Course Title

Global Connections – Berlin Spaces

Course Number
SCA-UA.9634001

SAMPLE SYLLABUS

Lecturer Contact Information
Ares Kalandides
ares.kalandides@nyu.edu

Course Details
Monday, 2pm – 4:45pm
Location of class: Academic Center, Room “Tempelhof” (tbc)

Prerequisites
none

Units earned
4

Course Description
This course examines current urban development in Berlin and its connections to worldwide phenomena. It focuses on the way that different social groups (according to class, milieu, origin, gender or sexuality) appropriate urban space and constitute place-specific identities. It uses the city of Berlin with its multiple layers of history as a laboratory for contemporary urban research with historical, empirical and theoretical material. We will study key debates on urban developments, partly through field visits. We will research issues of housing, migration and gentrification and search for the creative and the sustainable city. You will be introduced to the contemporary discourses on those trends and to new ways of reading and seeing a city.

After a snapshot of the current situation, and with a glance at Berlin's development since the 19th century, the first classes offer a short introduction to Berlin in the years that followed German reunification (1990) and focus on the political powers and social struggles that have shaped it: the planning of reunification, large iconic projects and urban regeneration are some of the issues discussed here.

The next block concentrates on how Berlin was reshaped in the new millennium to become one of the most vibrant, yet contradictory, cities in Europe. Here we focus on the images, discourses, practices and materialities of gentrification, as well as on the role of the creative milieus in it.

A further block is dedicated to the way in which different identities are manifested in the city. During this block we will look for the signifiers of social spatial concentrations and discusses possible explanations behind them. We will look at the issue from several points of view and try to discern differences in class (deprived neighborhoods), origin (ethnic neighborhoods), sexuality (gay and lesbian neighborhoods), etc.
Finally, the class closes with a discussion on governance in Berlin, the role of urban movements, practices of resistance, modes of participation and the "Right to the City”.

Course Objective
This course is based on theoretical approaches, debates and personal observations. At the end of this course you will:
- have the tools to analyze, to “read and see” Berlin and to understand what is happening beneath the surface.
- be familiar with common terms in urbanism and will know how to use them properly.
- be able to link your everyday life experience to the academic discourse on cities.

Assessment Components

Active class participation (+ weekly reading responses*): 15%
Midterm exam** (session 6): 15%
Individual research paper***, 2,500-3,000 words (session 12): 40%
Final exam**** (session 15) 30%

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

*Readings/Assignments
Every session is accompanied by readings – approximately 80-100 pages per session. Papers will be uploaded to NYU Classes only if not available in the NYU library services. Students are expected to prepare readings in depth and be able to discuss them in class. Any additional reading will be marked as such. Please choose 3-5 takeaways from each paper that have caught your attention and that you would like to discuss in class. Send these to your professor 24 hours before class at the latest.

**Midterm exam
Session 6 is an exam, in which students will be asked to answer comprehension questions and integrate readings and lectures from all 5 previous sessions (120 minutes).

***Individual research paper
Particular attention should be paid when choosing the subject, conducting the research and composing the essay (2,500 - 3,000 words).

a) Subject. You can choose any subject from the syllabus by Session 4 and focus on a particular case study. If you are interested in a subject that is not in the syllabus, please contact your instructor to determine whether this fits into the course. When choosing a subject pay attention to certain elements: Is it linked to the course syllabus? Is it realistic that I can conduct research in one semester? Will I have access to documents in English?

b) Research. Base your research on observation. This should be undertaken in a systematic way. Interviews are an option for those who already have experience in using that particular method. Ask your professor if you are not sure.
c) Composition. The composition will take place in two parts: You are expected to deliver a draft of your essay by Session 7 (1,500 - 2,000 words). This can still be explorative in style, but your research question(s), your research method(s), your observations, link to the course content, references and preliminary findings should already be clear. Your final essay, due by Session 12, will elaborate the preliminary one (2,500 - 3,000 words) and needs to be more focused on answering a clearly stated research question. Both draft and final essay need to include the above-mentioned elements: research question; link to theoretical approaches and to literature, research methods; results from observations and/or readings; findings; open questions/further research recommendations; references/literature.

PLEASE NOTE: NYU Berlin offers workshops in research methods and academic writing. It is recommended that students attend them.

****Final exam
The last session is an exam in which students will be asked to answer comprehension questions and integrate readings and lectures from all sessions (120 minutes).

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

Assessment Expectations

Grade A: The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers well-structured arguments in their work. The student writes comprehensive essays / answers to exam questions and their work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.

Grade B: The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy.

Grade C: The work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However, the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement.

Grade D: The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research.

Grade F: The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible.

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

- \[ B+ = 87-89 \quad C+ = 77-79 \quad D+ = 67-69 \quad F = \text{below 65} \]
- \[ A = 94-100 \quad B = 84-86 \quad C = 74-76 \quad D = 65-66 \]
- \[ A- = 90-93 \quad B- = 80-83 \quad C- = 70-73 \]

Alternatively:
A= 4.0    A- = 3.7
B+ = 3.3    B = 3.0    B- = 2.7
C+ = 2.3    C = 2.0    C- = 1.7
D+ = 1.3    D = 1.0    F = 0.0.

Attendance Policy
Participation in all classes is essential for your academic success, especially in courses that meet only once per week. Your attendance in both content and language courses is required and will be checked at each class meeting. As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or NYU Berlin’s administration may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from NYU Berlin's Director or Wellness Counselor as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances must be presented to the Director. Doctor's notes need to be submitted to the Academics Office, who will inform your professors. Doctor's notes need to be from a local doctor and carry a signature and a stamp. If you want the reasons for your absence to be treated confidentially, please approach NYU Berlin's Director or Wellness Counselor.

