

Spring Semester, 2002

222 McIver Bldg.
MWF: 1:00-1:50 PM

HISTORY 574
GERMANY: DIVISION AND REUNIFICATION, 1945-2000

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Office Hours: MWF:
10:00-11:00 AM
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Required Texts:

Mary Fulbrook, *Interpretations of the Two Germanies, 1945-1990* (2nd ed., 2000)
“ “ *Anatomy of a Dictatorship; Inside the GDR, 1949-1989* (1995)
A.J. Nichols, *The Bonn Republic; West German Democracy, 1945-1990* (1997)
Bernhard Schlink, *The Reader, a novel* (1997)

Basic Reference Resource: (must use!)

Modern Germany: An Encyclopedia of History, People and Culture, 1871-1990
(In Reference Room of Jackson Library [ref/DD/14/M64/1998])

Important Websites: (Check them out)

<germany-info.org/f-index.html> (with links to German Embassy, German Information Center, Consulates, UN)

<ghi-de.org/> (German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C.)

<www.faz.de/> (a leading German daily, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*-- link to English edition)

<www.zeit.de/> (*Die Zeit*, Germany's most prestigious weekly newspaper from Hamburg)

<www.sueddeutsche.de/> (a leading German daily, the *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* of Munich)

Course Description:

For nearly fifty years after its defeat in 1945, Germany was both the pawn and the cockpit of a Cold War between the world's two superpowers, the United States and Soviet Union. We begin by examining the massive defeat of Germany in 1945, sometimes called the "Year Zero" of modern German history. We will conclude with an examination of German reunification in 1990 and the difficulties it produced.

The initial focus of the course will be on the Allied occupation of Germany after the war and upon the tensions that produced the Cold War and the division of Germany into two states. For post-war Germany, much of its history bears the stamp of either being "Made in Washington," or "Made in Moscow." We will proceed by tracing political and social developments in the BRD (West Germany) and the GDR (East Germany). Consideration will also be given to socio-cultural and intellectual developments in the two Germanies.

Special emphasis will be placed upon examining the burden that the Nazis past has placed upon post-war German history.

Students will be expected to become “expert” in one aspect of German post-war developments. This expertise will provide the basis for class reports, discussions, and the final paper..

Course Assignment:

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS will be required to submit a 6-8 page paper on a topic to be selected in consultation with the instructor. **GRADUATE STUDENTS** will be required to submit 10-12 page paper (based on more extensive research), also on a topic selected in consultation with the instructor. A separate sheet of instructions regarding these papers will accompany this syllabus. (Papers will be due on April 18.)

COURSE SCHEDULE

I. Setting the German Stage

- Jan. 8 Course Introduction
- “ 10 History & German Memory I (Film: “The Road to Treblinka”)
- “ 12 History & German Memory II (Film: “Fighting to the End”)
- ” 15 Martin Luther King Holiday

II. 1945-1949: Occupation and the Emergence of Two Germanies

Reading: Mary Fulbrook, *Interpretations of the Two Germanies, 1945-1990*
Nichols, Chs. 1-4

- “ 17 1945: The “Year Zero” for Germany?
- “ 19 The Potsdam Conference
- “ 22 War Crimes Trials and “de-Nazification”
- “ 24 Allied Occupation Policies (The West & the USSR)
- “ 26 The Seeds of “Cold War”:
- “ 29 The Failure to Make a Peace Treaty (1946-47)
- “ 31 The “Berlin Blockade” and the Marshall Plan
- Feb. 2 The Question of Reparations & The Cold War: An Overview
- “ 5 The Making of the FRG and the GDR
- “ 7 Above -- continued

III. 1949 – 1961 : One Nation and Two States?

Reading: Nichols, Chs. 5-7
Fulbrook, *Anatomy*, Chs. 1-2

- Feb. 9 Konrad Adenauer: The New “Iron Chancellor”?
(The “Basic Law”)
- “ 12 Ludwig Erhard and the German “Economic Miracle”
- “ 14 Achieving Sovereignty/ Germany and NATO
- “ 16 Relations with the East / The “Hallstein Doctrine”
- “ 19 1957-1961: The Second “Berlin Crisis” and the Berlin Wall

- “ 21 Is Bonn Still ‘Weimar’? (The *Spiegel* Affair)
- “ 23 East Germany and its Soviet Shepard/ or Wolf
- “ 26 The Strange Career of Walter Ulbricht
- “ 28 Review for Mid-Term Exam

March 2 MID-TERM EXAM

IV. The Emergence of the GDR as a Second German State

Reading: Fulbrook, Anatomy, Chs. 4-7

- Mar. 12 The Structure of Dictatorship
- “ 14 The Search for International Legitimacy
- “ 16 A Socialist Cultural Identity?
- “ 19 The Berlin Wall: A Step toward Stability

V. The Willy Brandt Era and SPD Ascendancy

Readings: Nichols, Chs. 8-10

Fulbrook, Anatomy, Ch. 7-8

- Mar. 21 Brandt’s Reversal of Foreign Policy (*Ostpolitik*)
- “ 23 The Communist Response to *Ostpolitik*
- “ 26 1970s: Reheating the Cold War (ICBMs)

VI. The “German Revolution” of 1989

Readings: Nichols, Ch. 11

Fulbrook, Anatomy, 9-10

- Mar. 28 The Soviet Lynchpin: Gorbachev and *Glasnost*
- “ 30 Dissent in the GDR
- Apr. 2 Role of the Churches
- “ 4 Fall of the Berlin Wall
- “ 6 2+4 Talks
- “ 9 Concerns about German Reunification (U.S., Britain, France)
- “ 11 A Peace Treaty with Germany (delayed since 1945)
- “ 13 SPRING HOLIDAY

VII. Germany Reunified

Readings: Schlink, *The Reader*

- Apr. 16 The Problems of “Undoing” Communism
- “ 18 Discussion of *The Reader*
- “ 20 The *Historikerstreit*
- “ 23 Right-Wing Extremism in Germany
- “ 25 Forging a New German Identity (*Leitkultur*)

- “ 27 Leftovers
- “ 30 Review for Final Exam

May 2 Reading Day

Final Exam (May 4 – 3:30-6:30)

HISTORY 574/ RECOMMENDED RESEARCH TOPICS

The “Year Zero” Problem	Occupation Policies (U.S., Fr., Br. USSR)
“Americanization of German culture	German Re-education/de-Nazification
War Crimes Trials	Communism in East Germany
Basic Law (West German Constitution)	Potsdam Conference
German terrorism (Baader-Meinhoff group)	DDR/ <i>Stasi</i>
Women in West or East Germany	Konrad Adenauer
Willy Brandt	<i>Ostpolitik</i> /Hallstein Doctrine
Berlin Crisis (1948 or 1961)	German Holocaust Memorials
<i>Historikerstreit</i>	NATO or Warsaw Pact
Peace Treaty attempts	Marshall Plan
Berlin Wall	Germany and European Union
German cinema	German literature
The churches and reunification	U.S. Role in German Reunification
Economic “Miracle” of the 1950s	Neo-Nazism
Jews in Post-War Germany	Ludwig Erhard
Sports in the GDR	1972 Olympics
Bitburg and Ronald Reagan	German Student Movements
National Identity in Two Germanies	