

---

## Course Syllabus

---

### Course Information

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	Hist 4344
<i>Course Title</i>	Topics in Thought and Society: Berlin: History of a City
<i>Term</i>	Summer 2007
<i>Days &amp; Times</i>	Monday and Tuesday, 11:30am-12:45pm
<i>Room</i>	JO4.102

---

### Professor Contact Information

<i>Professor</i>	Nils Roemer
<i>Office Phone</i>	972-8832769
<i>Email Address</i>	nroemer@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	JO 5.516
<i>Office Hours</i>	By appointment

---

### Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

No prior background is assumed or required.

---

### Course Description

Berlin is a quintessentially modern city. It was at once an important center of population, economic, and culture, as well as a place of exchange of goods, ideas, and peoples from across the world. The course will explore issues of industrialization, urban renewal and planning, space, class, and migration. Key factors we will look at are class, gender, ethnicity, consumer culture, crime, and the representation of the city in literature, art, and film. This course will moreover focus on the major events and conflicts that have left their mark on the city: the rise of the modern metropolis, economic depression and social unrest, the two World Wars, Nazism and the Holocaust, the Cold War and its aftermath.

---

### Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

The course aims to introduce you to exploring aspects of modern urban cultures and to study modern German history from the perspective of Berlin. You will investigate the experience of modernity through textual and visual sources.

---

### Required Textbooks and Materials

Ronald Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait* (Yale University Press, 1997)

---

## Suggested Course Materials

Thomas Friedrich, *Berlin Between the Wars* (1991)  
Peter Fritzsche, *Reading Berlin 1900* (1996)  
David Clay Large, *Berlin: A Modern History* (2001)  
Ronald Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait* (1997)  
Anthony Read and David Fisher, *Berlin. The Biography of a City* (1994)  
Alexandra Richie, *Faust's Metropolis: A History of Berlin* (1998)

### Source Collection

Anton Kaes, Martin Jay and Edward Dimendberg, eds. *The Weimar Republic Sourcebook* (1994)  
McElligott, Anthony, ed. *German Urban Experience 1900-1945: Modernity and Crisis* (2001)

---

## Assignments & Academic Calendar

### Course Requirements/Evaluations Criteria

Attendance and class participation, three papers ranging from five to six pages, a mid-term, and a final examination.

### Examination

There will be a mid-term and a final. The final will not be comprehensive.

### Essays

One interpretation of a primary source, a research essay, and a book review of Ronald Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait* (1997) are required. The primary source and the topic of the research essay will be chosen in consultation with me.

---

## Course Schedule

1. Introduction (January 7)

2. From the Center of the Enlightenment to the German Capital (January 9)

Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait*, 55-152

3. The New Capital (January 14)

Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait*, 153-209

4. Urbanization (January 16)

Klaus Tenfelde, "Urbanization and the Spread of an Urban Culture in Germany in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries," in *Towards an Urban Nation: Germany since 1780*, ed. Friedrich Lenger (2002), 24-42

Iain Boyd Whyte, "Berlin 1870-1945—An Introduction Framed by Architecture," in *The Divided Heritage: Themes and Problems in German Modernism*, ed. Irit Rogoff (1991), 223-252

Film: *People on Sunday* (Billy Wilder et al, 1929)

MLK day, January 21

#### 5. The City and its Critics (January 23)

Anthony McElligott, ed., *German Urban Experience 1900-1945: Modernity and Crisis* (2001), 10-11, 28-30

Max Nordau, "Degeneration," in *The Fin de Siècle: A Cultural History c. 1880-1900*, eds. Sally Ledger and Roger Luckhurst (2000), 13-17

Georg Simmel, "The Metropolis and Mental Life," in *The City Cultures Reader*, ed. Malcolm Miles, Tim Hall, and Iain Borden (2000), 12-19

#### 6. Berlin and the War (January 28)

Joshua Cole, "The Transition to Peace, 1918-1919," in *Capital Cities at War: London, Paris, Berlin, 1914-1919*, ed. Jay Winter and Jean-Louis Robert (1997), 196-226

Peter Jelavich, "German Culture in the Great War," in *European culture in the Great War: The Arts, Entertainment, and Propaganda, 1914-1918*, ed. Aviel Roshwald and Richard Stites (1999), 32-58

