GE/AN 313 BIO-POLITICS AND MIGRATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY
IES Abroad Berlin

DESCRIPTION:
This course aims at introducing students to the concept of bio-politics, its origins and its modern forms in national and increasingly global perspectives. We want to discuss the notion of population, its governmentality and the politics of “life” – regulation and distribution of forms of life - in contexts of peace, war, violence and economic crisis drawing on examples from national family and health policies to international regimes of conflict intervention, from anti and pro-natalist policies to thanatology and burial rights, from regulations on migration and asylum to intended and unintended side effects of humanitarian aid. Using some of the theoretical groundwork from social theorists as Michael Foucault and Giorgio Agamben we will delineate the interrelation between power techniques and new forms of knowledge to uncover the hidden matrix of political space. By doing so, throughout the course tensions and conflicts between the governance of population and modern human rights regimes will be in our focus. The course offers an interdisciplinary approach to old and new forms of governmentality. The course incorporates field trips, films, and exhibitions on the topic into the discussion.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION: English

ADDITIONAL COST: none

PREREQUISITES: none

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
Lectures, class discussions, guided field trips, student presentations, films and documentaries in class. Classes are based on required literature. The literature is drawn from sociology, history studies, social anthropology, geography, philosophy and political science. Students will be ask to participate in class discussion to develop critical arguments and discussion skills and to understand the political discourse on population.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Discuss how the concept of bio-politics can open up new perspectives to understand power relations in international and national politics
- Discuss the struggle of state and non-state actors in crisis management.
- Explain how politics is inscribed into the body of modern populations and individuals.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Course Participation – 10 %
- Case Study Assignment - 15%
- Midterm – 25%
- In Class Presentation – 20 %
- Final Exam - 30%

Course Participation
Students have to do the mandatory reading assignments, come to class prepared and participate in discussions, take active part in the field trips and complete written/oral work.
Midterm
Written exam. Connected to the readings (especially Agamben and Foucault) and the topics discussed in class.

Final
Student conference with presentations on topics to the overall theme of the course plus response papers on the presentations of the other students. 70% of the grade is the own presentation; 30% the response paper. See grading rubrics in moodle.

Case Study Assignment
Academic paper of about 1,500 words related to one of the topics discussed in class by applying your knowledge to a specific self-chosen subject related to Berlin or another city. If your paper is being focused on the IES field study trip to Poland (preliminary research), it fulfills the requirement for a travel assignment (one travel assignment is requested for each student in the semester). For specifics and literature see: Moodle “Case study assignment”. It is recommended to submit your paper as early as possible in moodle after the Midterm.

Potential topics: the Sachsenhausen concentration camp as a bio-political space of exception; the massacre of Jedwabne as a case of ethnic cleansing; politics of expulsion – the case of the German population in Poland and Polish citizens in Eastern Poland/today Ukraine; current Polish bio-political discourses on immigration and/or reproductive rights: Due date latest: Nov 17th

Class Presentation
At least: one class presentation of one of the suggested topics. between 7 – 10 minutes. A list of topics will be distributed in the beginning of the course and put as choice in Moodle. Presentation format: Power point; speak up to class, organize material well; give sources; presentation should encourage class discussion, therefore ask questions to teacher and class.

CONTENT:

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Session 1: What is Bio-Politics? Introduction to course, literature, requirements.</td>
<td>No Reading for first session.</td>
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<td>Session 2: The Birth of modern Bio-Politics: Thomas Malthus and Neo-Malthusian concepts</td>
<td>Reading:</td>
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<td>Student Presentation: Thomas Malthus</td>
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<td>(Double Session in Exchange with Identity class No session)</td>
<td>Session 4+5: The Medical Gaze/Birth of the Hospital <strong>Field Trip Charité Museum</strong> • Foucault, Michel The Birth of Social Medicine, in: The Essential Works of Michel Foucault, vol. 3, Power, pp. 134 - 155</td>
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Suggested Film: Life is Beautiful |
Student presentation on readings and rape and war  
Suggested Film: Anonymous – A Women in Berlin |

Student presentation on surrogate motherhood and global reproductive markets |
| Session 9 – 11: Field Trip to Sachsenhausen concentration camp | • See homework on field trip in moodle. |
Student presentations on the origins of the term genocide (Lemkin), the Herero Genocide (and its traces in Berlin) and the current genocide to the Rohingyas (or other historical examples) |
Student Presentation on Organ Trade, pp. 61 - 80 |
| Week 6 | Session 14: Midterm Exam | • |
Student Presentation on Burial Rights in Germany and Muslim burials |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
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<th>Literature and Notes</th>
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<td>Session 16: Migration and Bio-Politics</td>
<td>Labor Migration to Europe /Germany Governmentality and the Working Body Student Presentation on Turkish Labor Migration to Germany</td>
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<td>Student presentation on German citizenship law and on Schinkel text</td>
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<td>Session 18: Consultations for case study paper</td>
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| **Week 9** | Session 19: Asylum Law and its Changes after 1989 | The contested European Asylum Law and its changes  
Student Presentation on Schengen, the Dublin Convention and the current asylum debate  
Group work on the different statuses of asylum – full/political asylum/protection under Geneva 1951 refugee convention, subsidiary protection; protection from deportation |
| **Week 10** | Session 21: Preparation for Student Conference | Potential Topics: Sinti and Roma in Europe; The German Circumcision Debate; Health and Bio-Politics; Obesity and Bulimia-The Construction of Body-Norms; The War on Drugs and the Power of Pharmaceutical Companies; The War on Obesity, Environmental Racism; Food Desserts and Bio-Power; Housing and Bio-Power  
Literature in moodle for some topics |
Week 11  |  Student Conference – Final Presentations  |  Student conference: Apply Bio-politics

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:
- Concentration Camp Sachsenhausen, Charité Berlin Museum for Medical History;

REQUIRED READINGS:

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED FILM:
- In this World (2002) by Winterbottom, Michael
- A Woman in Berlin (2008) by Färberböck, Max
- Life is Beautiful (1997) by Begnini, Robert

Films have to be watched in preparation for class. The films are available at IES.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:
ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance and punctuality at all IES Abroad courses, including field studies and excursions, is necessary and mandatory. Students are responsible for signing the attendance sheet in each class, and for clearing absences with their professors.

Absences can only be excused for valid reasons. Students are responsible for producing documentation of these reasons if necessary (i.e. a doctor’s note). Absences for travel or visits of friends or family members are not excused. Unexcused absences affect students’ grades: an unexcused absence leads to a deduction of 3% of the overall grade and may negatively affect the participation grade.

Students who miss 25% or more of class sessions will receive a final grade of “F” for the course. Missed tests cannot be taken at another point in time except in case of documented illness. Students who are late for exams have no right to take extra time. If you are granted an excused absence from an examination (with authorization, as above), your instructor and center director will decide how you will make up the assessment component (by make-up examination or extra coursework).

Late submission of term papers and other work is not accepted unless an extension due to illness or an emergency is approved. Late submission will lead to 5% deduction from the grade for each day.