

**Germany 30 years after reunification: Revisit the Past,  
Experience the Present, Imagine the Future**

**Dr. Daniel Stockemer  
Summer, 2021**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

Course schedule: (see Timeline below)

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### **OFFICIAL COURSE DESCRIPTION**

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University of Ottawa, Faculty of Social Science Field Research Class (in Germany)

### **GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION**

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When the Berlin Wall came down in 1989 nobody could imagine that - not even a year later - Germany would be a unified country. The separation was too long; the political, economic and personal differences that resulted from that division seemed too big to overcome. Yet, things have changed quite a bit since then, not only in terms of city landscapes, but also in terms of cultural and political landscapes. The process of unification was also an enormous economical undertaking. Nobody could be certain if it would/could work. But once the decision was made, there was no going back.

Through a three week long intensive (online) field research course our aim will be to discover and live Germany's and Berlin's vivid recent history from 1945 to today. We will understand and decode the processes that led to the division of Germany in the late 1940s, as well as the dynamics that allowed the country to become reunited 40 years later. We will also extensively discuss the cultural, economic and social life before and after reunification, as well as the challenges citizens of East and West Germany have faced after reunification. The course is embedded in the Summer Academy Reunification conjointly organized by the University of Rostock, Ehwa University in Seoul and the University of Ottawa. The course will be taught in a very practical way: we will virtually visit and discover the innumerable layers of memory that remain present and alive in the Berlin's and East Germany's landscape. To help

students connect the themes, which we will elaborate in the seminar, there will be several practical exercises that help students connect with Germany's past and present. To underline the international character of the summer school, there will also be plenty of opportunities to connect with students from Rostock and South Korea.

**Location: Ottawa**

(After some general classes, we will virtually participate in the Summer Academy Reunification organized by the University of Rostock, Ehwa University and the University of Ottawa and paid for by the German government)

For more information on the summer school, please regularly check out:

<https://www.uni-rostock.de/internationales/rostock-international-house/sommerschulen/saru/saru-2021/>

**Target group:**

The target group are Masters students and 4<sup>th</sup> year Bachelors' student

**REQUIREMENTS**

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I expect that participants want to immerse themselves into Germany's historical and contemporary life. The seminar will consist of a mixture of seminar sessions and virtual visits/ excursions, which will normally cover the morning and part of the afternoon. In addition, there will be some guest speakers that will talk about their personal experiences in the divided country from different perspectives. The course will be student focused and I expect familiarity with basic ethnographic and interview research. The course will be held in English and active knowledge of the English language is required.

**ASSESSMENT METHODS**

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**Components of Final Mark**

Evaluation format	Weight
Preparation of a Youtube presentation	40%
Book Review: Berlin 1961: Kennedy, Khrushchev, and the Most Dangerous Place on Earth (to be completed before the start of the summer school)	20%
Group work during the summer school	20%
Participation	20%

**Preparation of a Youtube presentation:**

As the Canadian Delegation of the summer school, we are responsible for two modules; one model tackles Canada's role in the Cold War and during German's reunification; the other one tackles divisions in Canada (i.e. language divisions and divisions between regular Canadians and First Nations). Each presentation should be around 45 minutes long. I count on the students' creativity to make them as interesting as possible. Students are allowed to use any material they want for their presentation.

**Book Review:**

As a preparation for the course, I will ask you to write a 5 page (single-spaced) book review of the Berlin 1961: Kennedy, Khrushchev, and the Most Dangerous Place on Earth, which is a masterpiece of investigative history. This book review should also familiarize students with the Cold War situation of the divided Germany.

**Group work during the summer school:**

During the first day of the summer school, we will distribute a group project to an international group of students of the three participating countries (i.e. Germany, South Korea, and Canada). The topic of the group work will be related to the German Reunification and its broader ramifications.

