Course Title

Place – Building – Time: The Architecture of Berlin

Innovations, Confrontations and Redefinitions

Course Number
SOC-UA 9941D01, ARTH-UA9651 D01, SCA-UA 9853 D01

Instruction Mode: In-Person

Fall 2022

Lecturer Contact Information
Dr. phil. habil. Paul Sigel
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Your instructor will inform you about learner hours (one-on-one meetings).

Prerequisites
None

Units Earned
4

Course Details
Mondays, 2:00 pm to 4:45 pm

Location: Rooms will be posted in Albert before your first class.

In the interest of protecting the NYU Berlin community, we are closely following guidance around COVID-19 from the Robert Koch Institute (Germany’s institute for disease control and prevention), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and adjusting our recommendations and policies accordingly. Your health and well-being is our top priority. You are required to adhere to the most recent policies. Please note that you are expected to attend every class meeting in-person; however, this may change at any point during the
semester if local COVID-19 regulations so require. You will be assigned a seat on the first day and are expected to use that seat for the entire semester due to NYU COVID-19 safety protocol.

Course Description
Berlin's urban landscape and architectural history reflect the unique and dramatic history of this metropolis. Rarely has any city experienced equally radical waves of growth and destruction, of innovation and fragmentation and of opposing attempts at urban redefinition. Particularly in the 19th and early 20th centuries, the city developed into a cultural and industrial metropolis. Berlin, the latecomer among European metropolitan cities, became a veritable world city with an outstanding heritage of baroque, classicist and modern architecture. Destruction during the Second World War and the separation of the city led to opposing planning concepts for its reconstruction, which contributed to significant new layers of the urban pattern. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, a major building boom made Berlin a hotspot for often controversial building and planning debates. This course will enable students to see, describe and understand the complex historical, cultural and social conditions of the different layers of Berlin's architecture.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)
At the end of this course students will …

- be able to describe and reflect upon architecture and built urban spaces.
- have gained a differentiated understanding of style categories used in art / architectural history.
- be familiarized with the proper terminology and will be trained in using historical sources such as historical city plans and historical illustrations
- understand architecture and urban space not only in its aesthetic value, but also in its political, social and cultural context. In this way, the course will lead to complex approaches to urban history and architecture.

Course Approach to Teaching & Learning (CATL)
This course intends to enable students to interdisciplinary thinking and discussion by providing the necessary space for doing. The course offers various approaches to understanding urban design and architecture through reading, studying media (illustrations, plans etc.) and by discussing buildings and urban space on field trips.

Assessment Components
Class Participation comprises 15% of the total grade.

6 Reading Response Papers of 1 page each and 6 Brief Verbal Introductions to case studies make up 15% of the total grade.

Reading Responses: Students should identify an idea or argument in the reading that has surprised, perplexed or inspired them. Reading responses should be submitted to the instructor by email the day before the class.

Case Studies: Students should give brief introductions to monuments discussed during the tours.

The Midterm Essay of 5 pages comprises 15% of the total grade. Midterm essays must be submitted via email and as hardcopies during session 7.
One **Research Paper** of 10 to 15 pages comprises 30% of the total grade. The research papers must be submitted via email and as a hard copy during session 14.

The **Final Exam** comprises 25% of the total grade. This will be a short written exam (about 45 minutes) concerning the major monuments discussed in the course. The final exam will take place on 19 December 2022.

Failure to submit or fulfill any required component may result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

**Required Text(s)**
Electronic Resources (via Brightspace / NYU Library Course Reserves)

Rainer Haubrich / Hans Wolfgang Hoffmann / Philipp Meuser: Berlin. The Architecture Guide, Verlagshaus Braun, Berlin 2012. (No need to purchase this book, your professor will provide loan copies that you need to return at the end of the semester.)


Please follow this link for the [NYU Berlin Library Catalogue](https://nyu.academiccatalogue.com) or the link on NYU Berlin's website (Academics/Facilities & Services).

**Additional Required Equipment**
None

**Session 1 – Monday, 5 Sep 2022**
**General Introduction to the Course:**
The Architecture of Berlin: Innovations, Confrontations and Redefinitions
Introduction to the history and architectural history of Berlin

Session Learning Outcomes (SLOs): Introduction to the overall design of the course and its main contents.

**Session 2 – Monday, 12 Sep 2022**
**From the Traces of the Medieval City to the Baroque Capital**
**Architecture Terminology 1**

Introduction to the main architectural monuments of Berlin from the Middle Ages to the 18th century. Discussion of relevant architectural terminology.

SLOs: Explaining how the city developed and grew from the Middle Ages to the 18th century royal residence city. Differentiating between style categories from gothic to baroque.
Session 3 – Monday, 19 Sep 2022
Schinkel’s Berlin: From Classicism to Historicism
Architecture Terminology 2

This session specifically focuses on the city development in the 19th century, especially by discussing the impact of architects like Karl Friedrich Schinkel and his scholars.
SLOs: Learning and properly using architectural terminology, particularly in regard to Neoclassicism.

