

The housing crisis in Berlin has reached unprecedented levels. The opportunity to secure accommodation is particularly challenging for newcomers in Berlin, including low-income groups, people with freelance and temporary contracts and students. Unable to meet the rising financial and administrative requirements, these groups are increasingly resorting to informal housing arrangements. So far, this seemingly ever-growing phenomenon has received some media attention, but has not been thoroughly researched.

The research group aims to address this gap by exploring how the new facets of the housing crisis and 'hidden housing markets' play out in the context of Berlin. Through a combination of methods including interviews, mapping and documentation of living conditions and arrangements, we will address this issue and analyse the housing trajectories of newcomers to the city. The research will encompass methods training, engagement with theory and an extended fieldwork phase, including interactions with housing experts and tenants. Students will be involved in every step of the research process, its co-design, data collection and analysis.

The research group aims to generate knowledge about new informal housing arrangements and the situation of the respective tenants and their needs. The results of the research will be prepared for a small exhibition and presented to and discussed with stakeholders from tenants' organisations and planning practice.

The course is a X-Student Research Group funded by the Berlin University Alliance.

Photo: © https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Wohnraum_ist_keine_Ware!_on_the_wall_of_Genter_Strasse_54_in_Berlin.jpeg

X-Student Research Group,
6 ECTS

Freie Wahl W
MA UD, MA Arch, MA SRP, MA Arch T

First meeting

23. October 2022, 11.00 a.m.
Room: A606

Application

Registration at the first meeting.
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Investigating informal housing arrangements in Berlin through biographies of newcomers

Navigating the Housing Crisis

X-Student
Research Group

WS
23

Teaching Staff
Dr Jakub Galuszka
Lucas Elsner

Teaching Day
Schedule (block seminars, ca. 4h) starting at 11:00 st. on each seminar day.

Meeting 1: October 23
Meeting 2: October 30
Meeting 3: November 6
Meeting 4: November 27
Meeting 5: December 11
Meeting 6: January 8
Meeting 7: January 29
Meeting 8: February 12

Habitat Unit