

# **POLI 120 D: Germany: Before, During, and After Division (Spring 2018)**

**Instructor: Professor Joerg Neuheiser (jneuheiser@ucsd.edu)**

**Place: Sequo 148**

**Office Hours: Wednesday 1pm – 3pm and by appointment in H&SS 6071**

**Time: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12.00 – 12.50pm**

## **Course Description:**

Germany is a pivotal actor in post-Cold War Europe. It is the largest financial contributor to the European Union (EU) budget, plays a significant role in the political and institutional evolution of the EU and its economic performance is crucial to the future of the wider European economy. It is a key member of NATO and, as such, performs an essential role in maintaining the transatlantic relationship with the US. Germany also performs a vital bridging role in east-west European relations as it has closer ties to Russia than any other West-European country and, as one of the world's largest export nations, Germany has close links with China, Japan and the other major trading nations of the world. Understanding Germany's role today, however, requires understanding Germany's history in the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Politics in Germany remain highly influenced by the country's Nazi past and the legacies of the country's division after World War II. This course will consider the development of the German political system prior to and since unification; it will also consider long-term developments in German history during the 20<sup>th</sup> century and assess methodological differences between the disciplines of history and political science.

Upon successful completion, you will have:

- An overview of the historical context of contemporary German politics;
- a general understanding of the nature of Germany's division in the past and its legacies today, including an overview of political structures in the former East and West Germany;
- a general understanding of German federalism, governance and decision-making, political leadership, the party system and voting behavior;
- an appreciation of current political debates covering political, institutional, economic and social reform as well as Germany's evolving role in European and global affairs.

## **Course Requirements:**

### **1. Attendance:**

Regular class attendance and completion of the weekly reading assignments will be absolutely crucial for success in this class. Although this is a lecture course, I will make every effort to encourage student participation through discussion and group exercises. Lectures and classroom discussions will complement the course, not duplicate the readings.

### **2. i-clickers**

This course uses i-clickers. You need to make sure to register your i-clicker through the TED website. I will use i-clicker in two different ways. First, at the beginning of each Friday class (starting in Week 2), I will ask two or three “red questions” related to the readings. These are comprehension questions, and you will be able to answer them if you have completed the reading assignments. I will not count the two lowest scores; this is also why there are no “make-up” quizzes if you miss one of them. Then I will ask a series of “green questions” throughout the lectures (on Mon and Wed). They have no “right” or “wrong” answer and are supposed to foster discussion and peer-instruction. You will simply get points for participation. Your red-questions scores will count for 20% of the final grade, the green-questions score will count for 10%. The i-clicker grade replaces the midterm.

### **3. Exams and Writing Assignments:**

Writing assignments include a 3,000-words essay due at the end of Week 6 and a final exam (take-home exam). Your final grade will be calculated as following: Paper 30%, i-clicker scores 30%, Final Exam 40%.

### **4. Grading:**

Every student has to make a reasonable, good faith effort to complete all the course assignments in order to pass the course. Late papers will be penalized, make-up exams are only possible in the case of documented valid excuses. Throughout the quarter, I will coordinate with the reader’s grading policies and criteria for evaluating the written assignments. If you are unhappy with a grade you have received for one of the assignment, you must submit a written complaint to me no later than one week after we have returned the assignment. This will ensure a fair and standardized procedure for dealing with your complaint. I will not consider any later complaints. I will not determine the final grade on a purely mathematical basis. For example, I will take into consideration improvement over the course of the quarter, contributions to in-class discussions etc.

### **5. Course Policy:**

#### **a. Academic Integrity:**

It is your responsibility to know and observe all the UCSD rules concerning academic integrity and plagiarism. You will have submit your writing assignments electronically via Turnitin (link on TED website).\* Any student found to have committed a violation of the university rules concerning academic integrity will face academic and administrative consequences. I will report all suspected academic misconduct to the Academic Integrity Office, in accordance with University policy. Administrative sanctions can range from disciplinary probation to suspension and dismissal from the university.

Academic sanctions can range from an F on the assignment to an F in the class. Please also make sure to observe the rules for collaboration in preparing the writing assignment and the final take-home exam. It is fine, even encouraged, to discuss the course material with your peers. But your papers should reflect your own individual original thinking about the course themes and material. If you have any questions whatsoever about what constitutes plagiarism, how to properly credit the work and ideas of others, what constitutes permissible cooperation with other students, how to evaluate sources for quality and reliability, and so on, please feel free to contact me.

[\*Students agree that by taking this course all required papers will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site]

### **b. Conduct in Class**

Please don't talk during class unless asked to discuss questions. Also, please do not start packing up your belongings before the end of the class. I will end my lectures on time (even if I have to stop in mid-sentence), so please give me the full 50 minutes.

### **c. Course Website**

Throughout the quarter, I will make extensive use of a course website. It is essential that every student has regular access to this website. You will need your UCSD user ID and password to log on. The site contains will include my power point slides. However, I would like to emphasize strongly that the online materials are not sufficient to replace attendance of the lectures. They should help students to follow the lectures and to review the course material in preparation for the exams; they are not supposed to substitute face-to-face interaction in the classroom.

## **COURSE READINGS:**

Fulbrook, Mary: *A History of Germany 1918 – 2014: The Divided Nation*. Chichester: Wiley Blackwell 2015. (Free e-book available via Geisel library)

Green, Simon; Dan Hough and Alister Miskimmon: *The Politics of the New Germany*. London: Routledge 2012. (Free e-book available via Geisel library)

Jaraus, Konrad: *After Hitler: Recivilizing Germans, 1945 – 1995*. Oxford: OUP 2006.

