

Germany since 1945: *From the Stasi to the Greens* COURSE SYLLABUS

Introduction and Goals

Prior to 1945 Germany was the primary instigator of two world wars and the perpetrator of the most carefully organized and institutionalized genocide in the history of the world. However, within a decade its western part was one of the Western alliance's most reliable allies, while its eastern part was an crucial part of the security buffer Stalin had created for the Soviet Union. West Germany was a "bastion of democracy" buffering capitalist western from communist eastern Europe, while East Germany was a laboratory experiment in "real existing socialism" under the constraints of Cold War competition. By the late 1960s, one of the best organized grassroots movements in European history began to emerge in the West, entering mainstream politics as the Green party in the 1970s. A highly effective state security apparatus stifled civic activism in the East until the late 1980s, but then it burst forth in a sudden, peaceful revolution that felled the government in 10 months.

Research shows that a few months after taking a course most students remember only 8-15% of the factual material from that course. Thus I try to emphasize themes and skills that may have more lasting value. In this course we will practice applying concepts and interpreting evidence to draw conclusions about the causes and consequences of historical developments in recent German history.

Requirements

1. **Attendance.** I expect you to **attend** all classes and scheduled evening events. Why take a course if you don't make the effort to learn what it teaches? Lectures include images, videos, discussion and information not available elsewhere. I call roll until I learn your names. Participation counts for 5% of the course grade. If you wish to have an excused absence, including undocumented medical absences, you must inform me by e-mail or phone message *before* the class in question begins.
2. **Midterm--"10 questions."** There will NOT be a formal midterm examination. Instead, you will be asked to write a short text (200-300 words) on simple questions about the assigned readings or films, roughly once each week. These **ten questions** will generally be announced in advance. They are worth 40% of the final grade. (This is a lot--and plays a large role in determining your final grade.)
Make-up questions are only possible for absences excused prior to the start of class.
3. **Book essay.** A **proposal** (1-2 pages), **draft**, and a **final version** (1800 words, 5-6 pages). This paper is based primarily on one book, but requires some research. (See the blue handout for details.) The proposal is due Friday, Jan. 27; the draft Friday, Feb. 17; and the final version Friday, March 10, always at the beginning of class. Together they count for 5+20+5=30% of your final grade.
4. A **take-home final examination** will have 3 IDs chosen from 9, and one essay question. It is worth 25%. A study guide may be distributed in advance.
No-exam option: Students receiving a B+ or better on their paper draft may opt out of taking the final exam. If they want to opt for this, they must submit their final version on Friday, May 25. They must then submit, by June 8, a corrected and augmented electronic version for publication on the course web site. This web version must include a *60-word project abstract* and an *annotated bibliography and linkography*. The grade of this final version will count as the exam grade. Details will be available on a separate web option handout.

Grading: Participation: 5%; 10 questions: 40%; proposal+draft+book essay: 30%; final exam: 25%.
Work submitted after 11:00am on the due date will lose one point per day.

Required Books

- **Textbook:** Mary Fulbrook, *History of Germany 1918-2000: The Divided Nation* (Blackwell, 2002). Textbook focusing on the post-1945 period. [the 1992 Oxford edition, *The Divided Nation: A History of Germany, 1918-1990*, also ok]
- **Readings on eres;** copy of textbook available as well: DD240.F85 1992eb.
- Bernhard Schlink, *The Reader* [person who reads aloud] (Vintage, 1995), 224 pages.
- Timothy Garton Ash: *The File: A Personal History* (Random House, 1997), 256 pages

Schedule of Lectures and Assignments

Wk-L#	Date	Topic	Assignment
I-1 2 3	2 Apr. 4 Apr. 6 Apr.	Introduction: "From the Stasi to the Greens" What is Germany?--3 Empires & 4 Republics What is Germany, cont'd: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly	Textbook chaps. 1, 14
II-4 5 6	9 Apr. 11 Apr. 13 Apr.	World War I and Weimar Germany: Seminal Experiences Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, I & II: What Postwar German Politicians Experienced	Textbook chaps. 2+3 Textbook chaps. 4+5 start Schlink
III-7 8 9	15 Apr. 16 Apr. 18 Apr. 20 Apr.	Sun. 3pm , 781 Embarcadero d.Mar: Saul Friedländer Defeat and its Legacies, I; discussion of Schlink Tue., 7-9pm , Corwin: film <i>Walk on Water</i> w/ director Defeat and its Legacies, II Thu. 5pm , IV Th.2: Prof. Marcuse on Holocaust memorials Occupation Policies: 4 Ds, 2 Rs, and 2 turn-arounds	extra credit for attendance finish Schlink extra credit for attendance chapters by Prof. Mahlendorf Textbook chap. 6
IV-10 11 12	23 Apr. 25 Apr. 27 Apr.	The 1953 Uprisings Continuities in the West; 7:30pm: Rape of Europe. Uniting vs. Dividing Germany: 1952 to the Berlin Wall	BOOK PROPOSAL DUE Textbook chap. 7 source texts
V-13 14 15	30 Apr. 2 May 4 May	The Building of the Wall; 6:30pm: The Promise Separate Lives: The 1960s West German Foreign Relations in the 1960s and 70s	Evening Film Textbook ch.8a+b; & chap. 10 Textbook ch.8c+d (1970s+80s)
VI-16 17 18	6 May 7 May 9 May 11 May	Sun., 3-5pm , 524 Chapala: Judaken on French Antisem. discussion with Prof. J. Judaken: German Antisemitism West Germany and the Nazi Past I West Germany and the Nazi Past II PAPERS DUE	extra credit for attendance Horkheimer/Adorno text (eres) PAPERS DUE at start of class
VII-19 20 21	14 May 16 May 18 May	Socialist Republic vs. Capitalist Democracy Dissent in the West The Environmental Movement	Textbook chaps. 9 and 12 Textbook ch. 11d (D&O in W.) Texts on the German Greens
VIII-22 23 24	21 May 23 May 25 May	Dissent and the Stasi State in the East Building a Mass Movement The Opening of the Berlin Wall WEB OPTION DUE DATE	Textbook ch. 11a-c; Philipsen text Textbook ch. 13 WEB OPTION SUPPLEMENTS DUE
IX-xx 25 26	28 May 30 May 1 June	<i>No class, Memorial Day</i> Democratic Socialism or Socialist Democracy? Discussion of Ash, <i>The File</i>	start Ash, <i>The File</i> finish Ash REVISED PAPERS DUE
X-27 28 29	4 June 6 June 8 June	Student presentations Evening Film: Goodbye Lenin Discussion of <i>Goodbye Lenin</i> ; Presentations/Overview Final discussion	Evening Film Textbook chap. 14
EXAM	14 June	Thu., 3pm: FINAL EXAM DUE in my office, HSSB 4221	take-home exam

Plagiarism—presenting someone else's work as your own, or deliberately failing to credit or attribute the work of others on whom you draw (including materials found on the web)—is a serious academic offense, punishable by dismissal from the university. It hurts the one who commits it most of all, by cheating them out of an education. I will report offenses to the appropriate university authorities for disciplinary action.