**Participation:**

I expect active participation of all participants. This involves active involvement in the summer school

**Pre-summer school meetings:**

DATE	Schedule
Early May (3 hour)	Preparation meeting, logistics, assignment of group work
June 21 (time to be determined)	Lecture: Germany after the 2 <sup>nd</sup> World War (1940-1950)
June 22 (time to be determined)	Lecture: The divided Germany in the 1960s, and the construction of the Berlin Wall
June 23 (time to be determined)	Lecture: The divided Germany in the 1970s and 1980s,
June 23	The fall of the Berlin Wall

Schedule: summer school

Monday, 28.06.2021			Joint Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Welcome, Opening, Introduction
7:00 - 8:00	13:00 - 14:00	20:00 - 21:00	Opening / Greetings (UR; Ewha, Uni Ottawa) / Introduction of the lecturers
7:45 - 8:00	13:45 - 14:00	20:45 - 21:00	Break / Distribution of group tasks
8:00 - 8:45	14:00 - 14:45	21:00 - 21:45	Short presentation of the participants (~1 min)

Tuesday, 29.06.2021			Splitted Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Module A - Contemporary history / Module F - Site of the Cold War
	9:00 - 10:30	16:00 - 17:30	<i>Stefan Kreuzberger [UR] &amp; Dierk Hoffmann [IfZ]</i> International dimension of the process of reunification 1989/90
	10:30 - 10:45	17:30 - 17:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	11:00 - 12:30	18:00 - 19:45	<i>Michael C. Bienert (Ernst Reuter Archives Foundation)</i> Berlin in the Cold War: Sites of German history in the capital
	12:30 - 12:45	12:30 - 12:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	13:00 - 14:00	20:00 - 21:00	Interview/ Film/ Student presentation
	14:00 - 15:00		Break
9:00 - 10:30	15:00 - 16:30		<i>Stefan Kreuzberger [UR] &amp; Dierk Hoffmann [IfZ]</i> International dimension of the process of reunification 1989/90
10:30 - 10:45	16:30 - 16:45		Groupwork + Consultations
10:45 - 11:00	16:45 - 17:00		
11:00 - 12:30	17:00 - 18:30		<i>Michael C. Bienert (Ernst Reuter Archives Foundation)</i> Berlin in the Cold War: Sites of German history in the capital
12:30 - 12:45	18:30 - 18:45		Groupwork + Consultations
12:45 -	18:45 -		Break

13:00	19:00		
13:00 - 14:00	19:00 - 20:00		Social event

Wednesday, 30.06.2021			Splitted Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Module A - Contemporary history / Module D - Legal and economic aspects
	9:00 - 10:30	16:00 - 17:30	<i>Michael Heinz [BStU]</i> The secret police of East Germany and its role in the Peaceful Revolution of 1989/1990
	10:30 - 10:45	17:30 - 17:45	
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	
	11:00 - 12:30	18:00 - 19:45	<i>Markus Rehberg [UR]</i> The legal shaping of German reunification
	12:30 - 12:45	12:30 - 12:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	13:00 - 14:00	20:00 - 21:00	Interview/ Film/ Student presentation
	14:00 - 15:00		Break
9:00 - 10:30	15:00 - 16:30		<i>Michael Heinz [BStU]</i> The secret police of East Germany and its role in the Peaceful Revolution of 1989/1990
10:30 - 10:45	16:30 - 16:45		Groupwork + Consultations
10:45 - 11:00	16:45 - 17:00		Break
11:00 - 12:30	17:00 - 18:30		<i>Markus Rehberg [UR]</i> The legal shaping of German reunification
12:30 - 12:45	18:30 - 18:45		Groupwork + Consultations
12:45 - 13:00	18:45 - 19:00		Break
13:00 - 14:00	19:00 - 20:00		Interview/ Film/ Student presentation

Thursday, 01.07.2021			Joined Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Module B - Political and diplomatic aspects
7:00 - 7:45	13:00 - 13:45	20:00 - 20:45	<i>KIM Seok-Hyang [Ewha]</i> Everyday life and minorities in North Korea

7:45 - 8:00	13:45 - 14:00	20:45 - 21:00	Break
8:00 - 8:45	14:00 - 14:45	21:00 - 21:45	<i>PARK Ihn-Hwi [Ewha]</i> Korean unification and Northeast Asian relations

Friday, 02.07.2021			Splitted Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Module B - Political and diplomatic aspects
	9:00 - 10:30	16:00 - 17:30	<i>Jörn Dosch [UR]</i> International dynamics of reunified Germany
	10:30 - 10:45	17:30 - 17:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	11:00 - 12:30	18:00 - 19:45	<i>Oliver Plessow [UR]</i> History, memory and politics in the Berlin Republic
	12:30 - 12:45	12:30 - 12:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	13:00 - 14:00	20:00 - 21:00	Interview/ Film/ Student presentation
	14:00 - 15:00		Break
9:00 - 10:30	15:00 - 16:30		<i>Jörn Dosch [UR]</i> International dynamics of reunified Germany
10:30 - 10:45	16:30 - 16:45		Groupwork + Consultations
10:45 - 11:00	16:45 - 17:00		Break
11:00 - 12:30	17:00 - 18:30		<i>Oliver Plessow [UR]</i> History, memory and politics in the Berlin Republic
12:30 - 12:45	18:30 - 18:45		Groupwork + Consultations
12:45 - 13:00	18:45 - 19:00		Break
13:00 - 14:00	19:00 - 20:00		Interview/ Film/ Student presentation