Reading:

Assignments: Reading Response 1 due this session.

Session 4 – Monday, 26 Sep 2022
Tour 1: Tour through the Historic City Center

The field trip leads to Berlin’s historic city center and will introduce Berlin’s architectural heritage from the middle ages to the early 19th century.
SLOs: Analyzing main examples of gothic, baroque and neo-classicist architecture in their urban context. Describing architecture by using proper terminology.

Reading:

Assignments: Brief verbal introduction to chosen monuments. Choose one case study based on Sessions 2 and 3: Practice using the proper terminology. Assignment is due during this session.

Monday, 3 Oct 2022 – No class – Public Holiday

Session 5 – Monday, 10 Sep 2022
The Rise of the Modern City

This session focuses on understanding the political and economic reasons for the development of Berlin as one of the main metropolitan cities in Europe during the second half of the 19th century.
SLOs: Understanding the economic, political and social reasons for the development of Berlin in the second half of the 19th century. Discussing and analyzing variations of historicist trends in architecture.

Reading:


Assignments: Reading Response 2 due this session.

Session 6 – Monday, 17 Oct 2022

Housing Reform between 1900 and 1930

This session focuses on the massive challenge of housing problems in Berlin around 1900 and on the various housing reform projects from 1900 to the Weimar Republic. Students will become familiar with trends, protagonists and major approaches to housing reform around 1900 and in the Weimar Republic.

SLOs: Understanding the main social challenges and problems of densely built metropolitan cities at the beginning of the 20th century. Discussing modernist trends in architecture, especially regarding modernist housing estates of the 1920s.

Reading:


Assignments: Reading Response 3 due this session.

Session 7 – Monday, 24 Oct 2022

Tour 2: From the Gründerzeit Tenement Housing to Bruno Taut’s Housing Estates

This tour leads to typical 19th century tenement housing examples in Prenzlauer Berg and to significant examples of modern housing projects of the Weimar Republic.

SLOs: Students will train to describe and to analyze typical end of the 19th century tenement houses and to compare them to modernist housing estates of the 1920s. Understanding modernist architecture of the 1920s as a result of both functional needs and radical new aesthetic concepts.

Reading:

Assignments: Choose one case study based on Sessions 5 and 6: Practice describing architecture by using the proper terminology and by explaining stylistic categories. Analyze your case study as a typical example of housing architecture between 1900 and 1930. Assignment is due during this session.

Midterm Essay due (based on topics to be discussed individually with the instructor)

Session 8 – Monday, 31 Oct 2022
Berlin under the NS Regime

This session will introduce the main aspects of National Socialist approaches to architecture and urban design as media of political propaganda.
SLOs: Students will analyze NS architecture and urban design trends, especially regarding the ideological and political framing of state representation, housing programs, infrastructure building. Students will analyze NS architecture in a wider international context of the 1930s.

Reading:


Assignment: Reading Response 4 due this session

Session 9 – Monday, 7 Nov 2022
Tour 3: Traces of NS Berlin

This field trip will lead to traces of NS architecture in Berlin.
SLOs: Students will analyze examples of NS architecture in their urban context and will discuss this challenging heritage, especially regarding matters of preservation and public information.

Reading:


Assignments: Choose one case study based on session 8. Practice describing architecture. Analyze your case study as an example of NS architecture. Assignment is due during this session.
Session 10 – Monday, 14 Nov 2022
Cold War Confrontations

This session will introduce main projects of postwar rebuilding after WWII destruction. It will focus on architecture and urban design as media of confronting political systems in East and West.

SLOs: Students will understand post-war rebuilding as a major challenge after 1945 and will analyze competing trends in architecture and urban design in divided Berlin during the Cold War.

Reading:


Assignment: Reading Response 5 due this session.

Session 11 – Monday, 21 Nov 2022
Tour 4: East-West Perspectives: Karl-Marx-Allee / City West

The field trip will lead to main examples of rebuilding in former East and West Berlin and will introduce differences and parallels in postwar rebuilding in divided Berlin.

SLOs: Students will analyze main examples of postwar urban design and architecture in former East and West Berlin and will understand their significance as examples of competing trends.

Reading:


Assignments: Choose one case study based on Session 10: Practice describing architecture. Analyze your case study as an example of post-war architecture regarding specific political and cultural conditions. Assignment is due during this session.

Session 12 – Monday, 28 Nov 2022
Berlin Re-united
This session focuses on planning and building activities in Berlin after reunification. 
SLOs: Students will become familiar with the challenges, fundamental debates and controversial trends in architecture and urban design during and after reunification.

Reading:


Assignment: Reading Response 6 due this session.

Session 13 – Monday, 5 Dec 2022
Tour 5: The New Berlin 1: Architecture and Sustainability

The session will introduce recent and contemporary trends in sustainability regarding architecture and urban design.
SLOs: Students will discuss and understand the variety of approaches to sustainability in architecture since the 1980s.

