

Political Science 334: German Politics and the New Europe

Spring 2008

MW 2:00-3:15, BOL B40

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COURSE OVERVIEW

Since the end of the First World War in 1918, the territory of today's Federal Republic of Germany has experienced two democratic and two authoritarian regimes (one fascist, one communist), political division and reunification, and incorporation into a greater European community of states. In this course, we will explore each of these different phases in the political development of modern Germany: Weimar democracy and its collapse into dictatorship; the divided but interrelated trajectories of West and East Germany after 1945; the reunification of Germany in 1989-90; and the position of Germany in the European Union and the world. Although it proceeds in roughly chronological order, however, this is not a history course. It is also not a traditional course in political science: we will study the development and future of the German polity drawing on a mix of sources, including social science, literature, and film. As much as possible, German political scientists, historians, journalists, novelists, politicians, and filmmakers will be called upon to present Germany as they themselves see it.

This course assumes no prior familiarity with German or European politics, but junior status is a prerequisite.

MATERIALS

The following book is available for purchase at the UWM bookstore:

Stern, Fritz. 2006. *Five Germanys I Have Known*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

The other readings for this course – which amount to most of the total – have been collected in a reader available at the Panther Bookstore (3132 N. Downer). These readings are marked in the course outline below with the letter [R]. Although I will also have this material scanned for e-reserve, I would strongly encourage you to purchase the reader if possible and to bring it to class on the days we cover these readings. Two sessions in the course outline have reading assignments marked [D2L]: these readings will be announced and posted on D2L later in the semester.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Grades for this course will be calculated as follows:

Four comment papers @ 10% each:	40%
In-class assignments	15%
Midterm exam (March 10):	20%
Final exam:	<u>25%</u>
Grand total:	100%

The following grade scale will be applied:

100-93	A	82-80	B-	69-68	D+
92-90	A-	79-78	C+	67-63	D
89-88	B+	77-73	C	62-60	D-
87-83	B	72-70	C-	59 and below	F

Comment papers. Over the course of the semester, you will submit four short papers in which you discuss and comment on the reading(s) for a particular class. Every Wednesday, I will post discussion questions for the next week's readings on D2L; you should choose one of those questions on which to focus your paper. (These questions may also come in handy as reading guides and for exam review.) Comment papers should be no less than two **entire** pages and no more than three pages in length and must be typed, double-spaced, and presented in a standard format (eleven- or twelve-point font; one-inch margins on all sides). You have a free choice of which readings and topics to address, but you must write one paper in each of the four sections of the course (**due no later than February 18, March 5, April 16, and May 7**). It is perfectly acceptable to draw on material beyond the course readings in writing your comment papers, but this is neither required nor expected. Comment papers are due at the beginning of class. Late papers will not be accepted. If you wish, you may turn in extra comment papers and drop the lowest grade(s) you receive.

In-class assignments: Regular attendance is important for success in this course. Although I will not make a daily practice of taking attendance, I will periodically give short writing assignments or quizzes in class, and these assignments will be factored into your final grade.

Exams. There will be two exams in this course, a midterm and a final. Specifics on format will be provided before each exam; however, a mix of short(er)-answer and essay questions is to be expected. The final exam will be comprehensive, with material from the second half of the course weighted more heavily.

Assignment	Due in class...
First comment paper (Weimar Germany & WWII)	No later than February 18
Second comment paper (Postwar West Germany)	No later than March 5
Midterm exam	March 10
Third comment paper (The DDR & reunification)	No later than April 16
Fourth comment paper (Germany today)	No later than May 7

OTHER MATTERS

Late work. Do not turn work in late. Comment papers are due *in class*. They will not be accepted at any other time. All students are expected to take exams as scheduled. Absolutely no make-up exams will be given without a university-approved excuse.

Plagiarism and other forms of cheating. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. Students found engaged in cheating, plagiarism (taking credit for others' work as their own), or any other violation of academic integrity should expect the severest penalties available under university policies. If you have concerns about what constitutes plagiarism, please feel free to consult me at any time. The library has a useful page on "Avoiding Plagiarism" available here: <http://www.uwm.edu/Libraries/guides/style/plagiarism.html>.

