COURSE DETAIL

READING BERLIN: BERLIN FROM INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

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
117

UCEAP Course Suffix
R

UCEAP Official Title
READING BERLIN: BERLIN FROM INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

UCEAP Transcript Title
READING BERLIN

UCEAP Quarter Units
4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

Ever since Berlin became the capital of the first German nation state in 1871, it has attracted the attention of German as well as international writers and has featured prominently in fictional as well as non-fictional texts. Observers and visitors from other parts of Germany and from abroad have described and commented on Berlin as the German capital and its political relevance for the nation as a whole, but also as a place that they saw as quite different and disconnected from the rest of Germany. Opinions on the city have always been divided: At different historical junctures and from varied angles, authors have looked at the city with awe and admiration, or with skepticism and bewilderment, highlighting its liberty, modernity, and vibrancy on the one hand, or its ugliness, authoritarianism, or chaos on the other hand. In this course, we will read short literary and journalistic texts by American, English, Swiss, Austrian, Dutch, Russian, and German authors, written between 1870 and 2023 (some originally published in English, some translated into English), describing and commenting on Berlin in imperial Germany, during the Weimar years, in National Socialism, in divided Germany, and since unification. Studying these texts, students will engage with relevant aspects of Berlin history, society, and culture, while reflecting upon the challenges faced with when reading texts from different periods and referring to historical events and figures.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
16927

Host Institution Course Title
READING BERLIN: BERLIN FROM INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

Host Institution Course Details

https://www.fu-berlin.de/vv/de/lv/869348?m=437767&pc=749257&sm=814672

Host Institution Campus
Free University of Berlin

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Deutsche Philologie

Course Last Reviewed
2023-2024

Print