COURSE DETAIL

HANNAH ARENDT: FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

Country

Germany

Host Institution

Humboldt University Berlin

Program(s)

Humboldt University Berlin

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Sociology Political Science

UCEAP Course Number

136

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title

HANNAH ARENDT: FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

UCEAP Transcript Title

HANNAH ARENDT

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

Hannah Arendt's work has become a classic of modern political theory, drawing on themes of totalitarian rule, flight, and statelessness. In the context of current crises, such as the climate crisis and the global conflict between authoritarianism and liberal democracy, Arendt's concept of politics reemerges as relevant. At the heart of this conflict is Russia's attack on Ukraine and Hamas's attack on Israel. Moscow has become the center of a new form of fascism. Russia's aggression against Ukraine is, alongside manmade climate change, the greatest catastrophe of our time. Why were we unable to recognize the signs of impending disaster? Everything is possible, even in this century. The elements and origins of totalitarian rule remain relevant. "The meaning of politics is freedom," wrote Hannah Arendt, a meaning that we have lost sight of in times of peace and prosperity. But what does the controversial term freedom actually mean? How is the distortion of freedom at the expense of people and nature connected to the destruction of a free society? Arendt's thoughts on freedom go beyond today's understanding of liberalism: individual freedom and community spirit are interdependent. Hannah Arendt allows us to rethink freedom.

Language(s) of Instruction

German

Host Institution Course Number

53123

Host Institution Course Title

HANNAH ARENDT: FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Institut für Sozialwissenschaften