Padgett, Stephen; William Paterson and Reimut Zohlnhöfer (eds.): *Developments in German Politics 4*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan 2014

### **Films: (available via Geisel library)**

Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck: *“Lives of Others”* (2006)

Leander Haußmann: *“Sonnenallee”* (1999)

Wolfgang Becker: *“Good Bye, Lenin”* (2004)

## **Week 1: Introduction**

### **1) April 2: Introduction: German History and German Politics**

### **2) April 4: Why Care About Germany?**

Padgett, *Developments*, pp. 1-16: Introduction

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 1-11: The Course of German History

### **3) April 6: Germany in 2018**

Timothy Garton Ash: "It's the Kultur, Stupid", in: *The New York Review of Books*, December 7, 2017 (PDF on TED)

## **Week 2: The Burden of History**

### **4) April 9: The Weimar Republic**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 8-25: "Germany and the Burden of History"

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 13-39: "The Weimar Republic: Origins and Orientations"

### **5) April 11: Nazi Germany, 1933 - 1939**

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 40-79: Chapters 3 and 4

### **6) April 13: The Second World War and the Holocaust**

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 80-109: "War, Extermination and Defeat"

Jarausch, *After Hitler*, pp. 3-19: "Rupture of Civilization"

## **Week 3: Cold War Germany:**

### **7) April 16: Division**

Jarausch, *After Hitler*, pp. 19-45: "Forced Reorientation" and "Renouncing War"

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 113-141: "Occupation and Division"

### **8) April 18: West Germany under Adenauer**

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 142-163: Crystallization and Consolidation, 1949-1961"

### **9) April 20: The GDR as a Failed Alternative?**

Jarausch, *After Hitler*, pp. 72-96: "Rejecting the Plan"

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 164-182: "Transformation and the 'Established Phase', 1961-1988"

## **Week 4: Life in the GDR and Unification (23 pages + 3films)**

### **10) April 23: The End of Communism**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 49-72: "Towards German unity"

Film: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck: "*Lives of Others*" (2006) [via Geisel library]

### **Essay Prompt Distributed**

### **11) April 25: The Fall of the Berlin Wall**

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 217-227: "Dissent and Opposition" [part on East Germany]

Film: Leander Haußmann: "*Sonnenallee*" (1999) [via Geisel library]

### **12) April 27: Unification and "Ostalgia"**

Film: Wolfgang Becker: "*Good Bye, Lenin*" (2004) [via Geisel library]

## **Week 5: (West-)Germany since 1965**

### **13) April 30: Challenging Authority – 1968 and all that**

Jarausch, *After Hitler*, pp. 156-184: "Protesting Authority"

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 217-227: "Dissent and Opposition" [part on West Germany]

### **14) May 2: Diverging Societies: Life in the FRG before Unification**

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 183-199: "Diverging Societies"

### **15) May 4: National Identity before and after 1990**

Jarausch, *After Hitler*, pp. 46-71: "Questioning the Nation"

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 237-258: "Diverging Cultures and National Identities"

## **Week 6: Who has Power in Germany**

### **16) May 7: A Chancellor Democracy? Political Institutions**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 72-94: "A blockaded system of government"

Padgett, *Developments*, pp. 16-34: "Government at the Center"

### **17) May 9: Political Leaders since 1990: Kohl, Schröder, Merkel**

The Guardian: [Angela Merkel: The World's Most Powerful Woman?](#) (August 2009)

The Guardian: [Angela Merkel: Germany's Mother](#) (September 2013)

Video: The Economist: [Angela Merkel's Rise to Power](#) (September 2017)

### **18) May 11: Changing Patterns in Leadership?**

Padgett, *Developments*, pp. 103-117: "Political Leadership"

### **Essay Due**

## **Week 7: Political Parties and Electoral System**

### **19) May 7: The German Party System I**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 94-114: "Parties and voters: the path to fluid party politics?"  
Padgett, *Developments*, pp. 57-77: "Partisan Dealignment and Voting Choice"

### **20) May 9: Established and Less-Established Parties**

Selected Documents, TBD

### **21) May 11: The German Far-Right**

Selected Documents, TBD

## **Week 8: Economics and the Welfare State: Rhinish Capitalism?**

### **22) May 21: The German Model – a different form of Capitalism?**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 136-155: "Economic management: the end of the 'German Model'?"  
Padgett, *Developments*, pp. 133-147: "The German Model in Transition"

### **23) May 23: The German Welfare State – an unsustainable system?**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 156-175: "Welfare policy in Germany: beyond sustainability?"  
Padgett, *Developments*, pp. 149-165: "Economic Policy"

### **24) May 25: Germany – a Green Country?**

Padgett, *Developments*, pp. 241-261: "Energy and Climate Protection Policy"

## **Week 9 - 10: The Challenges of Globalization**

**May 28: NO LECTURE – HOLIDAY**

### **25) May 30: Migration and Demography**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 115-135: "Citizenship and demographics: (still) a country of immigration?"

### **26) June 1: Germany in Europe**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 175-195: "Germany and the European Union"

### **27) June 4: Germany in the World**

Green, *Politics*, pp. 196-216: "Germany and the wider world"

### **28) June 6: The Berlin Republic Today**

Fulbrook, *History*, pp. 281-318: "The Divided Century"

### **29) June 8: Review: Germany in 2018**

**FINAL EXAM: Take Home Exam, due on 06/13/2018 at 2:30pm**