

GERMAN PROGRAMME
GERM 114 GERMAN SOCIETY AND CULTURE 1

TRIMESTER 2 2011
11 July to 12 November 2011

Please read through this material very carefully in the first week of the course, and refer to it regularly.

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 11 July to 14 October 2011
Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2011
Study week: 17–21 October 2011
Examination/Assessment period: 21 October to 12 November 2011
Please note students should be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>.

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator
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Reception Hours: 9.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday

Reading

Set Texts

Bernhard Schlink, *The Reader* (Phoenix)
GERM 114 Student Notes

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 4 to 22 July 2011, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available. Opening hours for VicBooks are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Course programme

Section One:

Weeks 1 – 4

Week 5

**The two Germanies
Impressions of Unification**

**Dr Sutherland
Anke Szczepanski
Sarah Raulea**

Section Two:

Weeks 5 – 8

Student Seminars

Dr Millington

Section Three:

Weeks 9 – 12

**Post-Unification Germany
in Literature and Film**

Dr Tempian

Please refer to the end of this Course Outline for more detailed timetable information.

Assessment requirements

The assessment programme is designed to evaluate the extent of the student's understanding and knowledge of a topic and to assess the student's ability to research a topic, organise thoughts and insights, and express them in a lucid, well-documented way, both in class seminars and in essay form. To help in the latter, students will be given the German Programme's detailed *Notes on the Presentation of Essays*, which is also available on Blackboard.

GERM 114 is assessed by:

1. One essay which counts 30% towards the final result. **See the list of essay topics below.**
2. One seminar paper on a set topic. These seminars will be researched and presented in groups, but each group member is expected to do an equal share of the work and to take over part of the presentation. Students are assessed individually. The seminar counts 20% towards the final result.
3. A final two-hour examination. This is not an open book exam. It counts 50% towards the final result. All students enrolled in the course are expected to be available during the examination period 21 October - 12 November 2010.

The essay and the seminar are on individual topics relating to the society and culture of modern Germany. Seminar dates **must** be observed. The seminar allocations will be finalised in the second

week of the course. **See the list of seminar options below.** Students will be able to sign up for their seminar topics and dates on Blackboard.

The examination will cover all areas studied in the course, but students will have a choice of questions to be answered.

Penalties

Essays *must* be handed in on time. Students prevented by uncontrollable circumstances from completing an essay on time must, *in advance of the deadline*, formally request an extension of time from the lecturer. In cases of illness, accident or bereavement, this can be done by telephone. Essays submitted late without explanation will have penalty marks deducted at the rate of two marks a day; in the case of extreme lateness, the essay will not be marked and the student will not have met minimum course requirements.

Essay information and deadline

The essay is worth 30% of the final mark and is due by 5pm on **Monday, 15 August** (beginning of Week 6).

All assignments **must be submitted in two forms:**

1. An electronic copy is to be uploaded to the relevant assignment drop box on the GERM 114 Blackboard website.
2. **AND a print-out** is to be placed in the German assignment box located to the left of the School of Languages and Cultures Reception area on Level 6 of von Zedlitz. The print-out must include a cover sheet available from SLC Reception or Blackboard.

Assignments will not be considered complete until submitted in both forms.

Here are five basics for essay writing. See also the *Notes on the Presentation of Essays*.

- The essay should not exceed the word-limit of 1000 words.
- It must have a 5 cm left margin. (NOTE this instruction, which is often ignored!)
- It should be typed with double-spacing (i.e. vertical spacing between lines).
- Give page-numbers.

A choice of topics is given below. **Note: You MAY NOT choose the same topic for your essay and your seminar.**

Mandatory course requirements

To gain a pass in this course each student must:

- a) Submit the written work specified on or by the due dates
- b) Present the seminar required for this course
- c) Attend the examination at the end of the course
- d) Attend at least 80% of all three sections of the course.

Unless notified to the contrary, students may assume they have met the mandatory course requirements.

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be made available to VUWSA, the Course Co-ordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course co-ordinator on behalf of students. Class representatives will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how your courses are going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have.

Statement on legibility

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply;
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply;
- if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked.

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

Where to find more detailed information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.

Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

Essay topics

1. What was the Berlin Blockade (1948-1949)? What effect did it have on the future development of Germany?
2. Germany has had two "Grand Coalitions" (1966-69 and 2005-2009). What is a Grand Coalition and what path has each of these coalitions taken?
3. Who were the "guest workers" in West Germany and what effects did their presence have on the country economically and socially?
4. Outline the activities and beliefs of the Baader-Meinhof terrorist group in the Federal Republic of Germany.
5. Investigate the situation of Robert Havemann and other dissidents in East Germany and their treatment by the state.
6. Trace the history of the Green Party in Germany and try to assess their political influence today.
7. Who are the Sorbs? Examine their situation during the Regime of the German Democratic Republic and today.

Seminar topics

Below is a list of possible seminar topics you may choose from. If you have an alternative topic you would like to do, please discuss it with your lecturer first.

Please Note: You may not choose the same topic for your seminar as for your essay.

