COURSE DETAIL

EAST GERMANY’S SECRET POLICE AND CONTEMPORARY SURVEILLANCE CULTURE

Country
Germany

Host Institution
Humboldt University Berlin

Program(s)
Humboldt University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Sociology History German

UCEAP Course Number
161

UCEAP Course Suffix
Q

UCEAP Official Title
EAST GERMANY’S SECRET POLICE AND CONTEMPORARY SURVEILLANCE CULTURE

UCEAP Transcript Title
E GER SECRET POLICE

UCEAP Quarter Units
4.50

UCEAP Semester Units
3.00

Course Description

What does it mean to live in a surveillance society? How does the digital age challenge questions regarding privacy, individuality, and freedom? When does surveillance as care tip over into surveillance as control? And how does the Stasi system of vigilance prefigure contemporary surveillance culture? This course on the one hand examines the impact of surveillance on society by looking at the multifaceted ways technologies, societies, and the arts interact; and on the other hand, reflects on surveillance in a totalitarian context while comparing observation techniques in the GDR with contemporary surveillance methods. The course also explores how surveillance is represented in contemporary literature, film, and popular culture. The course maps out important themes with regards to surveillance and its repercussions (e.g., visibility, identity, privacy, and control). The course provides an overview of the interdisciplinary field of surveillance and covers the latest research in the following major areas: 1. Relationship between surveillance, power, and social control; 2. Histories of Surveillance: GDR and the Stasi (especially in the context of Berlin) 3. The concept of privacy; 4. Surveillance in the arts and popular culture.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
42600022

Host Institution Course Title
EAST GERMANY’S SECRET POLICE AND CONTEMPORARY SURVEILLANCE CULTURE

Host Institution Course Details
https://agnes.hu-berlin.de/lupo/rds?state=verpublish&status=init&vmfile=no&publ...

Host Institution Campus
Host Institution Faculty BOLOGNA.LAB
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Berlin Perspectives
Course Last Reviewed 2022-2023

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