

The JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER of the
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES



FELLOWSHIP SEMINARS:



FELIX STEILEN, PHD

Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture - Simon Dubnow
THE JACK, JOSEPH, AND MORTON MANDEL FELLOWSHIP

Berlin in Cincinnati: Scenes from the End of an Intellectual Tradition

A vital center of Jewish higher learning, the Berlin Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums (1872–1942) is part of a larger story about the persecution and subsequent flight of the intellect in Europe. My presentation will look at the final phase of this institution of liberal Judaism through the lens of Cincinnati, based on original sources from the American Jewish Archives. The focus here will be on the end of a small but important rabbinical college, comprising its last years and immediate afterlife. This overview includes scholars like Ismar Elbogen, Jacob Rader Marcus, Leo Strauss, Eugen Täubler and Alexander Guttman. As will be shown, the end at least partly denotes a transition. Rather than providing a comprehensive account of a wide and fractured subject, the aim here will be a perspectivation of historical experience through a series of notable scenes and encounters.

Thursday, November 9, 2023, 12:30pm ET

All seminars are held in the Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati International Learning Center at The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, on the campus of Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion.