Unexcused absences affect students’ grades: In content courses each unexcused absence (equaling one week's worth of classes) leads to a deduction of 2% of the overall grade and may negatively affect your class participation grade. In German Language classes two or three (consecutive or non-consecutive) unexcused absences (equaling one week's worth of classes) lead to a 2% deduction of the overall grade. Three unexcused absences in one content course and five unexcused absences in your German language course may lead to a Fail in that course. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequent late arrival or late arrival back from in-class breaks. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Please note that for classes involving a field trip, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student’s responsibility to arrive in time at the announced meeting point.

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 the Academics Office; 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.

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 Office 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 Office 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 http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/university-calendar-policy-on-religious-holidays.html
Late Submission of Work
(1) Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.

(2) Late work should be submitted in person to the lecturer or to the Academics Office, who
will write on the essay or other work the date and time of submission, in the presence of the
student. Another member of the administrative staff may also personally accept the work,
and will write the date and time of submission on the work, as above.

(3) Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is
late (excluding weekends and public or religious 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.

(4) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (excluding
weekends and public or religious holidays) following the submission date receives an F.

(5) End of semester essays must be submitted on time.

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

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

Provisions for Students with Disabilities
Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please
contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see their website
(https://www.nyu.edu/students/communities-and-groups/students-with-disabilities.html) for
further information.

Plagiarism Policy
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.
Proper referencing of your sources avoids plagiarism (see as one possible help the NYU

NYU Berlin 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.

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 a summary of NYU Global's academic policies please see:
www.nyu.edu/global/academic-policies
Required Text(s)
Required texts are listed under each session. Papers will be uploaded to NYU Classes only if not available in the NYU library services.

NYU Berlin Library Catalogue: [http://guides.nyu.edu/global/berlin](http://guides.nyu.edu/global/berlin) or follow the link on NYU Berlin's website (Academics/Facilities & Services).

Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase; available in NYU Berlin reading room)

Internet Research Guidelines
to be discussed in class

Session 1 – 28 Aug 2017
Introduction to the main issues and concepts of the course. Introduction to urban development in Berlin.
Reading:

Session 2 – 4 Sep 2017
Reading:

***No Class on 11 Sep 2017***
Please see additional requirements for this day at the end of the syllabus

Session 3 – 18 Sep 2017
*Field Trip*: Introduction to urban development in Berlin. Visit to the Berlin Planning Department (Senatsverwaltung für Stadtentwicklung und Umwelt, Am Köllnischen Park 3).
Reading:


Session 4 – 25 Sep 2017
Gentrification in a local and global context.
Final date for decision on individual research projects.
Reading:


Additional reading:


Session 5 – 2 Oct 2017
Field Trip: Prenzlauer Berg.
The discovery of Berlin as a “creative city”. Social and economic consequences of the creative economy. Introduction to urban development in Berlin since 1990 (II). Progress of individual research projects.
Reading:


Session 6 – 9 Oct 2017
Midterm Exam

***Fall Break - No Class on 16 Oct 2017***

Session 7 – 23 Oct 2017
Preliminary essay due
Migrant Communities. Exclusion/Inclusion; Integration. Preliminary research paper due.
Reading:


Additional Reading:
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Session 8 – 30 Oct 2017
Field Trip: Kreuzberg. Immigration, segregation, integration.
Reading:

Additional Reading:

Session 9 – 6 Nov 2017
New forms of community building: Interim uses and urban gardening. Local initiatives and public space.
Reading:

Additional Reading:

Session 10 – 13 Nov 2017
Field Trip: Mauerpark and Wedding. Social housing.
Final individual research paper due.
Reading:
Session 12 – 20 Nov 2017
Field Trip: Development along the Spree river.
Reading:

Session 13 – 27 Nov 2017
Reading:
Additional Reading:

Session 14 – 4 Dec 2017
Gender, sexuality and space: Women at work and queer neighborhoods.
Reading:
Additional Reading:

Session 15 – 11 Dec 2017
Final Exam
Additional requirements
Participation in two lunchtime seminars: “research methods and/or academic writing”. (Dates to be announced)

Classroom Etiquette
You are expected to be present and active in class, pay attention to your professor and your fellow students, participate in discussions and ask questions. If a student for any reason is not feeling well, she or he should contact the professor before class and ask to be excused. A field trip is not leisure time. You are expected to pay attention as you do in class. Students that have missed classes for any reason (excused or unexcused) are expected to compare notes with their fellow students.

We generally discourage students from using computers in the classroom except when indicated otherwise. Any use of mobile devices, in particular the use of social media, chat, etc. is strictly forbidden and will not be tolerated. Cell phones must be switched off when class begins and can only be switched on again during break.

No eating is allowed in the classroom, even during breaks. Water, soda or hot drinks are permitted.

Suggested Co-Curricular Activities
Lunch workshop in research methods.
Lunch workshop in academic writing.

Your Lecturer
Ares Kalandides (M.A. French studies, M.Sc. Urban and Regional Planning, Ph.D Urban and Regional Planning) is Professor of Place Management and director of the Institute of Place Management at Manchester Metropolitan University (UK). He is the founder and CEO of the Berlin-based company Inpolis Urbanism, which offers consulting services on urban development. He has taught at NYU Berlin since September 2012 and also teaches Political Economy at Berlin University of Technology (TU Berlin). He has worked in several places around the globe including South America, Africa, Australia and Europe. He is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Place Management and Development. His current research includes issues of participation, inequality and local economic development.