
CONTEMPORARY GERMANY in Fall 2018 (HI2025)

Course Code	HI2025	Professor(s)	Albert Wu
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	PV-204
Class Schedule	TF: 10:35-11:55 in SD-2	Office Hours	Fridays 15:30-16:30 or by appointment
Credits	4	Email	awu@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2018	Office Tel. Ext.	705

Course Description

Taking the founding of the Second Empire (1871-1918) as a point of departure, the course investigates Germany's historical transformations from Imperial Empire to Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, the postwar Allied occupation, the creation of the two German states, and the unification of the country.

Course Learning Outcomes

The broad historical context and narratives surrounding the history of modern Germany
The main theoretical approaches to studying modern German history and in particular, recent historiographical changes and challenges to its history
To analyze, critique and interpret both secondary and primary sources, through individual reading and writing and through group seminar discussion. In particular, we will learn how to approach sacred texts from an academic perspective
Analysis: students will learn to evaluate different arguments, facts and opinions, and to build and defend their own arguments. Every aspect of the course will reinforce and model good analytical skills
Research: students will learn how to find, evaluate and organize different sources of information. The research paper will particularly help students to find and use sources, as will our primary source analysis in class
Communication: students will learn how to communicate ideas more clearly and persuasively through writing and speaking. Written assignments and presentations formally give formal practice in communication skills, but everyday class participation – actively listening, thinking and responding – is also vital.

General Education

Course Outline

September

Week I - 10th - 14th

Tuesday 11th - Session I

TOPICS Introduction

READINGS

Friday 14th - Session II

TOPICS The German Lands and the Napoleonic Revolution

READINGS James Sheehan, *German History*, selections

September 16th – last day to drop/add courses online

Week II - 17th – 21st

Tuesday 18th - Session I

TOPICS German Romanticism

READINGS Kleist, "The Beggarwoman of Locarno"; E. T. A. Hoffmann, "The Sandman,"

Mosse, *The Crisis of German Ideology*.

Friday 21th - Session II

TOPICS Bismarck and the Rise of Prussia

READINGS Wetzel, *Duel of Giants*; Bismarck, Speeches

Week III - 24th – 28th

Tuesday 25th - Session I

TOPICS The Unification of Germany

READINGS Wetzel, *Duel of Giants*.

Friday 28th - Session II

TOPICS Culture Wars

READINGS Anderson, "Voter, Junker, *Landrat*, Priest"; Blackbourn, *Marpingen*.

October

Week IV – 1st - 5th

Tuesday 2nd - Session I

TOPICS Culture War, Pt. 2: Socialists and Class War

READINGS Readings from *The German Worker*.

Friday 5th - Session II

TOPICS Outsiders: Jews in the Second Reich

READINGS Helmut W. Smith, "Konitz, 1900."

Week V – 8th -12th

Tuesday 9th - Session I

TOPICS The Origins of World War I

READINGS Primary Sources Document

Friday 12th - Session II

TOPICS Total War

READINGS Chickering, *Imperial Germany and the Great War*

Week VI - 15th - 19th

Tuesday 16th - Session I

TOPICS Revolution and Instability

READINGS Mergel, “High Expectations”

Friday 19th - Session II

TOPICS Weimar

READINGS Joseph Roth, *What I Saw*.

Week VII – 22nd – 26th

Tuesday 23rd - Session I

TOPICS Weimar, Continued

READINGS Roth, *What I Saw* / Keun, *Gilgi*.

Friday 26th - Session II

TOPICS Weimar, Finish

READINGS Keun, *Gilgi*.

October 26th, Mid-semester grades due

Week VIII – 29th – Nov. 2nd

Tuesday 30th - Session I

TOPICS Nazi Seizure of Power

READINGS Moeller, Selections

October 31st , November 2nd, (included) fall break, no classes

November

Week IX – 5th – 9th

Tuesday 6th - Session I

TOPICS The Third Reich: The Racial State and Mobilizing for War

READINGS Moeller, Selections; Evans, *Third Reich in Power*, Selections

Friday 9th - Session II

TOPICS The Third Reich and the Holocaust

READINGS Moeller, Selections

November 9th, Last day to withdraw from a course/no credit option

Week X - 12th -16th

Tuesday 13th - Session I

TOPICS Third Reich and the Holocaust

READINGS Moeller, Selections

Friday 16th - Session II

TOPICS “Hour Zero”

READINGS Anonymous, A Woman in Berlin

Week XI -19th – 23rd

Tuesday 20th - Session I

TOPICS “Hour Zero”

READINGS Anonymous, A Woman in Berlin; Sebald, A Natural History of Destruction

Friday 23th - Session II

TOPICS A Divided Germany

READINGS Schneider, The Wall Jumper

Week XII -26th - 30th

Tuesday 27st - Session I

TOPICS A Divided Germany

READINGS *The Lives of Others*

Friday 30th - Session II

TOPICS 1989 and the Collapse of Communism

READINGS Timothy Garton Ash, "Berlin: Wall's End."

December

Week XIII – 3rd – 7th

Tuesday 4th - Session I

TOPICS Memory / Battles over history

READINGS Maier, Unmasterable Past

Friday 7th - Session II

TOPICS Germany and the EU

READINGS Patel, Germany and European Integration since 1945

Week XIV - 10th - 14th

Tuesday 11th - Session I

TOPICS Germany, "Populism" and the return of the Extreme Right

READINGS Thomas Meaney, "The New Star of Germany's Far Right"

December 12th, Last day of classes, December 13th -16th, Reading days

December 17th – 21st, Final exams

Textbooks

Title	Author	Publisher	ISBN	Required
The Wall Jumper	Peter Schneider	Univ of Chicago	9780226739410	Yes
The Nazi State and German Society	Robert Moeller	Bedford books	9780312454685	Yes
Gilgi	Irmgard Keun	Melville House Press	9781612192772	Yes
A Woman in Berlin	Anonymous	Virago Press	9781844087976	Yes
What I Saw: Reports from Berlin 1920-1933	Joseph Roth	Granta	9781847081971	Yes

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

Participation (Attendance, Writing Responses, Participation in Discussions) 25%

Reading Journal 25%

- For each class, choose one quote from the reading and respond with three to five sentences. These sentences should reflect your own thoughts and attention to elegant, concise prose. Some suggestions: Choose a quote (one to three sentences) that is surprising, thought-provoking, or that inspires comparisons with other countries or contemporary situations. Can you connect an idea to your own experiences, to a different time period, or to another work that we have read? What words, images, or examples does the writer use to convey his argument? At the beginning of each class, you will share your sentences with another person in class, and I may ask you to read your sentences aloud. Please keep your reading journal together in a notebook or folder. If you choose to handwrite, make sure the writing is legible. You will turn in the reading journal at the end of the semester.

One source analysis -- 10%

Mid-Term Exam -- 15%

Everything but Paper Assignment 20 %

Final Exam 15%

Other
