



**GS/HS/SO335 GENDER IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:
BERLIN PAST AND PRESENT**
IES Abroad Berlin

DESCRIPTION:

This course examines key concepts, theories, and developments of gender as played out in German history from the 19th to the 21st centuries. The course will focus on Berlin which has been a laboratory of political, social, and cultural trends during this time period. We will explore how gender and sexuality influenced various facets of life and therefore are important analytical categories in different academic disciplines. The course is structured along a historic axis and looks at the history and politics of gender during successive periods – Prussia, the German Empire, the Weimar Republic, WWII, the post-WW II period with West Germany and the GDR, unified Germany and contemporary Berlin. Three main topics that we will be looking at diachronically are women’s liberation, the history of sexualities and queer politics. A central question is: what do the respective gender politics of a society tell us about its self-image and values? We will ask, how gender roles are constructed and how they can be undermined. The course uses an interdisciplinary approach and students explore historical developments and theoretical concepts by using the city of Berlin as a classroom. The course will introduce important personalities and places defining gender in Berlin during the last approx. 200 years.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION: Discussions, Presentations, Field trips, Film screenings.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will have knowledge of major concepts and topics of the politics of gender. Researching German history from a comparative perspective they will develop an understanding of the historical context and construction of gender norms. In addition, students will learn important gender studies methodologies that are also relevant for their major (and minor) fields of research, e.g. breaking down dichotomies, going beyond preconceived notions and addressing topics in an open and innovative manner.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Participation (10 %)
- Presentation (15%)
- Learning portfolio (25 %)
- Midterm exam (20%)
- Term paper (30%)

Participation

Reading of the required literature/ watching of required films is mandatory, reading questions will guide you (on Moodle available for each session). Participate actively in classroom discussion and working groups. Participation grade is based on your reading of the literature. The grading rubric for participation is available in the IES Berlin Academics Manual on Moodle.

Presentation

Each student will present (approx. 10 minutes) a concept/term and a biography that deal with gender, including preparing questions that lead into discussion in the Gender Theory Salon (session 5-6). Presentations include visual material and your own theses. Students also prepare a paper hand-out for the other students (1 page).

Learning Portfolio

The learning portfolio chronicles your learning experience, it includes your summaries and reflections of each session, connects the different contents we will be discussing, leaves room for developing your own academic standpoint. It will help you in preparing for both exams. The learning portfolio consists of 200 words entry for each session (readings and discussions), in case of a field trip

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or film screening 300 words are mandatory. The learning portfolio has a title page with a full header. All entries are given in chronological order (start either with the first or the last session). Pictures and subtitles should be included as extras. The text should be laid out and formatted, easy to be read. The learning portfolios are to be uploaded on Moodle for consultation (first 25 % of overall grade for the portfolio is given then).

Midterm Exam

Written exam. Connected to the readings and the topics discussed in class.

Final Term Paper

The term paper discusses a topic of choice, e.g. first wave feminism in Berlin or the LGBTI movement in Berlin in the 1980s, with correct referencing. Length of paper approx. 3,000 words. Students are expected to upload their exposé to Moodle. The exposé makes for 25 % of final term paper grade.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance and punctuality in all courses and field studies are mandatory. Absences can only be excused for valid reasons. Unexcused absences can affect students' grades. Students who miss 25% or more of all class sessions will fail the course. Missed exams cannot be taken at another time except in case of documented illness. Late submission of term papers and other work will result in grade reduction unless an extension due to illness or an emergency is approved. Please consult the IES Berlin Academics Manual on Moodle for additional details.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students are expected to abide by the IES Abroad Academic Integrity Code. Assigned papers need to be properly and amply footnoted where appropriate, with all sources attributed, including images. Suspicious papers may be checked with plagiarism-detecting software.

CONTENT:

Session	Content	Assignments (Reading, homework, project due dates, exams)
1. GENDER IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE	Introduction, explanation of syllabus and assignments, expectations of participants, Gender as a research category	No reading required Iconic gender pictures analyzed in class
2. PRUSSIA'S PINK BRAINS	Women's access to academia and scientific knowledge, the fight for equal opportunities and suffrage, first wave of feminism	Mazón, Patricia M (2003) "'Our Universities are Men's Universities'. The Debate Over Women's Admission 1865-1900". In: Mazón: Gender and the Modern Research University. The Admission of Women to German Higher Education, 1865-1914, Stanford, 85-95, 106-114. Zetkin, Clara [1857-1933] (2015), "Only in Conjunction with the Proletarian Woman Will Socialism Be Victorious", pp.72-83 <u>Optional:</u> Bryson, Valerie. (2016). "Marxist Feminism in Germany and Russia". In V. Bryson. <i>Feminist Political Theory. 3rd Edition</i> . London: Palgrave, 2016, pp.104-120.
3. THE EULENBURG SCANDAL	Masculinities in Imperial Germany, Age of German Colonialism, Pre-World War I	Domeier, Norman (2014): "The Homosexual Scare and the Masculinization of German Politics before World War I." In: <i>Central European History</i> , 47, 737-759.

