SCHOOL OF DIVINITY, HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

ACADEMIC SESSION 2015-2016

HI 4015 – SPECIAL SUBJECT
SOCIETY AND POLITICS IN GERMANY
1945-1989

Course Co-ordinator: Dr Christoph Dartmann
30 Credits – 11 Weeks

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:
The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Undergraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen Organisation page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure. You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR/COURSE TEAM

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For office hours, please refer to MyAberdeen

Discipline Administration:
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TIMETABLE
For time and place of classes, please see MyAberdeen

Students can also view their university timetable at
http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php
COURSE DESCRIPTION

The history of the Federal Republic of Germany is dominated domestically by her social and economic developments, and externally by the relationship with East Germany and the emerging European Union. Germany's self-understanding comes from the fact that it is the successor to both the Weimar Republic and the Third Reich, and from the emphasis on consensual politics.

This course will cover the creation of the FDR; the relationship in particular with France, and Germany's role in the EEC; the relationship with the GDR; development of political parties (including the emergence of the Green party) and domestic policies in the period of CDU and SPD governments, as well as the Grand Coalition and terrorism; economic and social policies during the 'great boom'; and the economic crises from 1968 onwards. Some of the topics, and in particular the attempt to come to terms with the past, will be studied through the medium of film.

INTENDED AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Aim

This course aims to examine in detail the history of the Federal Republic of Germany, through a close study of contemporary sources as well as secondary sources.

Learning Outcomes

Intellectual skills
By the end of the course students should be able:
- to outline the main developments associated with the history of Germany between 1945 and 1989
- to offer explanations for the key developments in the period
- to analyse the impact of specific events on politics, society, culture or the economy
- to discriminate between characteristics seemingly central to the human condition and those specifically delineated by locale and time
- to provide and receive academic criticism in a constructive fashion.

Attitudinal Skills
The course is intended to enhance appreciation and awareness of:
- the historiographical debates relating to the subject
- the skills characteristic of the professional historian and the particular problems faced by historians of a foreign country

Transferable Skills
By the end of the course the student should be able to:
- understand that some views and attitudes are specific to certain times and places
- listen attentively and note take effectively
- select and read relevant information
• construct coherent arguments in written work and in seminars, within the constraints of deadlines and limits on word length
• participate in team work
• apply IT skills related to word processing, data presentation and the use of the internet
• interpret primary source material

LECTURE/SEMINAR PROGRAMME

Note: This programme is subject to change. In any case, the course allows students to contribute to the programme design, and in fact this is an important part of the learning in this course.

Week 1
- Primary Sources
- Assessment and Overview

Week 2
- Bibliographical Searches
- Secondary Material
- Please read at least one book providing an overview over recent interpretations, and be prepared to present this informally in class

Week 3
- Major Themes and Presentation Topics
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Weeks 4 to 10
- Student presentations

Week 11
- History, Methodology and Memory

A document test as part of the preparation for the examination will be included in the programme

READING LIST

No reading list will be provided. It is most important for this course and beyond to be able to efficiently and effectively find and select reading for your academic work. You are encouraged to show initiative in developing this ability, and some initial training in bibliographical search databases will be given.
ASSESSMENT

Assessment is 100% examination. In addition, at least one presentation in class, and one further contribution (presentation, essay, other contribution) will be required.

Click to view the University Level Descriptors (ANNEX A).
Click to view the University Assessment Scale Band Descriptors (ANNEX B).

PLEASE NOTE: In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 on each element of course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.

SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

The Department requires ONE official electronic copy submitted by the deadline plus ONE paper copy of all assignments with the TurnitinUK receipt, attached as follows:

Electronic Copy: One copy submitted through Turnitin via MyAberdeen.
Hard Copy: One hard copy with the Turnitin receipt attached together with an Assessment cover sheet, typed and double spaced – this copy should have your ID number CLEARLY written on the cover sheet, with NO name and NO signature but EVERYTHING ELSE filled in – and should be delivered to the History Department [Drop-off boxes located in CB008, 50-52 College Bounds].

Please note: Failure to submit both to Turnitin, and also one identical hard copy with the Turnitin receipt attached will result in a deduction of marks. Failure to submit to Turnitin will result in a zero mark.

EXAMINATION

There will be one three-hour examination. Students will have to analyse a number of gobbets (source extracts), and answer two essay-style questions. More detail and practical preparation will be provided during the course. General exam guidance will be given in the Student Handbook.)

Past exam papers can be viewed at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/learning-and-teaching/for-students/exam-papers/. 