



The **Center for Jewish Studies Heidelberg** (Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg ) is offering a job position for a

### **Research Fellow, Jewish Studies / Masorah Research**

(E 13 100%; fixed-term employment; start: December 1, 2021)

The Long-Term Project (12 years; 2018–2029) *Corpus Masoreticum: The Inculturation of the Masorah into Jewish Law and Lore from the 11th to the 13th Centuries: Digital Acquisition of a Forgotten Domain of Knowledge* is funded by the German Research Foundation and kicked off in 2018 at Heidelberg's Center for Jewish Studies. The aim of this project is to edit, document, and annotate the Western European (Ashkenazic) Masorah tradition of the 11th through 13th centuries, which differs from the oriental Masorah with respect to its philological content, layout, and *mise-en-texte* (*masora figurata*). The project's philological work has been integrated into a digital work environment from the get-go (*BIMA 2.0*. Biblical Masorah database).

The first results of the project are documented here:

[www.corpusmasoreticum.de](http://www.corpusmasoreticum.de)

<http://bima2.corpusmasoreticum.de/manuscripts>

<https://t1p.de/BIMA-Video1>

<https://t1p.de/BIMA-Video2>

*Philology and Aesthetics. Figurative Masorah in Western European Manuscripts* (Judentum und Umwelt / Realms of Judaism 85), edited by Hanna Liss, Berlin a.o. 2021.

The PI, Prof. Dr. Hanna Liss, is looking for an exceptionally qualified research fellow (postdoc) who is willing to contribute his/her specialist competencies to this project. To be considered, you must have:

- completed a dissertation in Biblical and/or Jewish Studies.
- very good knowledge of Hebrew and Aramaic.
- in-depth knowledge of cultural and literary theories pertaining to Western European medieval Jewish culture.
- a willingness to familiarize yourself with Masorah research.
- the capacity to work as part of a team.
- experience with project research.

Part of the job will consist of:

- the edition, translation, and annotation of the Masorah (*masora magna*; *masora parva*) in selected Ashkenazi Bible codices from the 11th to the 13th centuries.
- further development of the project.
- communication of your research and results within the project, as well as within the framework of the teaching and research activities of Heidelberg's Center for Jewish Studies.
- preparation for and contribution to conferences and workshops organized by the project.

The Center for Jewish Studies Heidelberg offers opportunities for individual academic development and an inspiring research environment. The conception and commencement of a habilitation at the University of Heidelberg is possible as part of the project. All employees have the opportunity to teach as part of the courses offered by Heidelberg's Center for Jewish Studies and the University of Heidelberg, as well as the freedom to undergo further training in teaching and science communication. Our qualification concept also includes opportunities for international networking, which the young scientists can take advantage of by participating in workshops by visiting scientists on site and through their own lectures and conference trips.



The project's language of choice, including for publications, is English.

You will be paid a TV-L (E13) salary; the duration of your contract will initially be limited to 36 months, but may be extended for further project phases (conditional on output, and depending on whether the project is prolonged after it has been evaluated).

The position can be split between two people. Applicants with disabilities who possess essentially equal qualifications will be preferred. The Center for Jewish Studies Heidelberg is an equal-opportunity employer committed to excellence through diversity and explicitly encourages women to apply.

Please **electronically** submit the following application documents:

**A. (as one PDF file)**

1. Application letter (letter of motivation)
2. Curriculum vitae
3. List of publications and list of courses taught
4. Degree certificates
5. A sample of your written work (approximate length: 10–12 pages)

B. A letter of recommendation, to be emailed directly by the referrer to [hanna.liss@hfjs.eu](mailto:hanna.liss@hfjs.eu)

Please submit your complete **application, in English or German**, to [hanna.liss@hfjs.eu](mailto:hanna.liss@hfjs.eu) and [hanna.liss@corpusmasoreticum.de](mailto:hanna.liss@corpusmasoreticum.de) no later than **September 17, 2021**.

Letters of recommendation should arrive no later than **October 8, 2021**.

Please address any questions you may have about this job announcement to Prof. Dr. Hanna Liss ([hanna.liss@corpusmasoreticum.de](mailto:hanna.liss@corpusmasoreticum.de)).



