

COURSE DETAIL

LAW, SOCIETY, AND POLITICS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Free University of Berlin

Program(s)

Berlin Summer

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Political Science History

UCEAP Course Number

102

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

LAW, SOCIETY, AND POLITICS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

UCEAP Transcript Title

COMP LAW SOC & POL

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

This course explores theoretical and historical perspectives on the intersection of law, society, and politics, and fosters discussion of contemporary issues among students from different cultures and disciplines. After an introduction to comparative law and legal culture, several classical social theorists are covered (Durkheim, Marx, and Weber) and their relevance to contemporary debates about morality, (dis)obedience, conflict, and property are considered. The course examines the role of totalitarian law in Nazi and Communist Germany, and considers the difficulties such legacies pose for fostering the rule of law in post-totalitarian societies. In this context, the course also examines the need for “transitional justice”, as well as the relationship between law, the market, and economic development (e.g. Weber). Finally, the appropriate limits on the exercise of free speech and the right of association are explored. Overall, the course develops skills at using theory and history to inform debates on contemporary challenges, such as multiculturalism, punishment, (illegal) downloading/streaming/ file-sharing, and economic development. In addition to gaining substantive expertise in various socio- and politico-legal fields, students develop communicative competence through participatory exercises, and intercultural competence through discussion with other students.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

3.02

Host Institution Course Title

LAW, SOCIETY, AND POLITICS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Host Institution Campus

FUBiS- Track A

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

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