



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

GERM 317.14

Topics in German cultural history: Recent German Media Debates

Fall 2022

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10:00 am – 10:50 am via zoom (in person at CHE 114 as soon as circumstances permit)

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Sebastian Rauball

OFFICE HOURS: Remotely, by appointment via email.

E-MAIL: sebrauball@gmail.com (You may expect a response within 48 hours, weekends excluded.)

TELEPHONE NUMBER: I don't have regular access to my office phone. Phone calls and Zoom meetings can be arranged via email.

DESCRIPTION

What's controversial in Germany? An analysis of contemporary debates in German (social) media. This class focuses on the improvement of understanding German society through the critical engagement with contemporary German (media) texts, tweets and other forms of expression.

OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to make students gain knowledge about German society and culture through the lens of (social) media controversies. In a broader sense, analyzing the discourse as a societal, economic, and philosophical phenomenon will train critical thinking skills and give the students an idea of what has been moving Germany in recent history.

OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand important parts of Germany's society and culture. They will be trained to closely observe, read and analyse media texts and other output. They will have enhanced their presentation, reading, and writing skills.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

All materials will be available online

COURSE NOTES

- All course meetings at the start of term are synchronous via Zoom and will NOT be recorded.
- **In person instruction of lectures will begin as scheduled as soon as circumstances permit.**
- To simulate a regular classroom atmosphere and improve communication, students are encouraged to keep their video turned on during class meetings. Please keep your microphone muted unless you decide to speak.
- Please see detailed information on the assessment and all assignments below.
- Please also see the detailed class schedule, which includes due dates for all assignments, on D2L (under Content).



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Technology Requirements:

As per the requirements, students need to have reliable access to technology, as follows:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection.

Additionally, a webcam/camera (built-in or external) is highly recommended.

ASSESSMENT

Homework: 30 % (10 at 3% each)

Oral exam: 30 %

Participation: 40 %

Homework: There are 10 homework assignments. Homework assesses students' understanding of the assigned readings. Homework has to be submitted on D2L prior to the class meeting for which it was assigned, and it should be ready at hand during class meetings. Homework will be graded based on completion (a complete assignment answers all questions in grammatically complete German sentences).

Oral exam: There will be 1 oral exam (max. 15 minutes). The exam will be graded based on understanding of the argument (10%), structure (introduction and conclusion, clear transitions) (10%) and an understanding what the impact of the debate on German society was (concrete examples of law changes etc.) (10%).

Participation: Students are asked to participate in class discussions by sharing results of their homework and/or providing additional comments and questions. To receive a perfect grade, students must make substantive contributions every session over the course of the semester.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **All writing assignments (except for the reflective statements contributing to the participation component) have to be uploaded to D2L. Please use WORD DOCUMENTS for all written assignments, and please include your full name in the name of the file.**
- **For each 24 hours that an assignment is late, one point will be deducted. Please reach out to the instructor prior to the due date to arrange accommodations if appropriate. Any assignment that is not submitted will be graded at zero points.**

GRADING SCALE

A+ (97-100%), **A** (92-96%), **A-** (86-91%)

B+ (81-85%), **B** (76-80%), **B-** (71-75%)

C+ (67-70%), **C** (62-66%), **C-** (58-61%)

D+ (54-57%), **D** (50-53%), **F** (0-49%)

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT



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All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.



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In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.