4. HISTORY OF SEXOLOGY	The Berlin „Institute for Sexual Science“ and the fight for a “Third Gender”	<p>Beachy, Robert (2015): “Gay Berlin. Birthplace of a Modern Identity”. New York, Vintage Books. pp. 160-186</p> <p>Hirschfeld, Magnus [1868-1935] (2006). "Selections from The transvestites: the erotic drive to cross-dress." In The Transgender studies reader, edited by Susan Stryker and Stephen Whittle, Taylor&Francis 2006, S. 28-30, 35-39</p>
5.6. I AM MY OWN WIFE	Field Trip to “Gründerzeitmuseum” – home and museum of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf	<p>Watch stage production clips of Doug Wright’s Pulitzer Prize winning drama: “I am my own wife”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://youtu.be/vq8JD60FcqU • https://youtu.be/AWZzRVW9OcY <p>Giersdorf, Jens Richard (2006): "Why does Charlotte von Mahlsdorf curtsy? Representations of National Queerness in a Transvestite Hero." In: GLQ (Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies) 12:2, S. 171-196</p>
7./8. SALON GENDER THEORY I	Theoretical concepts for analyzing gender in historical perspective	<p>Pick and prepare your concept from:</p> <p>Pilcher, Jane (2004) and Imelda Whelehan. Fifty key concepts in gender studies, SAGE key concepts. London: SAGE</p> <p><u>Student presentations</u></p>
9. QUEERING EARLY 20 th CENTURY GERMANY	Gay and lesbian spaces of Berlin 1900s-1920s, nightlife, agency and political activism	<p>Beachy, Robert (2015): “Gay Berlin. Birthplace of a Modern Identity”. New York, Vintage Books, 3-41.</p> <p>Lybeck, Marti M. (2014): Desiring Emancipation. New Women and Homosexuality in Germany, 1890-1933, SUNY PRESS, New York, 151-188</p> <p>Watch: “Cabaret” (on Moodle)</p>
10. THE NEW WOMAN and the FEMALE FLANEUR	Women in the public sphere, early Weimar Republic	<p>Carol Schmid: The 'New Woman' Gender Roles and Urban Modernism in Interwar Berlin and Shanghai. Journal of International Women's Studies, 2014, 15(1), 1-16.</p> <p>Gleber, Anke. "Female Flanerie and the Symphonie of the City." In <i>Women in the metropolis: gender and modernity in Weimar culture</i>, edited by Katharina von Ankum, 67-88</p> <p>https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/jul/29/female-flaneur-women-reclaim-streets</p> <p>Watch: Symphony of a Great City (1929) (clips, on Moodle)</p>
11. FASCIST BODY POLITICS	Body and Sexual Politics in NS Germany and their visual representations	<p>Bridenthal, Renate et al. (1984): "Introduction: women in Weimar and Nazi Germany." In: When biology became destiny: women in Weimar and Nazi Germany, edited by Renate Bridenthal, Atina Grossmann and Marion Kaplan, 1-32. New York 1984.</p>

