



GMN 361

Berlin - A Window to German Culture and History

S2 External 2014

Dept of International Studies

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Disclaimer

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Dr Susanne Binder

susanne.binder@mq.edu.au

Contact via susanne.binder@mq.edu.au

W6A 325

Wednesday 3-4 and by appointment

Credit points

3

Prerequisites

6cp at 200 level including GMN288

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines selected topics in the literature and culture of the German speaking countries. The focus is on the role of Berlin as a cultural and political centre. The unit examines Berlin's place in history, as well as its image in literature and film. Starting with a brief historical overview, selected periods of life in Berlin are explored in more detail. Students are presented with texts in German (short literary texts, texts on historical and political developments, documentary style videos and films in German). Assessment is by coursework.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history

Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany

Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

General Assessment Information

Preparation, attendance and participation

Students are expected to prepare the course work to be covered in class in advance, as set out in programs or announced in class.

- **Day/campus students:** Attendance and active participation at these seminars, as well as regular access to and interaction with the iLearn site for GMN361 are compulsory components of the unit.
- **External students:** the study materials and recordings of campus seminars are available on the iLearn website for GMN361. Participation in the weekly online forums is a compulsory component of the unit.

If a student is unable to attend a seminar or cannot have a regular presence on the iLearn site (externals and campus students), appropriate apologies must be received.

Assessment Tasks

Guidelines for researching and composing the assessment tasks as well as **assessment criteria (rubrics) are available on iLearn**. The Essays are to be submitted electronically in the "drop-boxes" set up in the iLearn website. The oral presentations (in Weeks 3 and 4) will also be made available on iLearn for the external students. For the external students special arrangements will be made to also deliver an oral presentation.

The Assessment Tasks are **compulsory and must be submitted electronically at the time specified**. By electronically submitting their assignments, students declare that they have read and understood the plagiarism statement in this study guide. They certify that their assignment is entirely their own work and that they have given fully documented references to the work of others, and that their assignments have not previously, in part or in whole, been submitted for assessment in any formal course of study. **Late assignment policy:** Assessment tasks / assignments are compulsory and must be submitted on time. Late submissions will be penalized by 2% for each day (including weekends) the assignment task is late. No assignments will be accepted after assignments have been corrected and feedback has been provided.

Extensions can only be granted in exceptional cases and may only be sought in consultation with the unit convenor and before the assignment is due. As a general rule, extensions will not be granted without a valid and documented reason (e.g. medical certificate).

Assessment tasks handed in early will not be marked and returned before the due date.

Assignment tasks handed in early will not be marked and returned before the due date. For **Disruption of Studies Policy** see under Policies and Procedures.

To satisfactorily complete the unit

students are required to attend all seminars and carry out all assessment tasks by the due dates specified in the Unit Guide. Accordingly, external students are required to make weekly

contribution in the online forums and also carry out all assessment tasks by the due dates specified in the Unit Guide.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Presentation</u>	10%	Weeks 3 and 4 (TBA)
<u>Discussion Forum</u>	10%	Weeks 1 - 13
<u>Essay 1</u>	30%	Week 7
<u>Essay 2</u>	50%	Week 13

Presentation

Due: **Weeks 3 and 4 (TBA)**

Weighting: **10%**

Sights of Berlin and their significance (your choice)

On successful completion you will be able to:

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Discussion Forum

Due: **Weeks 1 - 13**

Weighting: **10%**

Regular contributions in the Discussion Forums related to the topic of the current week.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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- Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or

history as it relates to Berlin

Essay 1

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **30%**

Students choose a personality associated with Berlin and research their life and times.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

Essay 2

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **50%**

Students choose a topic focussing on a theme about social, political, historical and cultural issues concerning Berlin.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

Delivery and Resources

Delivery of GMN 361

This unit has an online presence. Login is via: <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/>

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient. - For technical support go to: http://mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/informatics/help - For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to: http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/guides.htm

Day/campus students meet at the **Seminar - Thursdays 3-5 pm** (in W6B 222) For details, please check <https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2014/> Attendance and active participation at these seminars, as well as regular access to and interaction with the iLearn site for GMN361 are compulsory components of the unit.

External students: the study materials and recordings of campus seminars are available on the iLearn website for GMN361. Participation in the weekly online forums is a compulsory

component of the unit.

Required and recommended texts

Course materials consist of readings on the different topic areas for discussion, as well as documentaries and films. A **bibliography** with recommended texts is provided on iLearn. - In addition to the materials provided in class and on the iLearn site for GMN361, you are encouraged to read widely and add to this bibliography. The following websites are of interest:

Informationen zu Berlin	http://www.berlin.de/ http://www.visitberlin.de/
Berliner Zeitungen	Tageszeitung http://www.taz.de/ Stadtmagazin http://www.zitty.de/ Berliner Zeitung http://www.berlinonline.de/berliner-zeitung/ Berliner Tageszeitung http://www.BerlinerTageszeitung.de Berliner Morgenpost http://www.morgenpost.de/ Der Tagesspiegel http://www.tagesspiegel.de/ Der Freitag http://www.freitag.de/
Wochenzeitungen	Die Zeit http://www.zeit.de/ Der Spiegel http://www.spiegel.de/
Überregionale Zeitungen in Deutschland	Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung http://www.faz.net/ Süddeutsche Zeitung (München) www.sueddeutsche.de/

Unit Schedule

Woche 1	Einführung: Berlin „subjektiv“ – eigene und fremde Stimmen
Woche 2	Berlin - (Über~) Blick in die Geschichte
Woche 3	Berlin – die Stadt, ihre Wahrzeichen und Sehenswürdigkeiten (1)
Woche 4	Berlin – die Stadt, ihre Wahrzeichen und Sehenswürdigkeiten (2)
Woche 5	Großstadt Berlin: die “goldenen” Zwanziger Jahre? Autoren: Kurtztexte, Textauszüge
Woche 6	Großstadt Berlin: die “goldenen” Zwanziger Jahre? Bildende Kunst und Künstler
Woche 7	Berlin im Film – Visualisierung von Geschichte
Woche 8	Berlin und der Nationalsozialismus

Woche 9	Berlin - Geteilte Stadt in geteiltem Land (1945-1989)
Woche 10	Berlin – Wiedervereinigung (1989 - 2014 25 Jahre)
Woche 11	Szene West: Kreuzberg
Woche 12	Szene Ost: Prenzlauer Berg
Woche 13	Berlin heute: „Arm aber sexy?“

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study

strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history
- Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

Assessment tasks

- Essay 1
- Essay 2

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history
- Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

Assessment tasks

- Discussion Forum
- Essay 1
- Essay 2

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history
- Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany

Assessment tasks

- Presentation

- Discussion Forum
- Essay 1
- Essay 2

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history
- Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

Assessment tasks

- Presentation
- Discussion Forum
- Essay 1
- Essay 2

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment tasks

- Essay 1
- Essay 2

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be

imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

Assessment tasks

- Essay 1
- Essay 2

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Present and discuss – in German – aspects of the city of Berlin as a space in the historical as well as in the contemporary context of Germany
- Research and write – in German – about a specific aspect of German culture and/or history as it relates to Berlin

Assessment tasks

- Presentation
- Discussion Forum
- Essay 1
- Essay 2

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social

justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history

Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)

This unit aims to further consolidate language skills at C1 / C2 level, described as follows in the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR): the students can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning; can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions; can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes; can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
10/07/2014	Benchmarking statement