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The city of Heidelberg, located in southwest Germany about 50 miles south of Frankfurt, looks back on a history of more than a thousand years. As part of the Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region, it lies only a short distance away from French Alsace, Switzerland, and the Alps.

Heidelberg is built by the Neckar River, quite close to where it flows into the Rhine, and thus affords (and always has afforded) ready access to the **medieval Jewish ShUM cities – Speyer, Worms, and Mainz**. The **Jewish community in Heidelberg** is centered around its Orthodox synagogue, and the city's closeness to **Frankfurt and Strasbourg** make it easy to take advantage of the opportunities offered by these major Jewish centers, too.

Thanks to its romantic cityscape, including Heidelberg Castle, the Philosophers' Walk, and the baroque old town, **Heidelberg is a popular tourist destination**. The city is a hub for the arts and literature, as attested to when it was designated a "City of Literature" by the UNESCO Creative Cities Network in 2014. Leisure activities on offer in the region include hiking and biking opportunities in the Odenwald, boating, and rock climbing. Skiing is available in winter in the **Black Forest**.



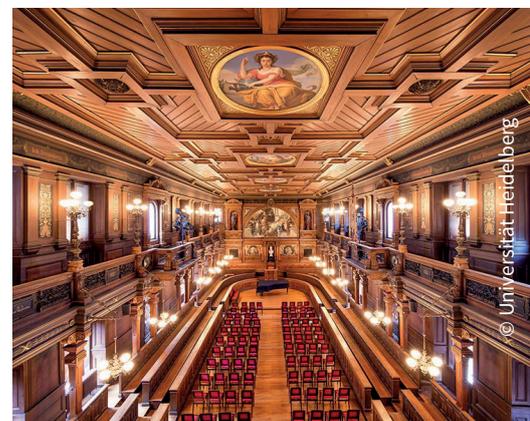
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The **Heidelberg Center for Jewish Studies** was founded in 1979 by the **Central Council of Jews in Germany**, as a hub for dynamic scholarly discussion that would incorporate all facets of Jewish religion, history, cultures, and societies. While its proximity to the historical heritage of Ashkenaz provides the Center with an impetus for both its academic and religious work, its interest extends to all areas of geography and chronology that are of interest for the study of Jewish culture writ large: in the past and present; within a self-reliant Judaism; within the Diaspora; and in the land of Israel. The Center is open to all students and scholars, regardless of their origins and creeds. The Center is built around two important structures, the scientifically oriented **Albert Einstein Library** and the house of religious learning, the **Beit Midrash**, which are separated by a series of seminar rooms. Here, learning about the foundational religious texts of Judaism alongside the campus Rabbi meets study and stimulating academic discourse. The Center, which is equipped with an outstanding **kosher cafeteria**, further caters to the needs of its members for good food and a relaxed social atmosphere.

The **Ruprecht-Karls-Universität of Heidelberg**, founded in 1386, is Germany's oldest and **one of Europe's most reputable universities**. Today, it belongs to a select group of institutes of higher learning that have consistently been designated as "German Excellence Universities," which allows it to take part in an especially large number of research clusters and networks. In international rankings, Heidelberg University routinely places in the top 50 colleges worldwide and enjoys an excellent academic reputation. In addition to the university's and Jewish Center's extensive libraries, Heidelberg offers easy access to nearby **Frankfurt University's famous Judaica collection**.

Our employees have the option of benefiting from **job tickets that give access to the region's well-developed system of public transport** at a significant discount. The system's network reaches far beyond the limits of the city itself; for example, it includes the nearby cities of Mannheim and Weinheim, as well as many rural parts of the Palatinate and Odenwald. For our **employees' family members, working opportunities** in Heidelberg include jobs as research assistants (if they are enrolled at the university) or as visiting researchers. The University of Heidelberg offers **on-campus childcare**, consisting of a choice of two nurseries and two kindergartens, to university members. Moreover, school-age children have options other than attending a German-language school, in the form of affordable alternatives like the **English Institute of Heidelberg** and **Heidelberg International School**, both of which teach their classes in English.

Thus, working and living in Heidelberg, even if only for a couple of years, offers many opportunities for personal growth – not just for our researchers themselves, but for their partners and children, too.



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