Monday, 05.07.2021			Joined Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Module C- Regional and global aspects / Module D - Legal and economic aspects
7:00 - 7:45	13:00 - 13:45	20:00 - 20:45	<i>KIM Sei-Wan [Ewha]</i> Economy in North and South Korea
7:45 - 8:00	13:45 -	20:45 -	Break

	14:00	21:00	
8:00 - 8:45	14:00 - 14:45	21:00 - 21:45	<i>Daniel Stockemer [Uni Ottawa]</i> Germany after reunification: A canadian view

Tuesday, 06.07.2021			Splitted Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	<b>Module C- Regional and global aspects</b>
	9:00 - 10:30	16:00 - 17:30	<i>Wolfgang Muno [UR]</i> German politics after unification and regional implications
	10:30 - 10:45	17:30 - 17:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	11:00 - 12:30	18:00 - 19:45	<i>Thomas Kalinowski [Ewha]</i> German reunification and the EU eastward expansion
	12:30 - 12:45	12:30 - 12:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	13:00 - 14:00	20:00 - 21:00	Interview/ Film/ Student presentation
	14:00 - 15:00		Break
9:00 - 10:30	15:00 - 16:30		<i>Wolfgang Muno [UR]</i> German politics after unification and regional implications
10:30 - 10:45	16:30 - 16:45		Groupwork + Consultations
10:45 - 11:00	16:45 - 17:00		Break
11:00 - 12:30	17:00 - 18:30		<i>Thomas Kalinowski [Ewha]</i> German reunification and the EU eastward expansion
12:30 - 12:45	18:30 - 18:45		Groupwork + Consultations
12:45 - 13:00	18:45 - 19:00		Break
13:00 - 14:00	19:00 - 20:00		Interview/ Film/ Student presentation

Wednesday, 07.07.2021			Splitted Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	<b>Module E - Cultural, social, demographic aspects</b>

	9:00 - 10:30	16:00 - 17:30	<i>Heike Trappe [UR]</i> Gender relations in Germany before and after reunification
	10:30 - 10:45	17:30 - 17:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	11:00 - 12:30	18:00 - 19:45	<i>Gabriele Linke (UR)</i> M-V and German unification: recording and (re-)constructing social change on film
	12:30 - 12:45	12:30 - 12:45	Groupwork + Consultations
	10:45 - 11:00	10:45 - 11:00	Break
	13:00 - 14:00	20:00 - 21:00	Interview/ Film/ Student presentation
	14:00 - 15:00		Break
9:00 - 10:30	15:00 - 16:30		<i>Heike Trappe [UR]</i> Gender relations in Germany before and after reunification
10:30 - 10:45	16:30 - 16:45		Groupwork + Consultations
10:45 - 11:00	16:45 - 17:00		Break
11:00 - 12:30	17:00 - 18:30		<i>Gabriele Linke (UR)</i> M-V and German unification: recording and (re-)constructing social change on film
12:30 - 12:45	18:30 - 18:45		Groupwork + Consultations
12:45 - 13:00	18:45 - 19:00		Break
13:00 - 14:00	19:00 - 20:00		Interview/ Film/ Student presentation

Thursday, 08.07.2021			Joined Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Group work presentations
7:00 - 7:45	13:00 - 13:45	20:00 - 20:45	Group work presentations & discussion (Part I)
7:45 - 8:00	13:45 - 14:00	20:45 - 21:00	Break
8:00 - 8:45	14:00 - 15:45	21:00 - 22:45	Group work presentations & discussion (Part II)



Friday, 09.07.2021			Joined Sessions
Ottawa	Rostock	Seoul	Study & Research in Germany / Evaluation / Farewell
7:00 - 7:45	13:00 - 13:45	20:00 - 20:45	<i>Michael Paulus [RIH]</i> Study and Research in Germany / at Uni Rostock
7:45 - 8:00	13:45 - 14:00	20:45 - 21:00	Break / Online Evaluation
8:00 - 8:45	14:00 - 14:45	21:00 - 21:45	Feedback / Farewell