COURSE DETAIL

MAGICAL URBANISM: VISIONS OF THE METROPOLIS BERLIN IN LITERATURE AND FILM

Country
Germany

Host Institution
Humboldt University Berlin

Program(s)
Humboldt University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Urban Studies German Film & Media Studies Comparative Literature

UCEAP Course Number
128

UCEAP Course Suffix
I

UCEAP Official Title
MAGICAL URBANISM: VISIONS OF THE METROPOLIS BERLIN IN LITERATURE AND FILM

UCEAP Transcript Title
MAGIC URBAN BERLIN

UCEAP Quarter Units
4.50

UCEAP Semester Units
3.00

Course Description
The literary and cinematic reception of the metropolis is often marked by the mysterious, the uncanny, and the surreal. Urban experience seems to reject and transcend a realistic way of perception. Magical urbanism reflects both the threatening aspects of modernity as well as its utopian promises. This comparative and interdisciplinary seminar explores the history of urban fantasies in Berlin and London literature and discusses its aesthetical and political implications. Students read Chloe Arjidis' celebrated surreal Berlin novel BOOK OF CLOUDS and short excerpts of Walter Benjamin's BERLIN CHILDHOOD AROUND 1900 and Alfred Döblin's BERLIN ALEXANDERPLATZ as well as the short story THE MAN OF THE CROWD by Edgar Allen Poe, all written in English. In German, students read two short stories VON EINEM, DER ALLES DOPPELT SAH by Martin Stade and SCHLÜSSEL by Rudolph Herzog. Reflecting the cinematographic tradition, students discuss Fritz Lang's movie METROPOLIS and THE MATRIX trilogy by Lana and Andy Wachowski. As theoretical background, excerpts are covered from Lucy Huskinson's (ed.) THE URBAN UNCANNY. A COLLECTION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES and Enda Duffy's and Maurizia Boscagli's INTRODUCTION TO JOYCE, BENJAMIN AND MAGICAL URBANISM.

Language(s) of Instruction

Host Institution Course Number
2181313

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MAGICAL URBANISM: VISIONS OF THE METROPOLIS IN LITERATURE AND FILM

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
Bologna.lab

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Berlin Perspectives
Course Last Reviewed

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