"World War I and Its Aftermath: Käthe Schmidt Kollwitz (1867-1945) and Erich Maria Remarque (1898-1970)" in *Sharing the Stage: Biography and Gender in Western Civilization*, ed. Jane Slaughter and Melissa K. Bokovoy (2003), 255-89

#### 7. Berlin Metropolis I (January 30)

*The Weimar Republic Sourcebook*, ed. Anton Kaes, Martin Jay, and Edward Dimendberg (1994), 414-28

Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait*, 210-261

#### PRIMARY SOURCE INTERPRETATION IS DUE (February 4)

#### 8. Berlin Metropolis II (February 4)

Film: *Berlin: Symphony of a City* (Watch on YouTube)

#### 9. The New Woman (February 6)

*The Weimar Republic Sourcebook* (1994), 195-219

Anthony McElligott ed., *German Urban Experience 1900-1945: Modernity and Crisis* (2001), 197-206

No Class February 11

Film *M: Eine Stadt sucht einen Mörder* (Fritz Lang, 1931). Watch online.

*The Weimar Republic Sourcebook*, ed. Anton Kaes, Martin Jay, and Edward Dimendberg (1994), 632-633  
Siegfried Kracauer, *From Caligari to Hitler: A Psychological History of the German Film* (2004), 215-222

No Class February 13

10. Dangers, Depression, and Suspicion in the City (February 18)

Anthony McElligott, ed., *German Urban Experience 1900-1945: Modernity and Crisis* (2001), 80-81, 83, 87, and 227-228  
Dorothy Rowe, *Representing Berlin: Sexuality and the City in Imperial and Weimar Germany* (2003), 81-89  
Beth Irwin Lewis, "Lustmord: Inside the Window of the Metropolis," in *Berlin: Culture and Metropolis*, ed. Charles W. Haxthausen and Heidrun Suhr (1990), 111-140

11. Race and Urban Identities (February 20)

Joseph Roth, *What I Saw: Reports From Berlin, 1920-1933* (2003), 31-50  
David Clay Large, "'Out with the Ostjuden': The Scheunenviertel Riots in Berlin, November 1923," in *Exclusionary Violence: Antisemitic Riots in Modern German History* (2002), 123-40  
Nancy Nenno, "Femininity, the Primitive, and Modern Urban Space: Josephine Baker in Berlin," in *Women in the Metropolis: Gender and Modernity in Weimar Culture*, ed. Katharina von Ankum (1997), 145-161

12. Midterm (February 25)

13. Consumption and the City (March 3)

Anton Kaes, Martin Jay, and Edward Dimendberg eds., *The Weimar Republic Sourcebook* (1994), 551-567 and 655-672  
Anthony McElligott ed., *German Urban Experience 1900-1945: Modernity and Crisis* (2001), 121-123, 129-148, and 156-159  
Alexandra Richie, *Faust's Metropolis* (1998), 325-361

14. Berlin Cabaret as Political Expression (March 5)

*The Weimar Republic Sourcebook*, ed. Anton Kaes, Martin Jay, and Edward Dimendberg (1994), 554-56; 558-60; 562-67  
Peter Jelavich, *Berlin Cabaret* (1993), 197-227

Spring Break, March 10-15

15. The City of the Future (March 17)

Anton Kaes, Martin Jay, and Edward Dimendberg eds., *The Weimar Republic Sourcebook* (1994), 623-625  
Andreas Huyssen, "The Vamp and the Machine: Fritz Lang's Metropolis," *After the Great Divide* (1986), 65-81

Film: *Metropolis* (Fritz Lang, 1926), in class

16. Berlin the Capital of the Third Reich (March 19)

George L. Mosse, *Nazi Culture: Intellectual, Cultural and Social Life in the Third Reich* (1966), introduction and 133-196

David Clay Large, *Berlin* (2000), 255-317

Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait*, 262-286

Alexandra Richie, *Faust's Metropolis* (1998), 362-406

17. Albert Speer's Berlin (March 24)

Albert Speer, "Responsibility and Response," *Journal of Architectural Education* 32, no. 2 (1978)

Paul B. Jaskot, "Anti-Semitic Policy in Albert Speer's Plans for the Rebuilding of Berlin," *Art Bulletin* 78: 4 (December 1996), 622-32

Stephen Helmer, *Hitler's Berlin: The Speer Plans for Reshaping the Central City* (1985), 27-48

