A class like this is necessary to see not only what is possible in terms of community practice but also what we can learn and respect from others and ourselves."

DALEESA ALFRED, MSW MPH '20

"This trip has really inspired me to see innovation as a required skill in the changing world of social services. Choosing to create and risk failure at times is the only way to truly seek out new solutions. The ability to critique our long-standing programs and services can help us revolutionize the way we strategize for new challenges, demanding that we work together to solve problems instead of simply competing for limited resources."

JACLYN PRINGLE, MSW '19

"The immersion and exposure to organizations abroad provided in this class gave has expanded my knowledge of health systems from an international perspective and in an applied format which, in my honest opinion, brightens my employability and effectiveness as a health and social work professional today and for the future."

JULIA HUGHES, MPH MSW '19

## DR. HEATHER CAMERON

### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FACILITATOR



"The Berlin seminar is built on the pioneering spirit of the program since the first session. We have added visits to the renowned Charité research hospital to meet with mental health professionals developing intercultural therapy protocols, we met with an underground health project that funds medical treatments undocumented migrants through money raised at raves and music festivals and a visit with a compelling action researcher at the German Aids Foundation. This is in addition to anchor visits to the German parliament to meet with law makers and visits to the key ministries and service centers for asylum seekers.

I want the students to see what a different policy framework can make possible and to push bolder ideas for program and policy development back at home. My hope is that students reflect on their professional identity in the context of these German social innovators and reject the limits too often placed on social work and public health and feel encouraged to be more impact and innovation focused in their future careers."

# SEE YOU THIS SUMMER

