# Course Syllabus

## Course Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number/Section</th>
<th>Hist 4339</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Title</td>
<td>Topics in Thought and Society: Berlin: History of a City</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Fall 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days &amp; Times</td>
<td>Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30am-9:45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room</td>
<td>JO 4.502</td>
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## Professor Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Nils Roemer</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>972-8832769</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>JO 4.800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>By appointment</td>
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## 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

- Rory MacLean, *Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries* (2015), 1250074908

## Suggested Course Materials

- Peter Fritsche, *Reading Berlin 1900* (1996)
Assignments & Academic Calendar

Course Requirements/Evaluations Criteria
Attendance and class participation, two papers ranging from five to six pages, a mid-term, and a final examination.

Examination
There will be a final exam.

Essays
You will be required to write five source annotations, create a time line, and write one research paper. The topic of the research essay will be chosen in consultation with me.

Electronic Course Reserves:
Password:

Course Schedule

1. Introduction (January 14)

2. From the Center of the Enlightenment to the German Capital (August 23)
Taylor, Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait, 55-88

3. The New Capital (August 25)
David Clay Large, Berlin: A Modern History (2001), 1-45
Rory MacLean, Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries (2015), 55-67

4. Urbanization (September 1)
Rory MacLean, Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries (2015), 85-97
Film: People on Sunday (Billy Wilder et al, 1929)

5. The City and its Critics (September 6)

6. Urban Architecture (September 8): Group Project: JS Timeline
Alexanderplatz
Unter den Linden
Reichstag
Rotes Rathaus und Rathaus Schoeneberg
Bode Museum
Alte Nationalgalerie

7. Berlin and the War (September 13)
Rosa Luxemburg, Order Prevails in Berlin (1919)
http://www.marxists.org/archive/luxemburg/1919/01/14.htm
"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

8. Berlin Metropolis II (September 15)
Film: *Berlin: Symphony of a City* (Watch on YouTube)

9. Expressionism and the City (September 20)

11. The City and Literature (September 22)
Berthold Brecht, *The Three-Penny Opera* (in class)

12. The New Woman (September 27)
The Weimar Republic Sourcebook (1994), 195-219
Rory MacLean, *Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries* (2015),199-213
13. Dangers, Depression, and Suspicion in the City (October 4)
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
Film M: Eine Stadt sucht einen Moerder (Fritz Lang, 1931). Watch online.

14. Race and Urban Identities (October 6)

15. Consumer Culture and the City (October 11)
Alexandra Richie, Faust's Metropolis (1998), 325-361

16. The City of the Future (October 13)
Film: Metropolis (Fritz Lang, 1926), in class

17. Berlin: The Capital of the Third Reich (October 18)
George L. Mosse, Nazi Culture: Intellectual, Cultural and Social Life in the Third Reich (1966), introduction and 133-196
Taylor, Berlin and Its Culture: A Historical Portrait, 262-286

18. Albert Speer’s Berlin (October 20)
Rory MacLean, Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries (2015), 219-235 and 239-248
Stephen Helmer, Hitler's Berlin: The Speer Plans for Reshaping the Central City (1985), 27-48
Richard Evans, The Third Reich in Power (2006), 570-573
Film: Olympia, Festival of the Nations (Leni Riefenstahl, 1936)


20. *Berlin and the Air Raids* (October 27)
Rory MacLean, *Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries* (2015), 253-274
Film: *The Downfall* (2004)

RESEARCH ESSAY IS DUE (November 1)

21. *Zero Hour and Rebuilding* (November 1)

22. *Dividing Berlin: The Wall* (November 3)
Rory MacLean, *Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries* (2015), 277-293 and 319-327

23. *Barricades in Berlin* (November 8)
Film: *Bader-Meinhof Complex*

24. *The City Between Hope and Despair* (November 10)
Rory MacLean, *Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries* (2015), 331-347
Film: *Wings of Desire* (Wim Wenders 1987)
25. Berlin the New Capital I (November 15)
David Clay Large, Berlin: A Modern History (2001), 517-583

Rory MacLean, Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries (2015), 381-387
Cornelia Wilhelm, "Diversity in Germany: A Historical Perspective," in German Politics & Society 31.2 (2013), 13-29

Thanksgiving Holidays, November 21-25

27. Das Haus (November 29)

28. Coffee in Berlin (December 1)
Rory MacLean, Berlin: Portrait of a City Through the Centuries (2015), 391-402
Film: A Coffee in Berlin (2014)

29. Conclusion (December 6)

Grading Policy
Five annotations (20%), a timeline (20%), one paper (20%), and a final exam (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.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures:
http://provost.utdallas.edu/home/syllabus-policies-and-procedures-text
The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.