

COURSE DETAIL

THE MULTI-LAYERED CITY: CONTESTED MEMORIES IN BERLIN

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Humboldt University Berlin

Program(s)

Humboldt University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

History German Anthropology

UCEAP Course Number

161

UCEAP Course Suffix

V

UCEAP Official Title

THE MULTI-LAYERED CITY: CONTESTED MEMORIES IN BERLIN

UCEAP Transcript Title

MEMORIES IN BERLIN

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

Course Description

Berlin is a city layered with history: a palimpsest of ruins, reconstructions, and marks of the past, even of futuristic imaginations that are now history. These layers can seem romantic and invited the modern flaneur to imagine Berlin alongside other cosmopolitan and urban projection screens. But the multi-layered city also implies a casting aside, a covering up, digging up, and hiding. The ruins of Berlin tell a story of an injured city, whose wounds are variously exposed to lay the finger on the wound of historical reckoning, or plastered in a vain attempt to heal, or return to a state prior to injury, as artist Kader Attia put it about the city of Berlin. The city as a multi-layered palimpsest thus reveals psycho-affective and political strategies of future-making and heritage-mobilization. In this seminar, we trace and dig into the difficult, awkward, eerie, uncomfortable heritage of the city and speak to stakeholders involved in its transition: curators, activists, artists, citizens. The seminar will produce a modular book-case, which can be unpacked into a mini-exhibition, featuring students' own profiled "difficult heritage" sites of the city with a brief problematization. These loose pages will be put together in a box to create a mobile, modular book-exhibition. Among the sites that may be visited are: Zionskirche, Gedenkstätte Berliner Mauer, Stasi Archive and headquarters, Humboldt Forum, Holocaust Memorial and the Sinti Roma Memorial, exhibition "looking back" at Museen Treptow-Köpenick. The seminar focuses on field visits with methodological exercises, which introduce students to diverse ways of doing research that they will build on to articulate their own research outcomes in a multimodal portfolio.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

42600059

Host Institution Course Title

THE MULTI-LAYERED CITY: CONTESTED MEMORIES IN BERLIN

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Berlin Perspectives

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