Special needs. Any student with special needs resulting from a physical or learning disability should contact me as soon as possible. I will make every effort to see that your needs are accommodated.

Religious observances. If you will need to miss class because of a religious observance, please notify me at your earliest possible convenience. In no case should you do so *after* the holiday has occurred.

N.B. You can access links to UWM's policies on religious observances, incompletes, academic misconduct, appealing a grade, final exams, students called to military service, discriminatory conduct, and complaint procedures at <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/SyllabusLinks.pdf>.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

I. INTRODUCTION

January 23: Course introduction

January 28: A brief history of Germany

Read: Stern, introduction and chapter 1 ("Ancestral Germany"), pp 3-50.

II. GERMANY IN CRISIS: WEIMAR, DICTATORSHIP, AND WAR

January 30: The rise and fall of the Weimar Republic (1)

Read: Stern, chapter 2 ("Weimar"), pp 51-88.

[R] Craig, Gordon A. 1991 [1982]. *The Germans*. New York: Meridian. Read the Introduction, pp 7-11.

February 4: The rise and fall of the Weimar Republic (2)

Read: [R] Berman, Sheri. 1997. Civil Society and the Collapse of the Weimar Republic. *World Politics* 49(3): 401-429.

February 6: *The Tin Drum* (1)

Read: Stern, chapter 3 (“The Third Reich”), pp 89-130.

February 11: *The Tin Drum* (2)

Read: [R] Grass, Günter. 2007. How I Spent the War. *The New Yorker* 83(15, June 4): 68-81.

February 13: Occupied Germany (1): Defeat and division

Read: Stern, chapter 5 (“When There Was No Germany”), pp 168-93.

[R] Wolf, Christa. 1992. Liberation Day, trans. Heike Schwarzbauer and Rick Takvorian. In *Granta* 42 (*Krauts!*), pp 57-64. New York: Penguin.

February 18: Occupied Germany (2): De-Nazification

****First comment paper deadline****

Read: [R] Jarausch, Konrad H. 2006. *After Hitler: Recivilizing Germans, 1945-1995*, trans. Brandon Hunziker. New York: Oxford University Press. Read pp 46-63 of chapter 2 (“Questioning the Nation”).

III. REBUILDING IN THE WEST: THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC

February 20: A new Germany in the West: Creation of the Federal Republic

Read: Stern, chapter 6 (“The Federal Republic: New Beginnings), pp 194-232.

Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany. Read the announcement and preamble and articles 1-9, 12, 20-21, 26, 67 (skimming 62-65), 101-2, 139, and 146.

February 25: Postwar West Germany (1): Government and parties

Read: No reading for today.

February 27: Postwar West Germany (2): Economic miracle and social-market economy

Read: [R] Jarausch, Konrad H. 2006. *After Hitler: Recivilizing Germans, 1945-1995*, trans. Brandon Hunziker. New York: Oxford University Press. Read pp 80-95 of chapter 3 (“Rejecting the Plan”).

[R] Grass, Günter. 1999. *My Century*, trans. Michael Henry Heim. San Diego: Harcourt. Read the years 1946-1951, pp 116-32.

March 3: Postwar West Germany (3): The roots of European integration

Read: [R] Dinan, Desmond. 2004. *Europe Recast: A History of European Union*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner. Read chapter 1 (“What Kind of Union?”), pp 13-44.

[R] Schuman, Robert. 2003 [1950]. The Schuman Declaration (excerpt). On pp 13-14 of Brent F. Nelsen and Alexander Stubb, eds., *The European Union: Readings on the Theory and Practice of European Integration*, 3rd ed. (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner).

March 5: Postwar West Germany (4): Guestworkers and migration

****Second comment paper deadline****

Read: [R] Enzensberger, Hans Magnus. 1992. The Great Migration, trans. Martin Chalmers. In *Granta* 42 (*Krauts!*), pp 17-51. New York: Penguin.

[R] Wallraff, Günter. 1988 [1985]. *Lowest of the Low*, trans. Martin Chalmers. London: Methuen. Read chapters 1-3 (pp 1-10) and pp 65-77 of chapter 9.

