COURSE DETAIL

THE AIR RAIDS ON GERMANY 1942-45: LITERARY REFLECTIONS
Country Germany
Host Institution Free University of Berlin
Program(s) Free University Berlin
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) German Comparative Literature
UCEAP Course Number 127
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title THE AIR RAIDS ON GERMANY 1942-45: LITERARY REFLECTIONS
UCEAP Transcript Title AIR RAIDS GERMANY
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description
In the final years of World War II, the Allies conducted a systematic bombing campaign of German cities, during which more than half a million civilians are thought to have died. In his 1997 Zurich lectures the scholar W. G. Sebald, author of the highly acclaimed novel AUSTERLITZ, surveyed the German-language literature that deals with this aspect of the war and claimed that the literary response to this catastrophe was both quantitatively and qualitatively inadequate. This course reviews some of the literature that responds to the air war, discusses Sebald's argument, and considers the reasons both for the perceived lack of literary reflection among an entire generation of German writers, and for the heated public debate that Sebald's lectures engendered on publication. The course further extends the context and discusses an American writer's view of the 1945 bombing of Dresden, as well as literary reflections on the Blitz – the German bombing campaign of Coventry, London, and other British cities.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
16924

Host Institution Course Title
THE AIR RAIDS ON GERMANY 1942-45: LITERARY REFLECTIONS

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.fu-berlin.de/vv/en/lv/605893?query=air+raids&sm=528624

Host Institution Campus
PHILOSOPHIE UND GEISTESWISSENSCHAFTEN

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Deutsche Philologie

Course Last Reviewed
2020-2021

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