

COURSE DETAIL

BERLIN'S URBAN SPACE

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Free University of Berlin

Program(s)

Berlin Summer

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Urban Studies

UCEAP Course Number

122

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

BERLIN'S URBAN SPACE

UCEAP Transcript Title

BERLIN URBAN SPACE

UCEAP Quarter Units

5.00

UCEAP Semester Units

3.30

Course Description

Urban studies and its discourse on the city combine scholarship in fields as diverse as human geography, history, and the arts. Berlin, with its seemingly infinite possibilities for creative societal- and self-fashioning, provides an excellent socio-cultural analytical model. It is at once a fixed place with a distinct topography and an interactive space comprised of residents and visitors of multifarious social groups. A balanced appreciation of the interplay of place and space in Berlin's cityscape is key for students eager to learn about the city's past and present. In turn, one requires a sound historical overview of Berlin's spatial and social makeup in order to comprehend contemporary Berlin fully. This course analyzes and explores places/spaces in Germany's ultimate "urban text", Berlin. In-class analysis and discussion of academic and literary texts about Berlin prepare students for the course excursions. It begins at the Brandenburg Gate, Berlin's most important site that functions as place and space. Here students learn more about this landmark and its meaning in Berlin's social imaginary, linking temporal layers of past and present in Berlin. In the seven sessions that follow, the temporal-topographical inquiry continues, meeting with experts at other places/spaces in Berlin (including the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, the Jewish Museum, and the Berlin Wall Memorial). On-site discussions are conducted regarding these unique places/spaces in historical, spatial, social, and even literary terms.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

3.15

Host Institution Course Title

BERLIN'S URBAN SPACE

Host Institution Campus

FUBiS- Track B

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

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