March 10: **MIDTERM EXAM IN CLASS**

IV. REBUILDING IN THE EAST: THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND ITS END

March 12: A new Germany in the East: Creation of the Democratic Republic

Read: Stern, chapter 7 (“The Fourth and Forgotten Germany”), pp 304-343.

March 17-19: SPRING BREAK

March 24: *The Lives of Others* (1)

Read: [R] Childs, David. 1999. The Shadow of the Stasi. In Patricia J. Smith, ed., *After the Wall: Eastern Germany Since 1989* (Boulder, CO: Westview), pp 93-108.

March 26: *The Lives of Others* (2)

Read: [R] Dennis, Mike. 2003. *The Stasi: Myth and Reality*. Harlow: Pearson Longman. Read chapter 7, “Mielke’s Unofficial Collaborators,” pp 90-106.

March 31: The Collapse of the GDR

Read: [R] Lohmann, Susanne. 1994. The Dynamics of Informational Cascades: The Monday Demonstrations in Leipzig, East Germany, 1989-91. *World Politics* 47(1): 42-91. (Skip the Appendix!)

April 2: Reunification of the Germanies (1)

Read: Stern, pp 454-9 of chapter 9 (“The German Question Revisited”) and 460-75 of chapter 10 (“Unified Germany: A Second Chance?”).

April 7: Reunification of the Germanies (2)

Read: [R] Jarausch, Konrad H. 1994. *The Rush to German Unity*. New York: Oxford University Press. Read the conclusion (“The New Germany”), pp 197-210.

April 9: Perspectives on reunification

Read: [R] Hensel, Jana. 2004 [2002]. *After the Wall: Confessions from an East German Childhood and the Life that Came Next*, trans. Jefferson Chase. New York: PublicAffairs. Read chapters 1 and 5, pp 1-18 and 81-119.

[R] Law on the Participation of Young People in the Organization of an Advanced Socialist Society and on their All-round Promotion in the German Democratic Republic (DDR Youth Law, 1974). Read the preamble and section 1, pp 20-26.

April 14: Good Bye, Lenin! (1)

Read: [D2L] Rusch, Claudia. 2003. Excerpt from *My Free German Youth*.

April 16: Good Bye, Lenin! (2)

****Third comment paper deadline****

Read: [R] Maron, Monika. 1992. Zonophobia, trans. Shaun Whiteside. In *Granta* 42 (*Krauts!*), pp 119-24. New York: Penguin.

V. TODAY’S GERMANY: AFTER REUNIFICATION

April 21: Reunified Germany (1): Parties and elections

Read: [R] Helms, Ludger. 2006. Germany’s Crisis and Struggle for Political Self-Reinvention: The 2005 Federal Election in Context. *German Studies Review* 29(2): 315-30.

April 23: Reunified Germany (2): The economy and the welfare state

Read: [R] Streeck, Wolfgang. 1997. German Capitalism: Does it Exist? Can it Survive? *New Political Economy* 2(2): 237-56.

April 28: Reunified Germany (3): Immigration and diversity

Read: [R] Hoffmann, Christhard. 1999. Immigration and Nationhood in the Federal Republic of Germany. In John S. Brady, et al., eds., *The Postwar Transformation of Germany* (Ann Arbor: Michigan), pp 357-77.

[R] Kaminer, Wladimir. 2002 [2000]. *Russian Disco*, trans. Michael Hulse. London: Ebury Press. Read the first four and last three stories, pp 13-29 and 164-71.

April 30: Reunified Germany (4): The European Union

Read: [R] Katzenstein, Peter J. 1997. United Germany in an Integrating Europe. In Katzenstein, ed., *Tamed Power: Germany in Europe* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell), pp 1-45.

May 5: Reunified Germany (5): Germany in the world

Read: [R] Katzenstein, Peter J. 2003. Same War, Different Views: Germany, Japan, and Counterterrorism. *International Organization* 57(4): 731-60.

May 7: Germany today

****Fourth comment paper deadline****

Read: [D2L] Recent news coverage TBA.

Final Exam: As scheduled by the university: Tuesday, May 13, 12:30-2:30 PM.