

POLI 120 D: Germany: Before, During, and After Division (Spring 2020)

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

Online: Zoom meetings at scheduled course times – link to sessions on Canvas

Office Hours: Monday 1pm – 3pm after previous appointment and by individual appointment

Lecture Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am – 10:50am

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 transatlantic relationships 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 over the course of the 20th century. German politics is still greatly 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 20th 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, 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. Online Teaching, Attendance, and Active Engagement:

I plan to stream my lectures live and hold regular online meetings at the scheduled class times via Zoom. The link to the Zoom meetings will be available via the Canvas course website. All lectures will be recorded and available via the course website to allow anyone who cannot be online at the scheduled time to view recorded sessions. No attendance will be taken and nobody will lose any points for not being online during lectures, but I do encourage students to be online during the live sessions in order to create a “normal” classroom situation. If, for some reason, this proves difficult or unpractical I may decide to switch to pre-recorded lectures. **Like most of my colleagues, I have not taught online before and during this very exceptional term, there will be much trial and error. Please be patient with me and my technological skills – I promise I will be patient with you and try to help as much as possible.**

For the most part, my lectures will be “normal lectures” – which means you will be able to see me and my PowerPoint slides in the Zoom meeting. I will mute all student participants for most parts of the lecture, but regularly stop to open up discussions and give you a chance to speak and ask questions. You may also use the Zoom chat function to ask questions during class. On Mondays, I will try to answer these questions after class via email. On Wednesdays and Fridays, we will have a TA as a co-host who will monitor questions and “raised hands” (there is a function for this in Zoom) and help me integrate questions in lectures. Zoom allows for live polls and the use of so-called “breakout rooms” which make online group discussions possible and we will try that out at some point. I will also try to set up discussion groups on Canvas. We will see what works and what does not, and I am open to suggestions. Every effort will be made to allow students who cannot participate in live meetings to fully participate in discussions and group activities. It is possible that I may ask students who cannot participate in online sessions to provide a very brief and ungraded written reaction / reflection to show that they actually watched the recorded session.

Additionally, I will post “Guidelines for Online Course Participation” which are obligatory and considered an essential part of this syllabus.

2. Readings and Blogs

Completion of the weekly reading assignments will be absolutely crucial for your success in this class. Lectures and discussions will complement but not duplicate the readings. I usually use short I-clicker quizzes once a week to make sure that everybody stays up with the readings but since attendance is not obligatory, we will not use clickers during this term. Instead, each student has to write four blogs on the readings – please pick any four weeks of your choice, and submit your blog online via the course website by Friday of that week. Blogs should be 2 to 3 pages long (max. 1000 words) and reflect on the topics of the readings (or films in week 4). They should show that a) you have done the reading and b) thought about it. Blogs may include summaries, questions, criticisms, comments. For each blog you will get up to 3 points. It is your own responsibility to make sure that you have submitted four blogs by the end of the term.

3. Exams and Writing Assignments:

Besides the blogs, there will be two longer writing assignments: a 2,500-words essay due at the end of Week 5 and a final exam (take-home exam). Your final grade will be calculated as followed: Blogs 20%, Paper 35%, Final Exam 45%.

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, and make-up exams are only possible in the case of documented valid excuses. Throughout the quarter, I will coordinate with the reader to make sure that grading policies and criteria for evaluating the written assignments are equal for everybody. If you are unhappy with a grade that you have received for one of the assignments, 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 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 to submit your writing assignments electronically via Turnitin (link on Canvas 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. Copyright on Zoom recordings and other class materials

My lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by U.S. copyright law and by University policy. I am the exclusive owner of the copyright for those materials I create. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own use. You may also share those materials with another student who is enrolled in or auditing this course.

You may not reproduce, distribute or display (post/upload) lecture notes or recordings or course materials in any other way — whether or not a fee is charged — without my express prior written consent. You also may not allow others to do so. If you do so, you may be subject to student conduct proceedings under the UC San Diego Student Code of Conduct.

Similarly, you own the copyright in your original papers and exam essays. If I am interested in posting your answers or papers on the course website, I will ask for your written permission.

Finally, a word on recording: This class uses video and audio recording or other personal information for the purpose of facilitating the course and/or test environment. UC San Diego does not allow vendors to use this information for other purposes. Recordings will be deleted when no longer necessary. However, if cheating is suspected, the recording may become part of the student's administrative disciplinary record.

c. Course Website

No online course can work without a course website and I have always used websites for my “normal” teaching. It is essential that every student has regular access to this website. You will need your UCSD user ID and password to log on.

d. Students with Disabilities

Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (<https://osd.ucsd.edu/>). Students are required to discuss accommodation arrangements with instructors and OSD liaisons in the department **well in advance** of any exams or assignments. The OSD Liaison for the Department of Political Science is Joanna Peralta; please connect with her via the [Virtual Advising Center](#) as soon as possible.

e. Academic Advising

Students who have questions pertaining to Political Science academic advising are asked to reach out the Department's Undergraduate Advisor, Natalie Ikker, who can be reached via the [Virtual Advising Center](#). Academic advising questions often include (but are not limited to): add/drop deadlines, course enrollment policies, planning major and minor requirements, quarter-by-quarter plans, department petitions and paperwork, and referrals to campus and student support services.

f. Inclusive Classroom Statement

The TA and I are fully committed to creating a learning environment that supports diversity of thought, perspectives, experiences, and identities. We urge each of you to contribute your unique perspectives to discussions of course questions, themes, and materials so that we can learn from them, and from each other. If you should ever feel excluded, or unable to fully participate in class for any reason, please let me know, or you may also submit anonymous written feedback to the Department of Political Science's Undergraduate Advisor, [Natalie Ikker](#). Natalie will bring these anonymous comments to my attention. Additional resources to support equity, diversity, and inclusion in our classroom, and beyond, may be found here: Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, phone: 858.822.3542, email: diversity@ucsd.edu, website: <https://diversity.ucsd.edu/>

COURSE READINGS:

Books have been ordered with the UCSD bookstore and the bookstore offers free ground shipping for all orders right now. Please note the online options, though.