		<p>Adelheid von Saldern: Innovative Trends in Women’s and Gender Studies of the National Socialist Era, in: German History 2009, vol. 27, p. 84-102</p> <p>Sontag, Susan (1974): Fascinating Fascism, in: New York Review of Books, February 6 (26 pages)</p> <p>Watch: Leni Riefenstahl: "Olympia" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHN8Jwku1Nc (movie, part one, opening, on moodle)</p>
12. FEMALE PERPETRATORS	Female guards of concentration camps, women as Nazi perpetrators	<p>Hilberg, Raul (1992): Perpetrators, Victims, Bystanders. The Jewish Catastrophe 1933-1945, HarperPerennial, 126-131.</p> <p>Lower, Wendy (2013): Hitler’s Furies. German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields, HMH, Boston, 120-144.</p>
MIDTERMS (written, in-class exam)		
13. GENDER, RACE, AND PERSECUTION I	Regina Jonas und Gad Beck	<p>Hájková, Anna (2019): Queer History and the Holocaust, in LGBTQ, Modern Europe, Sexual Labour, Sexual Violence, January, 5 pages</p> <p>Sinclair, Stefanie (2013): Regina Jonas: forgetting and remembering the first female rabbi, in: Religion 43:4, 541-563</p> <p>Watch, prepare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://sfi.usc.edu/video/gad-beck-rescuing-his-lover-manfred-lewin • https://www.ushmm.org/collections/the-museums-collections/collections-highlights/do-you-remember-when/cover
14. GENDER, RACE, AND PERSECUTION II	Field Trip to Memorial To The Persecuted Homosexuals Under Nationalsocialism	Buckley-Zistel/ Annika Björkdahl (2017): Memorials and Transitional Justice, in Olivera Simic (ed.): Understanding Transitional Justice. Routledge, 2017, pp. 249–268.
15. GENDER IN EAST AND WEST I	The Sexual and Political Revolutions in West Germany and their aftermath	Herzog, Dagmar (1998): “Pleasure, Sex, and Politics Belong Together”: Post-Holocaust Memory and the Sexual Revolution in West Germany, in: Critical Inquiry 24, 393-444.
16. GENDER IN EAST AND WEST II	Gender and Film in the GDR	<p>Rinke, Andreas (1999): "From Models to Misfits: Women in DEFA Films of the 1970s and 1980s." In: DEFA: East German cinema, 1946-1992, edited by Sean D. Allan and John Sandford. 183-203</p> <p>Brandon Dennis, David: “Coming Out into Socialism, Heiner Carow’s Third Way.” In: Terry Ginsberg/Andrea Mensch: A Companion to German Cinema 2012, pp.55-65, 74-77</p> <p>Film screening in-class: Heiner Carow: "Paul & Paula" / “Coming out” (DEFA-movies, with English subtitles)</p>
17. QUEER SPACE	Field Trip to “Schwules Museum” (Gay Museum)	<p>Prepare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.schwules-museum.de • Online Exhibition: QUEER as German Folk: https://www.goethe.de/ins/us/de/kul/wir/swl.html?wt_sc=usa_queer

18. FEMINISM AND DIVERSITY	Gender, Ethnicity, Intersectionality, Pluralities	<p>Roig, Emilia (2017): Uttering “race” in colorblind France and post-racial Germany. In: Karim Fereidooni und Meral El: Rassismuskritik und Widerstandsformen, Springer VS, pp. 613–627.</p> <p>Rottmann, Susan B., Ferree, Myra Marx (2008): Citizenship and Intersectionality: German Feminist Debates about Headscarf and Antidiscrimination Laws, Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society, Volume 15, Issue 4, Winter 2008, Pages 481–513</p> <p><u>Optional</u>: Ayim, May et.al (1992): Showing our Colours. Afro-German Women speak out, Amherst.</p>
19. DOING GENDER I	Who speaks? Gender and Body Language	Sagmeister, Sofie (2015): A Scientific Attempt to Create a Set of Premises on the Successful Use of Social Media for Female Austrian Politicians, Vienna, FOSE - Forschungsseminar University of Vienna (Conference Paper), 26 pages
20. DOING GENDER II	Gender, Media and the Web	Recent Weblogs, on Moodle and students’ research!
21. GENDER POLITICS TOWARDS TOMORROW	Discussion with Berlin gender activist	Recent newspaper and online articles- on Moodle.
22. GENDER POLITICS TOWARDS TOMORROW	Final discussion and wrap-up	
<p>FINALS (term paper due at the end of the finals week: Friday, 14:00)</p>		

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an integral part of this class. These are envisaged:

- “Schwules Museum” (Gay Museum)
- “Gründerzeitmuseum” – home and museum of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf
- Memorial To The Persecuted Homosexuals Under Nationalsocialism

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Ankum, Katharina von (1997): Introduction, in: Ankum, Katharina von (ed.): Women in the Metropolis, Gender and Modernity in Weimar Culture, UC Press.
- Beachy, Robert (2015): “Gay Berlin. Birthplace of a Modern Identity”. New York, Vintage Books, 3-41; 160-186.
- Brandon Dennis, David: “Coming Out into Socialism, Heiner Carow’s Third Way.” In: Terry Ginsberg/Andrea Mensch: A Companion to German Cinema 2012, pp.55-65, 74-77
- Bridenthal, Renate et al. (1984): "Introduction: women in Weimar and Nazi Germany." In: When biology became destiny: women in Weimar and Nazi Germany, edited by Renate Bridenthal, Atina Grossmann and Marion Kaplan, 1-32. New York 1984.
- Buckley-Zistel/ Annika Björkdahl (2017): Memorials and Transitional Justice, in Olivera Simic (ed.): Understanding Transitional Justice. Routledge, 2017, pp. 249–268.