Film: *Olympia, Festival of the Nations* (Leni Riefenstahl, 1936), in class

18. Berlin and the World War (March 26)

Brian Ladd, *The Ghosts of Berlin* (1997), 127-173

Jean Edward Smith, *The Defense of Berlin* (1963), 376-387

Christian Gerlach, "The Wannsee Conference, the Fate of German Jews and Hitler's Decision in Principle to Exterminate all European Jews," Omer Bartov, ed., *The Holocaust. Origins, Implementation, Aftermath* (2000), 106-161

RESEARCH ESSAY IS DUE (March 31)

19. The Liberation of Berlin (March 31)

Le Tissier, *The Battle of Berlin 1945* (1988), 190 – 226

Anthony Read, *The Fall of Berlin* (1993), selection

20. Zero Hour and Rebuilding (April 2)

Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait*, 287-302

21. Dividing Berlin the Wall (April 7)

John F. Kennedy, "Ich bin ein Berliner,"

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jfkberliner.html>

Richard L. Merritt, "A Transformed Crisis: The Berlin Wall," Richard L. Merritt and Anna J. Merritt, ed. *Living with the Wall: West Berlin, 1961-1985* (1985), 3-36

Frederick Taylor, *The Berlin Wall: A World Divided, 1961-1989* (2006), 334-351

Ann Tusa, *The Last Division: A History of Berlin, 1945-1989* (1997), 3-29

22. Berlin between East and West (April 9)

Juergen Engert, "Berlin between East and West: Lessons for a Confused World," Richard L. Merritt and Anna J. Merritt, ed. *Living with the Wall: West Berlin, 1961-1985* (1985), 149-165

Taylor, *Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait*, 302-385

Film: *The Spy who came in from the Cold* (Martin Ritt, 1965)

### 23. Berlin the New Capital (April 14)

<http://www.mckinnonsc.vic.edu.au/la/lote/german/links/topics/mauerfall.htm>

### 24. Berlin and its Memory (April 16)

Sveltlana Boym, *The Future of Nostalgia* (2001), 173-218

Andreas Huyssen, "The Voids of Berlin," *Critical Inquiry* 24:1 (Autumn 1997), 57-

### BOOK REVIEW IS DUE (April 21)

### 25. Ostalgia (April 21)

Roger F. Cook, "Good Bye, Lenin! Free-Market Nostalgia for Socialist Consumerism," *Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies* 43:2 (2007), 206-219

"Souvenirs de Berlin-Est": History, Photos, and Form in Texts by Daniela Dahn, Irina Liebmann, and Sophie Calle," *Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies* 43:2 (2007), 221-233

Film: *Goodbye Lenin* (Wolfgang Becker, 2004)

### 26. Final (April 23)

### 27. Conclusion (April 28)

---

## Grading Policy

Three papers (each 20%) and two exams (each 20%). Grades are based on clarity, analysis, understanding of the subject, and creativity. In addition, you must comply with university policies regarding dishonesty, cheating and plagiarism.

---

## Course & Instructor Policies

Attendance and class participation. *Make-up exams are possible only in special cases.* Late papers will lose 10% of their value for every day they are late – after ten days the grade is 0.

---

## Technical Support

If you experience any problems with your UTD account you may send an email to: [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto:assist@utdallas.edu) or call the UTD Computer Helpdesk at 972-883-2911.

---

## **Field Trip Policies**

### **Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities**

*Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address [http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel\\_Risk\\_Activities.htm](http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm). Additional information is available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.*

---

## **Student Conduct & Discipline**

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD printed publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Series 50000, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391) and online at <http://www.utdallas.edu/judicialaffairs/UTDJudicialAffairs-HOPV.html>

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

## **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic Dishonesty, any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are

attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials, including music and software. Copying, displaying, reproducing, or distributing copyrighted works may infringe the copyright owner's rights and such infringement is subject to appropriate disciplinary action as well as criminal penalties provided by federal law. Usage of such material is only appropriate when that usage constitutes "fair use" under the Copyright Act. As a UT Dallas student, you are required to follow the institution's copyright policy (Policy Memorandum 84-I.3-46). For more information about the fair use exemption, see <http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/copypol2.htm>

### **Email Use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

### **Withdrawal from Class**

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

### **Student Grievance Procedures**



Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

### **Disability Services**

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22

PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

[disabilityservice@utdallas.edu](mailto:disabilityservice@utdallas.edu)

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services. The Coordinator is available to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Services to notify them of your eligibility for reasonable

accommodations. Disability Services can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

### **Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

***These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.***

