



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

German 200
Made in Germany
Fall 2019
Time: TR 11:00 – 12:15
Location: SA 119

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Jan Süselbeck

OFFICE LOCATION: CHC 118

OFFICE HOURS: by appointment

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 403-220-7316

E-MAIL: jan.suselbeck@ucalgary.ca

DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introduction to the culture of modern Germany in the 20th and 21st century. You will learn about German history, art, literature and film. Our readings will introduce you to major historical and cultural developments from the Wilhelmine Period over World War I, the Weimar Republic, the "Third Reich", World War II and the Holocaust, to Post-war Germany, the (nowadays again looming) nuclear arms race of the 1980s and its effect in the German society of the Bonn Republic, the Fall of the Wall and the present-day Germany of the Berlin Republic.

Main topics of the course are the two World Wars and the Holocaust, as well as their interpretation in historiography and in cultural studies. We also will analyse pre-fascism cinema by Leni Riefenstahl and other art from the time of the Weimar Republic including the worldwide renowned Bauhaus school of architecture and design which this year marks its 100th anniversary. We will read about Germany's literary culture after 1945, and eventually enter the German pop history of the 1980s and 1990s.

Our main reading sources will be Oliver Hilmes' recently translated book *Berlin 1936: Sixteen Days in August* (published in 2018), a literary collage of historical scenes around the Olympics in Nazi Germany, and excerpts from Ian Kershaw's historiographical study *To Hell and Back. Europe 1914-1949*.

You **must purchase both books** as required texts. The UofC bookstore has ordered enough copies. Of course, you are also free to buy the books elsewhere or to get digital copies if available. All the other texts will be made available through hyperlinks or as pdfs via D2L.

OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to make you excel in knowledge about major aspects of German literary history, German art, film, pop and rock music since the beginning of the 20th century.

OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand main parts of Germany's history and culture since 1900. They will be trained to closely observe, read and analyse historiographic texts, literary texts and film. They will have enhanced their presentation, reading and writing skills. Last, but not least, they will have learned how to do bibliographic research for writing individual academic papers.



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DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Presentation 20%
Tickets to class/participation 15%
Peer Review of 6-pages paper draft 5% (due on Tuesday, November 21st)
One 6-page paper 30% (These papers are due on Friday, December 8, 2017).
Final exam (2 hours) 30%

GRADING SCALE

A+ (97-100 %), **A** (91-96%), **A-** (86-91)
B+ (81-85%), **B** (76-80%), **B-** (71-75)
C+ (67-70%), **C** (62-66%), **C-** (58-61%)
D+ (54-57%), **D** (50-53%), **F** (0-49 %)

REQUIRED TEXTS

Oliver Hilmes, *Berlin 1936: Sixteen Days in August*, Bodley Head (April 24 2018).
Ian Kershaw, *To Hell and Back. Europe 1914-1949*, Allan Lane / Penguin Books 2015.
All other readings will be available through the D2L.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

COURSE NOTES

All numbers about the page lengths of assignments refer to the layout: double spaced, font Times / Times New Roman 12, 1 inch margins.

Attendance and Participation are the key factors of this class. Participation means active engagement in the activities of the class (with your ideas you improve the discussions for everybody); it is based on thorough readings of the assigned texts, films, and other homework assignments. Attendance is mandatory; unexcused absences will result in a lower participation grade. The quality of the sessions will depend upon your preparedness and willingness to engage with each other. Please note that you do not have to have understood everything you have read to make a valuable contribution. Expressing doubts, disagreements, and asking for clarification is a useful way of contributing to discussion. Your class participation mark will be based on the quality rather than the quantity of your contribution. Also, it is essential that all participants treat each other with respect and courtesy. Students who feel unable to actively engage in classroom discussion must bring their concerns to the instructor's attention early so that an alternative strategy to ensure adequate performance can be sought. Unexplained absences will be penalized up to a loss of a full letter on the final grade. Also, please don't use electronic devices during class except for accessing digital copies of the required texts on a reading device, as using computers or cell phones for other purposes might distract you as well as those around you.

Missed presentations, missed tests, missed deadlines: Expected to contact the instructor prior to the missed class / deadline in order to reschedule the presentation (phone / email) or in order to ask for an extension.

Group Presentation: This group work is an opportunity to introduce, in approximately 20 minutes maximum, a historical character / chapter / aspect of Oliver Hilmes' book *Berlin 1936: Sixteen Days in August*. The group presentations about this book will take place from Oct. 24th to November 5th. The goal of the work will be to more closely understand the difference between fiction, artistic representation and historical truth. Everyone will have to join on of these group presentations. Powerpoint presentation or 1 or 2 pages handout for class to be handed in one day before presentation; 10-20 minutes of presentation in class.



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The *Ticket to Class* tests the students' understanding of the assigned readings or movies to be watched. You might be asked to answer a short quiz at the beginning of a class. Further, you may be asked to come up with a good written question based on the reading / the movie, to respond to a question or issue raised by the lecture, or to write an abstract. Summarizing your ideas on course material helps you to formulate your research question in a precise and focused way. Bibliographic references will support, deepen and extend your thoughts.

Updated reading (for example of theoretical texts or interpretations), homework as well as schedule changes will be announced in class or via e-mail. Please check your UofC accounts on a daily basis.

Peer review of 6-pages paper draft: There will be one compulsory meeting in which you'll have to bring your planned 6-pages paper in a 2/3 ready version and have it reviewed by other students during class (November 21st). That review form will have to be handed in with the final version of your paper.

6-pages paper: You will be required to write one 6-pages paper. It will be about one of the texts or movies discussed in this class, or an aspect of these works. Possible topics for these papers will be provided by the instructor or can be discussed with him beforehand.

If you are a major or graduate student in our German programs, you are encouraged to write in German; if you are not a native speaker, this will of course be taken into account. At the discretion of the instructor, a paper submitted after the deadline may be penalized with the loss of a grade (e.g.: A- to B+) for each day late. These 6-pages papers are due on Thursday, December 5th, 2019.

Final Exam: After the end of Fall Term, there will be one last 2-hour exam. In this exam, you will have to respond shortly to some questions and write an three-pages mini-essay about your learnings.

Writing skills statement: All writings assignments will be marked according to content, form, analysis, and originality as well as clarity of writing including grammar, spelling, and organization. To improve your writing skills, contact the Effective Writing Centre: https://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/overview.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.



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3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>).

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.



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For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

A link to required information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources, can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.