

Berlin Program Summer Workshop
VIRTUAL GERMANS

June 19–20, 2014
Freie Universität Berlin | Seminarzentrum | L115



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Virtual Germans**

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Preliminary Program

In her travels through Eastern Europe in the 1990s, the writer Ruth Ellen Gruber noted that non-Jews were embracing, creating, and marketing an idea of Jewishness that had little to do with the Jews who had lived in the region before the Holocaust. Through practices and cultural products, these “virtual Jews” had come in dialog with “their own visions of Jews and Jewish matters, and themselves.” In recent years, the historian Winson Chu has adapted this concept to show the enactment of a “virtually German” culture that serves commercial interests, European reconciliation, and cosmopolitan credentials in Poland today.

In 2014, the Berlin Program summer workshop will invite papers that expand upon the idea of “virtual Germans” in a variety of constellations, including Germans and German-speakers who have fashioned new identities for themselves abroad, people living in Germany of diverse backgrounds whose German belonging is contested, as well as constructions of Germanness in the virtual realm of cyberspace and in the classroom. This workshop will pay special attention to the global flow of “Germanness” as well as to its local constructions. By exploring such representations and contestations, we can see how new definitions of Germanness arise and how new inclusions and exclusions are made.

Thursday, June 19

9:00-9:15 Arrival & Coffee

9:15-9:30 Opening Remarks & Introduction

**9:30-11:00 Panel I: German Identity and the United States
Moderator: Winson Chu, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee**

Cora Granata, California State University Fullerton
From Hitler’s Europe to the Golden State: The Meanings of Germanness for Germany’s Postwar Immigrants in Southern California

Nicole Thesz, Miami University
The California Lightness of Being, or Being German – Displacement and Memory in Christa Wolf’s *Stadt der Engel*

David Huenlich, University of Texas at Austin
Germaericans: Transmigration and ‘Virtual Germanness’ in the U.S.

11:15-11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30-12:30 **Panel II: Turkish-German Identities**
Moderator: Serhat Karakayali, Humboldt University Berlin

Elisabeth Becker, Yale University
**'From the Bavarian Earth into Allah's Heaven': Purpose Built Mosques
and Muslim Belonging in Contemporary Germany**

Victoria Bishop Kendzia, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
Performing 'Germanness'? Visiting Practices in and around the Jewish Museum Berlin

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:00 **Panel III: Identity Redefined**
Moderator: Mark Lehrer, Suffolk University

Veronika Fuechtner, Dartmouth College
**Becoming German: Thomas Mann, his Brazilian Mother and the Construction of German
Culture**

Thomas O. Beebee, The Pennsylvania State University
**Can Karl Kraus 'Live Away' from Austria? Translational Virtuality in Jonathan Franzen's *The Kraus
Project* (2013)**

15:00-15:15 **Coffee Break**

15:15-16:15 **Panel IV: German Identity and the Visual**
Moderator: Johannes Zechner, Freie Universität Berlin

Chase Richards, University of Pennsylvania
**Virtual Germanness or German Virtuality? National and Global Visions in the Family Papers,
1850s-1860s**

Robert Pirro, Georgia Southern University
**Aesthetic Legacies and Dashed Political Hopes: Caspar David Friedrich Motifs in Roland
Emmerich's Post-9/11 Popcorn Message Movies**

16:15-16:45 **Conclusion**

Friday, June 20, 2014

9:00-9:15 Coffee Break

9:15-10:15 Keynote
Moderator: Jenny Wüstenberg, European Law School Wiesbaden / FU Berlin

Joyce Mushaben, University of Missouri St. Louis
Belonging in 3D: Re-forming Citizenship and Identity at the European, National and Local Levels

10:15-10:30 Coffee Break

10:30-11:30 Panel V: Defining Group Identities
Moderator: David Patton, Connecticut College

Sonja Ostrow, Vanderbilt University
Virtual Democrats? Measuring Public Opinion in West Germany

Winson Chu, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
"Lodzermensch" and Litzmannstadt: Making "Virtually German" Sites in Łódź after 1989

11:30-12:15 Conclusion

12:15-13:30 Lunch

14:30-16:30 **Berlin Replicata: Architectural Copying in the Capital City**
City Walk guided by Steven Lauritano, Yale University / Freie Universität Berlin
Meeting point is in front of Märkisches Museum (see below)

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Dr. April Eisman | Iowa State University
Dr. Winson Chu | University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Karin Gohl | Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin Program
Dr. Thomas Haakenson | Minneapolis College of Art and Design
Dr. Jenny Wüstenberg | Freie Universität Berlin / EBS University Wiesbaden

KEY DATES

June 10 power point presentations due, circulation of papers & background readings
June 19-20 summer workshop in Berlin

INFORMATION

FORMAT: This workshop serves as a forum for Berlin Program fellows and alumni, but also welcomes current doctoral students, recent PhDs, as well as non-tenured and tenured faculty in any field.

PAPERS: All papers will be circulated and workshop participants are asked to read these submissions prior to the workshop.

BACKGROUND READINGS are optional.