- The German military contribution in Kosovo and Afghanistan
- Growth and stagnation in East Germany since reunification
- Immigration and citizenship since reunification
- Turkish Germans in the 21st century
- The return of the Russia-Germans
- Moving the capital from Bonn to Berlin
- The Holocaust memorial in Berlin
- Neo-Nazis and xenophobia
- Currency reform: Ost-Marks, D-Marks, Euros
- Ostalgia - Remembering the DDR
- Education and youth organisations in the DDR
- The status of women in the DDR and FRG
- Cuisine in Germany - old and new
- Higher Education in Germany today
- German Refugee Management
- The cultural significance of the 2006 World Cup
- History of the Berlin Wall

- The Stasi – its purpose and methods
- The legacy of the Stasi files
- Ossi and Wessi – the “wall in German heads”
- Major events in Austrian history since 1945
- Political structure and major institutions of the FRG
- Political structure and major institutions of the DDR
- Political structure and major institutions of Austria
- The FRG as a federal state (*Bund and Länder*)
- The media in Germany today
- An important museum (of student’s choice)
- Religion in the FRG since 1949
- The German transport network
- The FRG and the European Union
- The DDR and the Warsaw Pact
- Germans on holiday
- The Love Parade
- *Neue deutsche Welle* – the flowering of German pop
- *Deutsche Qualität* - successful German exports
- A German *Land* (of student’s choice) - geography, economy, character
- A prominent German politician / sportsperson / writer / artist / musician / director / actor / etc (of student’s choice) of the period 1949 to the present day

Timetable

Week 1 11 – 15 July	Mon Tues, Thurs	Introduction to Course (Sutherland) Federal Republic of Germany (Sutherland)
Week 2 18 – 22 July	Mon Tues, Thurs	Federal Republic of Germany (Sutherland) German Democratic Republic (Sutherland)
Week 3 25 – 29 July	Mon, Tues & Thurs	German Democratic Republic (Sutherland)
Week 4 1 – 5 August	Mon Tues Thurs	German Democratic Republic (Sutherland) Fall of the Wall and beyond (Sutherland) Growing up in the GDR (Szczepanski)
Week 5 8 – 12 August	Mon Tues Thurs	Growing up in the GDR (Szczepanski) Memories of the GDR (Raulea) Student Seminars (Millington)
Week 6 15 – 19 August	Mon, Tues & Thurs	Student Seminars (Millington)
MID TRIMESTER BREAK 22 August to 4 September		
Week 7 5 – 9 September	Mon, Tues & Thurs	Student Seminars (Millington)
Week 8 12 – 16 September	Mon, Tues & Thurs	Student Seminars (Millington)
Week 9 19 – 23 September	Mon, Tues & Thurs	Post-unification literature and film (Tempian)
Week 10 27 - 30 September	Mon, Tues & Thurs	Post-unification literature and film (Tempian)
Week 11 3 – 7 October	Mon, Tues & Thurs	Post-unification literature and film (Tempian)
Week 12 10 – 14 October	Mon, Tues & Thurs	Post-unification literature and film (Tempian)

Outline of Topics for the Film and Literature Section

Dr Tempian (Weeks 9 – 12)

The literary texts and films in Section 3 of the course (Weeks 9-12) will be dealt with in the following order:

1. Schlink, Bernhard *The Reader*. London: Phoenix, 1999. ISBN: 0-75380-470-0
2. Schulze, Ingo *Simple Stories*. London: Vintage, 2002. 2nd ed. 3-10pp, 200-215pp, 272-280pp. 30pp from 304 pp. ISBN: 0-375-70512-0
3. Hermann, Judith *Summerhouse, Later: Stories*. New York, London: Harper Perennial, 2003. 1st ed. 185-205pp. 20 pp from 224pp. ISBN: 0-060-00687-0
4. Wolfgang Becker, *Good Bye, Lenin!* (Film, 120min)
5. Müller, Herta *Traveling on One Leg*. Chicago: Northwestern University Press, 2010. 1st ed. 18-33pp. 42-43pp. 64-70pp. 35pp from 149pp. ISBN: 0-810-12706-7
6. Özdamar, Emine *Mother Tongue*. Toronto: Coach House Press, 1994. 1st ed. 9-15pp. 6pp from 160. ISBN: 0-889-10464-6
7. Dischereit, Esther "Joemi's Table". *Contemporary Jewish Writing in Germany: An Anthology*. Ed. Leslie Morris, Karen Remmler. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002. 115-120pp. 129-131pp. 163-166pp. 10pp from 247pp. ISBN: 0-803-23940-8
8. Fatih Akin, *The Edge of Heaven* (Film, 116min)

Students are expected to read the text excerpts prior to the class which will include seminar discussions based on active group work.

Background literature

- Briel, Holger (ed). *German Culture and Society: the Essential Glossary* (2002).
- Burns, Rob (ed). *German Cultural Studies: An Introduction* (1995).
- Elsaesser, Thomas & Wedel, Michael (eds). *The BFI Companion to German Cinema* (1999).
- Furness, Raymond & Humble, M. (eds). *A Companion to Twentieth-Century German Literature* (1997).
- Phipps, Alison. *Contemporary German Cultural Studies* (2002).