Reading and Assignments: Information will follow in class

Session 14 – Monday, 12 Dec 2022
Tour 6: The New Berlin 2: Political Architecture: The Government District. Course Summary

This final field trip will lead to the new Government District, we will discuss the Reichstag reconstruction as well as the architecture of the Government District as a whole.
SLOs: Critical discussion of contemporary political architecture, especially regarding the development of the new Government District. Course summary: Students will be able to describe and analyze architecture from the middle ages to contemporary trends. They will understand the aesthetics of urban architecture and the history of the built environment in general in a broader range of changing political, cultural and social contexts.

Reading:


Assignments: Choose one case study based on session 12. Practice describing architecture and analyze your case study as a typical example of contemporary architecture. Assignment is due during this session.

**Final Research Paper due** (based on topics to be discussed individually with the instructor).

**Monday 19 Dec 2022**
**Final exam**
Exam: Short written exam (about 45 minutes) concerned with the major monuments discussed during the course.

**Recommendations for a Positive Teaching and Learning Environment**
Please be sure that your phones are silenced before coming to class.

**Suggested Learning Opportunities that Relate to our Course**
Recommended events / exhibitions will be discussed in class.

**Your Lecturer**
Dr. phil. habil. Paul Sigel is an art historian with a special focus on architectural and urban history. He received his PhD at the University of Tübingen 1997 and submitted his Habilitation (professorial dissertation) at the Technical University of Dresden 2010. He has taught as a guest professor at the TU Dresden, the Center for Metropolitan Studies at the TU Berlin and the HafenCity University Hamburg. His main areas of research are architectural history and theory from the 19th century until the present, architecture and national representation, and discourses on urban identity.

**Academic Policies**

**Grade Conversion**
Your lecturer may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

- A = 94-100 or 4.0
- A- = 90-93 or 3.7
- B+ = 87-89 or 3.3
- B = 84-86 or 3.0
- B- = 80-83 or 2.7
- C+ = 77-79 or 2.3
- C = 74-76 or 2.0
- C- = 70-73 or 1.7
- D+ = 67-69 or 1.3
Attendance Policy

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. Since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers is expected promptly when class begins. Attendance will be checked at each class meeting.

As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor and/or the Academics team (berlin.academics@nyu.edu) by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or site staff may ask you to present a doctor’s note or an exceptional permission from an NYU Staff member as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances that you wish to be treated confidentially must be presented to NYU Berlin’s director or Wellness Counselor. Doctor's notes must be submitted in person or by e-mail to the Academics team, who will inform your professors.

Unexcused absences may be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student’s final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed, and may negatively affect your class participation grade. Four unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequently joining the class late.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to site staff; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

Final exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between your final exams, please bring this to the attention of the Academics team. Students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

Late Submission of Work

(1) Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (including weekends and public holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU Berlin's administration), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.

(2) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (including weekends and public holidays) following the submission date receives an F.
(3) Assignments due during finals week that are submitted more than 3 days late (including weekends and public holidays) without previously arranged extensions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Any exceptions or extensions for work during finals week must be discussed with the Site Director, Dr. Gabriella Etmektsoglou.

(4) Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.

(5) Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on a university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism
As the University's policy on "Academic Integrity for Students at NYU" states: "At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others." Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the University and school policies.

NYU takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form, and may check your assignments by using TurnItIn or another software designed to detect offenses against academic integrity.

The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images, or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you MUST inform your professor.

For guidelines on academic honesty, clarification of the definition of plagiarism, examples of procedures and sanctions, and resources to support proper citation, please see:

NYU Academic Integrity Policies and Guidelines

NYU Citations Style Guide

Inclusivity Policies and Priorities
NYU's Office of Global Programs and NYU's global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.
Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays
Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU Berlin’s Academics team in writing via e-mail one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics team will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays.

Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert and Zoom)
Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to add their pronouns, as well as the pronunciation of their names, into Albert. Students can have this information displayed to faculty, advisors, and administrators in Albert, Brightspace, the NYU Home internal directory, as well as other NYU systems. Students can also opt out of having their pronouns viewed by their instructors, in case they feel more comfortable sharing their pronouns outside of the classroom. For more information on how to change this information for your Albert account, please see the Pronouns and Name Pronunciation website.

Students, staff, and faculty are also encouraged, though not required, to list their pronouns, and update their names in the name display for Zoom. For more information on how to make this change, please see the Personalizing Zoom Display Names website.

Moses Accommodations Statement
Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through NYU Berlin.

Bias Response
The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community.

Experienced administrators in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) receive and assess reports, and then help facilitate responses, which may include referral to another University school or unit, or investigation if warranted according to the University's existing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

The Bias Response Line is designed to enable the University to provide an open forum that helps to ensure that our community is equitable and inclusive.

To report an incident, you may do so in one of three ways:

- Online using the Web Form
- Email: bias.response@nyu.edu
● US Phone Number: +1 212-998-2277
● Local Number in Berlin: +49 (0) 30 2902 91277

Please consider the environment before printing this syllabus. If printing is necessary, please select only the essential page range.