PRESENTATIONS: Each presentation at the workshop should be **5 minutes** long and will be followed by a ten-minute discussion. Please talk to your audience during your presentation. After the presentation of all papers, a general discussion will conclude each panel.

WORKSHOP LANGUAGE: English.

WORKSHOP VENUE is the Freie Universität Berlin, Seminarzentrum, Room L 115 (ground floor), Otto-von-Simson-Str. 26, 14195 Berlin (please find maps & information attached)

TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT: The workshop venue is equipped with an HP ProBook laptop and a beamer. Technical assistance will be present. For those who are planning a power point presentation, please send us **your power point presentation asap**.

FEES: Participation in the workshop is free of charge.

REGISTRATION: Presenters do not need to register.

COFFEE BREAKS & LUNCH will be provided.

CITY WALK Friday June 20, 2:30-4:30 p.m. *Berlin Replicata: Architectural Copying in the Capital City* guided by Berlin Program Fellow Steven Lauritano, Yale University / Freie Universität Berlin
We will meet after lunch in front of Märkisches Museum, Am Köllnischen Park 5, 10179 Berlin. We will go there with public transport together. (Take U3 to Wittenbergplatz, transfer to U2 and go to Märkisches Museum. Participants are encouraged to buy a day ticket.

TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION: Participants are responsible for organizing and paying for their travel and accommodation. Assistance with logistical matters will be provided.

FUNDING: We encourage participants to seek funding from their home institutions or alternative sources to cover those costs.

THE BERLIN PROGRAM FOR ADVANCED GERMAN AND EUROPEAN STUDIES promotes a new generation of young North American scholars with specialized knowledge of modern and contemporary Germany and Europe. The program supports scholars in all social science and humanities disciplines, including historians working on the period since the mid-18th century. Since its inception in 1986 at the Freie Universität Berlin the program has brought more than 290 fellows to Berlin. With our Summer Workshop we wish to offer an opportunity to engage with a timely topic and strengthen ties between the program and scholars working in German and European studies.

Contact us @: Berlin Program, FU Berlin, Garystr. 45, 14195 Berlin, Germany, ☎ +49 30 838 56671
bprogram@zedat.fu-berlin.de, www.fu-berlin.de/bprogram

COVER ILLUSTRATION

Photography: "Das Brandenburger Tor" by Alcas23/deviantART (edited)

Wireframe Graphics: Dan Barker

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LOGISTICS

GENERAL INFORMATION

BERLIN CITY WEBSITE

<http://www.berlin.de/en/>

BERLIN TOURIST INFORMATION

<http://www.visitberlin.de/de/informieren/tourist-information>

BERLIN STADTPLAN

<http://www.berlin.de/stadtplan/>

ZITTY

Biweekly guide on art, theatre, film, music, restaurants and more (German)

<http://www.zitty.de/>

TOURS OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

<http://www.stattreisenberlin.de/>

<http://www.berliner-geschichtswerkstatt.de/>

<http://www.artberlin-online.de/>

ACCOMMODATION

HOTELS

Seminaris Campushotel Berlin

<http://www.seminaris.de/hotels/seminaris-campushotel-berlin.html>

located on campus, near U Dahlem Dorf
single rooms: from 99€

Apartment Hotel Dahlem

<http://www.apartment-hotel-berlin.de/>

very close to campus, Clayallee
single rooms from 70€ per night

Meliá Berlin

<http://www.meliaberlin.com/en/index.html>

Friedrichstraße, Mitte
rates available online

Arcotel Velvet

http://www.arcotelhotels.com/en/velvet_hotel_berlin

Oranienburger Straße, Mitte
single rooms: from €89

Art'otel

<http://www.artotels.com/berlin-hotel-de-d-10179/germiart>

three Berlin locations, rates available online

Motel One Berlin various locations

<http://www.motel-one.com/de/hotels/berlin/>

BUDGET HOTELS

Pension Peters

Close to Savignyplatz

sample rate was 57€/single room

<http://www.pension-peters-berlin.de/index.php>

Hotel Modena

Kurfürstendamm, Charlottenburg

rates from €40 for a single room

<http://www.hotel-modena.de/Midi-Inn-CityWest/Start.html>

Residenz 2000 Apartmenthotel

very close to campus, Unter den Eichen

sample rate was 59€/single room

<http://www.residenz-2000.de/>

HOSTELS

AO Hotel & Hostel Berlin, several locations

EUR 12 bis EUR 35 pro Nacht

<http://www.aohostels.com/de/berlin/hostel-am-zoo>

Cityhostel Berlin

Glinkastr. 5-7, Mitte

EUR 17 bis EUR 48 pro Nacht

<http://www.cityhostel-berlin.com/>

Die Etage

Katharinenstr. 14 (nahe Kurfürstendamm),

Charlottenburg

EUR 22 pro Nacht

<http://www.die-etage.de/>

Grandhostel Berlin

Tempelhofer Ufer 14, Kreuzberg

EUR 18 bis EUR 40 pro Nacht

<http://www.grandhostel-berlin.de/>

HappyBed Hostel

Several locations in Berlin

EUR 14 bis EUR 51 pro Nacht

<http://www.happybed.de/>

PlusBerlin

Located close to the Eastside Gallery

EUR 11 bis EUR 24 pro Nacht

<http://www.plushostels.com/>

Sunshinehouse Berlin

Wexstraße 8, Schöneberg

EUR 18 bis EUR 35 pro Nacht

<http://www.sunshinehouse-berlin.de/>

GETTING AROUND IN BERLIN

Public Transportation

The Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe (BVG) operate the U-Bahn, buses and trams; the Berliner S-Bahn GmbH operates the S-Bahn (light rail). Both companies are working together, so you can use any ticket for all means of transportation.

