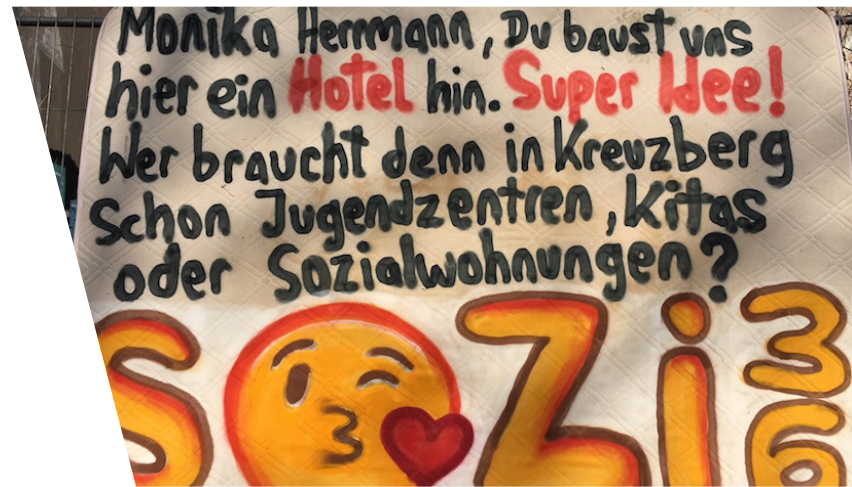


BERLIN 2019: THE ONCE AND FUTURE METROPOLIS



URBANIZATION, CONFLICT & COMMUNITY

What makes a city? Who decides how a city grows and changes, and what criteria do they use – should it be beautiful, efficient, sustainable, open, just? How do economic systems and political ideologies shape urban development? What is the “right to the city,” and what does it mean for city-dwellers to exercise it? These are just some of the questions we will seek to answer in this summer program in Berlin.



Political graffiti in Kreuzberg, 2018.

HISTORY, CHANGE & AGENCY

This program will expose students to the dynamics of urban change in one of the most historically freighted and contested cities in the world. They will come to understand the complex histories behind Berlin’s urban spaces, and the strategies adopted by local actors to deal with those histories while finding agency to shape them for the future. Students will experience first-hand how spaces have been defined by drivers like economic exigency, political ideology, violence, environmental conditions, and technological development, and they will learn how contemporary challenges, including climate change, gentrification, and immigration butt up against competing ambitions for Berlin to become a “global city” and for it to maintain its distinct character.

QUICK FACTS

LOCATION: Berlin, Germany

ACADEMIC TERM: Summer A Term 2019

ESTIMATED PROGRAM FEE: \$4,500

CREDITS: 10 UW credits

PREREQUISITES: At least one of the following: CEP 200; URBDP 200 or 300; BE 200; GEOG 276, 277, 301, 303 or 478; SOC 215 or 365; or *permission of the instructor.*

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Evan H. Carver (evanhc@uw.edu)

PROGRAM MANAGER: Megan Herzog (herzomeg@uw.edu)

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 31, 2019

INFORMATION SESSIONS: TBD. Contact Evan or Megan to be placed on the information list.



"Wings of Desire," a touchstone Berlin film.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Activities will include bike tours, walking tours, lectures, film screenings, case studies, directed reading and group discussion, and self-exploration. Students will learn from the history and expertise of local actors, as well as from their personal experiences navigating this metropolis. Assessment will be based on daily participation and reading responses, as well as a final video research and reflective project.

ACADEMICS & CREATIVITY

URBDP 498E: Urbanization and the Politics of Space (5 credits)

Explores how Berliners have sought to balance recognition of the past with needs for the future. Students investigate how Berlin has responded to the 21st-century urban challenges – including climate adaptation, mass migration, and fractures in the post-Cold War world order – as well as how these global realities play out in the everyday lives of citydwellers. Students will explore how Berliners – via demonstrations, street art, squatting, or exercises in direct democracy – have asserted their rights to participate in deciding what their city means and what it can be.

UDP 498F: Reclaiming the Narrative: Filmic Intervention in the Urban Realm (5 credits)

Berlin was one of the biggest cities in the world at the dawn of the motion picture era. The ideas of Berlin as the prototypical urban metropolis and of film as a medium to communicate the city are closely intertwined. By considering Berlin as represented in film, this course explores techniques for defining and redefining the meaning of urban space using multisensory media. Students will learn about – and ultimately use – film as a tool for analyzing urban space, shaping narratives, and reflecting on urban life in Berlin today.

LIVE LIKE A BERLINER

We will live in the heart of the German capital for the duration of our trip, in apartment-style lodging in a primarily residential neighborhood, so that students can come close to experiencing the city as local residents do. We will meet with academics, professionals, elected officials, artists, and activists to learn about the history, development, and struggles surrounding contemporary urban residential, commercial, industrial, public, and open spaces. We will explore issues of remembrance and preservation at Mauerpark and the Breitscheidplatz; climate adaptation and environmental planning at sites like Tempelhofer Feld and Naturpark Südgelände; multiculturalism, refugee resettlement, and integration along Sonnenallee; modernist utopianism in the Gropiusstadt; urban renewal along the River Spree; and tourism, gentrification, and resistance in Kreuzberg and Friedrichshain. In all cases, we will focus on how residents are engaging in grassroots efforts to shape the city.



Critical cartography is one of the ways groups are reclaiming their right to the city.