GMN 361
Berlin - A Window to German Culture and History
S1 Day 2016
Dept of International Studies

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Disclaimer
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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit Convenor
Ulrike Garde
ulrike.garde@mq.edu.au
Contact via ulrike.garde@mq.edu.au
W6A 211
t.b.c.

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://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates

Learning Outcomes

1. Read and analyse different types of texts - in German - that deal with key aspects of German culture and history
2. 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
3. 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.

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

Assessment Tasks

Guidelines for researching and composing the assessment tasks as well as assessment criteria (rubics) are available on iLearn. The Essays are to be submitted electronically in the "drop-boxes" set up in the iLearn website.

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 Academic Honesty 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 by 5% 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. Assignment tasks handed in early will not be marked and returned before the due date.

As a general rule, extensions will not be granted without a valid and documented reason (e.g. medical certificate).

For Disruption of Studies Policy see under Policies and Procedures.

Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Weeks 3 and 4 (TBA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Forum</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Weeks 1 - 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay 1</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay 2</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>Week 12</td>
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Presentation
Due: **Weeks 3 and 4 (TBA)**  
Weighting: **10%**  

Sights of Berlin and their significance (your choice)

This Assessment Task relates to the following 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

Discussion Forum
Due: **Weeks 1 - 13**  
Weighting: **10%**  

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

This Assessment Task relates to the following 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

Essay 1
Due: **Week 6**  
Weighting: **35%**  

Students choose a personality associated with Berlin and research their life and times.  
Word length: 800 Words

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
- 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 12**

Weighting: **45%**

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

Word length: **1500 Words.**

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:

- 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/](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](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_infoguides.htm](http://mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info-guides.htm).

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<tr>
<th>Lecture time and location:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
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<td>W6B, 205</td>
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For current updates, lecture times and classrooms please consult the MQ Timetables website: [https://timetables.mq.edu.au/](https://timetables.mq.edu.au/).

Attendance and active participation in these seminars, as well as regular access to and interaction with the iLearn site for GMN361 are compulsory components 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.berlin.de/)
- [http://www.visitberlin.de/](http://www.visitberlin.de/)

**Berliner Zeitungen**

- Tageszeitung [http://www.taz.de/](http://www.taz.de/)
- Stadtmagazin [http://www.zitty.de/](http://www.zitty.de/)
- Berliner Zeitung [http://www.berlinonline.de/berliner-zeitung/](http://www.berlinonline.de/berliner-zeitung/)
- Berliner Morgenpost [http://www.morgenpost.de/](http://www.morgenpost.de/)
- Der Tagesspiegel [http://www.tagesspiegel.de/](http://www.tagesspiegel.de/)
- Der Freitag [http://www.freitag.de/](http://www.freitag.de/)

**Wochenzeitungen**

- Der Spiegel [http://www.spiegel.de/](http://www.spiegel.de/)

**Überregionale Zeitungen in Deutschland**

- Süddeutsche Zeitung (München) [www.sueddeutsche.de/](http://www.sueddeutsche.de/)

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**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: Kurztexte, 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 geteilterm Land (1945-1989)

**Woche 10**  

**Woche 11**  
Szene West: Kreuzberg

**Woche 12**  
Szene Ost: Prenzlauer Berg
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:


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/

Results

Results shown in iLearn, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

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 Enquiry Service**

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

**Equity Support**

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](https://www.mq.edu.au/services/disability) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

**IT Help**

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](https://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

**Graduate Capabilities**

**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
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

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
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

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

**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

**Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)**

The 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.