

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 Campus

PHILOSOPHIE UND GEISTESWISSENSCHAFTEN

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Deutsche Philologie

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