

Prof. Nicola Behrmann

Department of Germanic, Russian,
and East European Languages and Literatures
15 Seminary Place, Room 4126
E: behrmann@rutgers.edu
Office Hours: Thu 3-4pm

Syllabus

Berlin, Berlin! Protest & Popkultur

Advanced Conversation & Composition I

(3 credits)

01:470:231 Index: 00230

Fall 2017

M/Th3 - 11:30am-12:50pm

HC-N106

Course Description:

This course explores 20th century German culture, literature, and politics through an examination of the city of Berlin. Using film, literature, and audio examples we will focus on the following topics: Expressionism and Dada, Cabaret in the Golden Twenties, resistance against the Nazis, 1968 movement & left wing terrorism, the Berlin Wall & GDR protest culture, and contemporary Berlin scene. An emphasis will be placed on written exercises, listening and reading skills developing the ability to discuss and argue opinions, as well as a thorough review of grammar. All readings, discussions, and written works are in German.

Prerequisites: German 132.

Required Course Materials:

Rankin, Jamie, and Larry D. Wells. Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik. 5th ed. Boston, MA: Heinle, 2011. Print. ISBN-10: 1-4390-8278-2, ISBN-13: 978-1-4390-8278-2.

Rankin, Jamie, and Larry D. Wells. Arbeitsheft / Student Activity Manual for Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik. 5th ed. Boston, MA, Heinle, 2011. Print. ISBN10: 0-495-90594-1, ISBN13: 978-0-495-90594-3

Required films will be screened at the German Movie Night series on Wednesday evenings; additional copies are available on reserve at the Rutgers Media Center, Douglass Library, 8 Chapel Drive, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

All other materials on the syllabus are available on Sakai. **Note:** You must print out course materials from Sakai and have a copy of them with you in class.

Course Grading:

Final Grade:

Class Participation:	10%
Homework:	10%
3 Essays (500-750 words each):	30%
Midterm:	15%
Group Project (web & oral pres.):	20%
Final Exam:	15%

No late work will be accepted. Only one unexcused absence allowed.

Grade distribution:

A=90-100%; B+=85-89; B=80-84; C+=75-79; C=70-74; D=65-69; F=64 and below

Class Participation Rubrics:

	Attentiveness	Contribution	Use of German
Expectations are exceeded (90-100%)	The student always pays attention	The student is always eager to contribute to class, pair and group work, and ask questions. The student always volunteers answers.	The student only speaks German during class.
Expectations are met (80-89%)	The student pays attention most of the time.	The student is always eager to contribute to class, pair and group work, and occasionally asks questions. The student volunteers answers most of the time.	The student tries to speak only German during class.
Expectations are barely met (70-79%)	The student sometimes pays attention.	The student is occasionally eager to contribute to class, pair and group work and asks questions some of the time. The student volunteers answers some of the time.	The student speaks German most of the time during class, but sometimes still switches to English.
Expectations are not met (65-69%)	The student rarely pays attention.	The student almost never contributes to class, pair and group work, never asks questions or volunteers answers.	The student speaks German some of the time during class, but prefers speaking English.

Course Requirements:

Essays: You will write three essays during the semester (500-750 words each). Each essay will have two versions: Your first draft will be commented on regarding content, comprehensibility, use of language, and accuracy. Then, you will make necessary improvements and hand in the second version. Only our second and final version will be graded. Your essays will be evaluated based on criteria that the instructor will share with you with the assignment. The essays must be typed (12pt., double spaced) and are to be handed in in hard copy and submitted electronically via your personal Sakai Dropbox on the date listed in the syllabus. If the final version is submitted late, your percentage will be reduced by 1% for every day it is late (i.e. if you submit your essay three days after the due date, 3% will be taken off your percentage).

Group Project and Oral Presentation: In the second half of the semester students prepare a group project (3-4 students each group) on one of the themes of the course. The specific topic has to be discussed with and approved by the instructor in office hours. You will create a portfolio or webpage for your topic, which will also serve as the basis for your-in class presentation. Every group will present their topic in class. Note that each student must give a 5-7 min oral presentation on an individual subject. More specific details on content and format will be announced in class.

Vocabulary Lists: Every *Thursday* (except 10/24 and 11/28) students submit an individual vocabulary list. The list has to be submitted electronically via your personal Sakai Dropbox on the date listed in the syllabus. Vocabulary lists are part of the participation grade.

Progress Reports: Over the course of the semester students are required to write three progress reports, where they reflect upon the course and their individual progress. In the reports they describe what they have learned, what more they would like to learn, what aspects of the course they liked and disliked and why. These reports help the instructor better coordinate the students' expectations and progress with the learning goals of the course. The reports are written in English and not graded.

Course Website: You can find a website for this course under the following link: <http://sakai.rutgers.edu>. Here you will find all relevant course materials as well as announcements and assignments. You should be enrolled and have access automatically if you are a registered Rutgers students and have signed up for the course. Just use your NetID and password. In case you are not able to access the site, please contact me personally and I will give you access.

Final Examination: Date and place TBA.

Departmental Policies:

- **Attendance**

All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. Those who miss more than two class sessions without a compelling excuse should expect a one-step reduction in the course grade (i.e. an A becomes a B+, a B+ becomes a B). Every additional three absences may entail a further one-step grade-reduction. Three late arrivals count as one absence. Note: It is the responsibility of students who have been absent (for any reason) to find out what they have missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out.

- **Disability Support Services**

Students who may be requesting accommodations due to disabilities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with procedures and policies regarding disability support services at the following website: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/> . It is recommended that students seeking accommodations begin filing paperwork as soon as possible as the documentation review process may take up to 30 business days. Students are encouraged to speak with teachers about these issues at the beginning of the term. All such conversations will be kept strictly confidential.

- **Academic Integrity**

Violations of academic integrity are an extremely serious matter, and can lead to a student's failing the course and being referred to the University's Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action. When referring to ideas other than your own, always acknowledge your sources clearly and completely, whether you are quoting or paraphrasing. Note also that use of online translation services is not permitted as a tool for generating work that you submit for course credit. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers> , and discuss with your instructor any questions you may have about this and related issues.

Student-Wellness Services:

Just In Case Web App

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/

www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 /

www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.