- Domeier, Norman (2014): "The Homosexual Scare and the Masculinization of German Politics before World War I." In: Central European History, 47, 737-759.
- European Parliament (2015): The Policy of Gender Equality in Germany, Brussels
- Giersdorf, Jens Richard (2006): "Why does Charlotte von Mahlsdorf curtsy? Representations of National Queerness in a Transvestite Hero." In: GLQ (Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies) 12:2, S. 171-196
- Gleber, Anke (1997): "Female Flanerie and the Symphonie of the City". In: Ankum, Katharina von (eds.): Women in the Metropolis, Gender and Modernity in Weimar Culture, UC Press, 67-88
- Hájková, Anna (2019): Queer History and the Holocaust, in LGBTQ, Modern Europe, Sexual Labour, Sexual Violence, January, 5 pages (<http://notchesblog.com/2019/01/22/queer-history-and-the-holocaust/>)
- Herzog, Dagmar (1998): "Pleasure, Sex, and Politics Belong Together": Post-Holocaust Memory and the Sexual Revolution in West Germany, in: Critical Inquiry 24, 393-444.
- Hilberg, Raul (1992): Perpetrators, Victims, Bystanders. The Jewish Catastrophe 1933-1945, HarperPerennial, 126-131.
- Hirschfeld, Magnus [1868-1935] (2006). "Selections from The transvestites: the erotic drive to cross-dress." In The Transgender studies reader, edited by Susan Stryker and Stephen Whittle, Taylor&Francis 2006, S. 28-30, 35-39
- Lower, Wendy (2013): Hitler's Furies. German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields, HMH, Boston, 120-144.
- Lybeck, Marti M. (2014): Desiring Emancipation. New Women and Homosexuality in Germany, 1890-1933, SUNY PRESS, New York, 151-188
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- Pilcher, Jane (2004) and Imelda Whelehan. Fifty key concepts in gender studies, SAGE key concepts. London: SAGE
- Rinke, Andreas (1999): "From Models to Misfits: Women in DEFA Films of the 1970s and 1980s." In: DEFA: East German cinema, 1946-1992, edited by Sean D. Allan and John Sandford, New York, pp.183-203
- Roig, Emilia (2017): Uttering "race" in colorblind France and post-racial Germany. In: Karim Fereidooni und Meral El: Rassismuskritik und Widerstandsformen, Springer VS, 2017, doi:10.1007/978-3-658-14721-1_36, S. 613-627.
- Rottmann, Susan B., Ferree, Myra Marx (2008): Citizenship and Intersectionality: German Feminist Debates about Headscarf and Antidiscrimination Laws, Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society, Volume 15, Issue 4, Winter 2008, Pages 481-513, <https://doi.org/10.1093/sp/jxn017>
- Sagmeister, Sofie (2015): A Scientific Attempt to Create a Set of Premises on the Successful Use of Social Media for Female Austrian Politicians, Vienna, FOSE - Forschungsseminar University of Vienna (Conference Paper), 26 pages, <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sofie-Sagmeister>
- Saldern, Adelheid von: Innovative Trends in Women's and Gender Studies of the National Socialist Era, in: German History 2009, vol. 27, p. 84-102
- Sinclair, Stefanie (2013): Regina Jonas: forgetting and remembering the first female rabbi, in: Religion 43:4, 541-563.
- Sontag, Susan (1974): Fascinating Fascism, in: New York Review of Books, February 6 (26 pages), <http://marcuse.faculty.history.ucsb.edu/classes/33d/33dTexts/SontagFascinFascism75.htm>
- Zetkin, Clara. (2015). "Only in Conjunction with the Proletarian Woman Will Socialism Be Victorious" in C. Zetkin. *Selected Writings*. Ed. by P. S. Foner. Chicago: Haymarket Books, pp.72-83.

OPTIONAL READING:

- Ayim, May et.al (1992): Showing our Colours. Afro-German Women speak out, Amherst.
- Bryson, Valerie. (2016). "Marxist Feminism in Germany and Russia". In V. Bryson. *Feminist Political Theory. 3rd Edition*. London: Palgrave, 2016, pp.104-120.

FILM

- Heiner Carow: Paul & Paula (1972)
- Heiner Carow: Coming out (1989)
- Leni Riefenstahl: Olympia (1936)
- Bob Fosse: Cabaret (1972)
- Walther Ruttmann: Symphony Of A Great City (1927), clips on moodle
- Doug Wright: I am my own wife (theater performance), e.g. <https://youtu.be/vq8JD6OfcU> or <https://youtu.be/AWZzRVW9OcY>