

**Dear Schmitties, dear Alumni,  
dear Friends,**

"I am looking at our earth. It is large and radiant and beautiful" – these words have been spoken by Neil Armstrong on the Apollo 11 mission after having landed on the moon in 1969. This winter semester, we will take a look into the opposite direction – from the earth to the sky.

We will deal with basic astronomical questions. We will look at physical principles and, among others, learn about exoplanets, which are planets outside our solar system. Furthermore, we will get an impression of how space research works, how astronauts are trained and how they work. Moreover, we consider the starry sky from a historical and cultural perspective to understand where astronomy began and how its perception has changed over the centuries.

I am delighted to welcome you to the semester program of our Schmittmann-Kolleg!



**Ruben Umbach**

House speaker

Kreuz-Kolleg Benedikt-Schmittmann-Haus e.V.  
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50677 Köln

## Semester Program

Semester Opening	Fr, 04.10.2024
Buffet	07:00 PM
1. House Assembly	Wed, 16.10.2024
	07:00 PM
1. Lecture	Wed, 23.10.2024
	07:00 PM
2. Lecture	Thu, 14.11.2024
	07:00 PM
2. House Assembly	Tue, 19.11.2024
	07:00 PM
Schmittie Trip	28.11. – 01.12.2024
Planetarium Visit	Su, 15.12.2024
	03:00 PM
3. House Assembly	Thu, 09.01.2025
	07:00 PM
Guided Tour at DLR	Tue, 14.01.2025
	02:00 PM

# Starry Sky

Schmittmann-Kolleg  
Semester Program

1. Lecture: Maria Melamed  
**Exoplanets** Wed, 23.10.2024  
07:00 PM

Maria Melamed is a PhD student at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences in the field of astrophysics in Cologne. Being a member of Prof. Dr. Eckhart's working group her research is concerned with black holes and galaxies.

Exoplanets are planets outside our solar system. Maria Melamed will explain in an interactive lecture how to find them and will be then available to answer all our questions.

2. Lecture: Dr. Martin Faber  
**History of Astronomy** Thu, 14.11.2024  
07:00 PM

Dr. Martin Faber is a private lecturer at the Albert-Ludwigs-University in Freiburg. In addition to Polish history and the history of the early modern period his research focuses on the history of natural sciences and astronomy, on which he will give us some insights.

**Schmittie Trip** 28.11. – 01.12.2024

The destination of our Schmittie trip is the Eifel National Park / Vogelsang. Harald Bardenhagen from the astronomy workshop "Sterne ohne Grenzen" will take us on a star hike. We will also visit the former Nazi Ordensburg and today's memorial site in Vogelsang.

**Zeiss-Planetarium Bochum** Su, 15.12.2024  
03:00 PM

A few days before Christmas we will visit the Zeiss Planetarium for a one-hour show called "Fascinating Space".

**DLR** Tue, 14.01.2025  
02:00 PM

The German Aerospace Center and the European Space Agency (ESA) are located in Cologne. We will take part in a 2.5-hour guided tour through the Institutes for Space Medicine, Solar Research, Space Experiments and the European Astronaut Center.

## Contact us

If you would like to participate in one of the events, please contact us in advance by e-mail so that we can schedule you. The lectures are open to the public and will take place on site at the Schmittmann-Kolleg.

For more information, please visit our website or follow us on social media.



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Schmittmann Kolleg

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