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

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

Jaraus, Konrad: *After Hitler: Recivilizing Germans, 1945 – 1995*. Oxford: OUP 2006. (eBook available via Redshelf – see note below)

Lemke, Christiane and Helga A. Welsh: *Germany Today. Politics and Policies in a Changing World*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield 2018.

Films: (available free via Geisel library)

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

Leander Haußmann: *“Sonnenallee”* (1999)

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

NOTE: Redshelf Access to the Konrad Jaraus book:

An eBook version of Konrad Jaraus’s *After Hitler* is provided by the UC San Diego Bookstore through Canvas and free for the first two weeks of classes. After two weeks, your student account will be charged a special reduced price unless you opt out.

If you decide to opt out you must complete the process by Saturday, April 11th 2020 and you will be responsible for sourcing the book elsewhere.

For any questions about billing please contact textbooks@ucsd.edu.

For any questions about using your eBook please reference [RedShelf Solve](#).

To opt-out:

- Click the RedShelf link in Canvas
- Click View Course Materials
- Scroll down to the gray opt-out button and follow the prompts

Again, you will have until Saturday, April 11th 2020 to complete this process and you will be responsible for getting access to the book elsewhere.

Week 1: Introduction and “Soft Roll Out of Online Teaching”

1) March 31: Introduction: Zooming in – German History and German Politics

2) April 1: Why Care About Germany?

Lemke, *Germany*, pp. 1-16: The German Polity in Context (Scan on Canvas)

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

3) April 3: Germany in 2020: How Corona Takes Over...

Article in *Spiegel Online*: “Are Hospitals Ready for the Corona Virus?”

(Link on Canvas)

Week 2: The Burden of History

4) April 6: 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 8: Nazi Germany, 1933 - 1939

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

6) April 10: 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 13: Division

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

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

8) April 15: West Germany Under Adenauer

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

9) April 17: 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”

Essay Prompt Distributed

Week 4: Life in the GDR and Unification

10) April 20: The End of Communism

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

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

11) April 22: 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 24: Unification and "Ostalgia"

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

Week 5: (West-)Germany Since 1965

13) April 27: 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) April 29: Diverging Societies: Life in the FRG before Unification

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

15) May 1: 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"

Essay due by 11:59pm on May 1

Week 6: Who Has Power in Germany

16) May 4: A Chancellor Democracy? Political Institutions

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

Lemke, *Germany*, pp. 17-48: "Power Distribution in a Complex Democracy"

17) May 6: Political Leaders Since 1990: Kohl, Schröder, Merkel, and Now?

Selected Documents, TBD

18) May 8: Changing Patterns in Leadership?

Ludger Helms: "Political Leadership", in: Stephen Padgett et. al. (eds.): *Developments in German Politics 4*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan 2014, pp. 103-117. [via course website]

Week 7: Political Parties and Electoral System

19) May 11: The German Party System

Green, *Politics*, pp. 94-114: "Parties and voters: the path to fluid party politics?"

Lemke, *Germany*, pp. 49-72: "Political Actors, Parties and Elections"

20) May 13: Established and Less-Established Parties

Selected Documents, TBD

21) May 15: The German Far-Right

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

Selected Documents, TBD

[Potentially we will have a guest speaker on May 15 – I had invited Professor Volker Benkert from Arizona State University to give a talk and be available for a discussion on the end of the GDR and the consequences on unification. It remains to be seen whether this will still be possible via Zoom.]

Week 8: Economics and the Welfare State: Rhenish Capitalism?

22) May 18: The German Model – a Different Form of Capitalism?

Green, *Politics*, pp. 136-155: "Economic management: the end of the 'German Model'?"

Lemke, *Germany*, pp. 129-156: "Political Economy"

23) May 20: The German Welfare State – an Unsustainable System?

Green, *Politics*, pp. 156-175: "Welfare policy in Germany: beyond sustainability?"

24) May 22: Germany – a Green Country?

TBD

Week 9 - 10: The Challenges of Globalization

May 25: NO LECTURE – HOLIDAY (MEMORIAL DAY)

25) May 27: Migration and Demography

Lemke, *Germany*, pp. 103-128: “Migration, Immigration, Integration”

26) May 29: 1: Germany in Europe

Lemke, *Germany*, pp. 157-188: “Germany and the European Union”

27) June 1: Germany in the World

Lemke, *Germany*, pp. 189-218: “Germany in Global Politics” and “Looking Backward and Forward”

28) June 3: The Berlin Republic Today

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

29) June 5: Review: Germany in 2020

FINAL EXAM: Take Home Exam, due by June 8 at 11:59pm