Berlin consists of three fare zones, A, B, and C. Zones A and B cover most of the city; you will probably not have to buy a C ticket, unless you plan to go to Potsdam or Schönefeld Airport. On weekends, all U-Bahn lines and S-Bahn lines run for the whole night (exception: U-Bahn U4) in intervals up to 30 minutes. On weeknight there are special buses generally following the U-Bahn lines, designated as "N".

- A **single fare ticket AB** will cost you 2.60€ and allows you to travel for two hours in a single direction.
- A **Day Pass** is valid for all travel until 3 a.m. the following day and costs 6.70€ for Berlin AB.
- For shorter distances the "**Kurzstrecke**" is valid for six stops on a bus or three stops on an U-Bahn. Is available and costs 1.50€.

Taxi/Cab

Taxis are beige in color. In general, taking a cab costs a base fee of 3.40€, plus 1.65€ for every kilometer; paying with a credit card carries an extra fee of 1.50€. For very short trips (up to 2 km) there is a special flat rate of 4.00€; applicable only if you stop a moving cab and specifically ask for the "Kurzstrecke."

Transportation to Berlin (other than air travel)

Deutsche Bahn: <http://www.bahn.de/p/view/index.shtml>

Fernbuslinien: <https://www.fernbusse.de/>

Mitfahrzentrale: <http://www.mitfahrzentrale.de/>

OTHER THINGS

Money, Money, Money

ATMs are ubiquitous in Berlin. Around Freie Universität, one ATM by Sparkasse is located directly at the Seminarzentrum, two others (by Volksbank and Berliner Bank resp.) are at U-Bahnhof Dahlem Dorf. Most ATMs will accept credit cards for withdrawal, note that you have to have a 4-digit-PIN. The bank will most likely charge you for withdrawing cash.

Cell Phone Use in Germany

Be aware that an American cell phone might not work in Germany. Germany, like most of Europe, uses the GSM standard. In general, if you are on Sprint or Verizon, your phone is not compatible. If you use AT&T or T-Mobile USA there is a chance that you can use your phone. Please check with your carrier, as sometimes the roaming abroad service has to be enabled.

Pickpockets

Berlin, like any other city, is prone to the activities of pickpockets and thieves. Be vigilant in crowded areas, do not leave your baggage unattended. Thieves often operate in groups and employ various techniques to distract their targets.



tickets to use:

single fare AB, *2-hour-travel*
Day Pass AB, *one day in Berlin*
Kurzstrecke, *short distance*

internet links:

BVG

[HTTP://WWW.BVG.DE/INDEX.PHP/EN/INDEX.HTML](http://www.bvg.de/index.php/en/index.html)



call a cab (selection):

030-210202

030-261026

030-210101

emergency numbers

Police: 110

Fire/Ambulance: 112

US Embassy: 030-8305-1200
(routine calls)

030-8305-0 (emergencies only)

Canadian Embassy: 030-2031-2470
(routine calls)

00800-2326-6831

(emergencies)

WHEN THE WORKSHOP IS DONE – A SELECTION OF OUR FAVOURITES

LOOKING BACK & UNDER

BERLINER UNTERWELTEN

<http://berliner-unterwelten.de/>

BERLIN WALL MEMORIAL

<http://www.berliner-mauer-gedenkstaette.de/en/>

DEUTSCHES HISTORISCHES MUSEUM

<http://www.dhm.de/ENGLISH/>

DDR-MUSEUM

<http://www.ddr-museum.de/>

STORY OF BERLIN

<http://www.story-of-berlin.de/>

KULTUR

CULTURAL CALENDAR & TICKETS

<http://www.berlin.de/kultur-und-tickets/>

STAATLICHE MUSEEN ZU BERLIN

<http://www.smb.museum/home.html>

HAUS DER KULTUREN DER WELT

Germany's national center for international contemporary arts, with a special focus on non-European cultures and societies.

<http://www.hkw.de/de/app/kalender/index>

HEIMATHAFEN

Heimathafen Neukölln has catapulted *Volkstheater* into the modern era: provocative, controversial, and full of life.

<http://www.heimathafen-neukoelln.de/>

NEUKÖLLNER OPER

The repertoire ranges from baroque opera to musicals, and from operetta to experimental music theater with a contemporary twist.

<http://neukoellneroper.de/>

RADIALSYSTEM

Housed in an old pumping station for the Berlin Wasserwerke RADIALSYSTEM V is a cultural center from which new ideas 'radiate'.

<http://www.radialsystem.de/rebrush/index.php>

KICKING BACK

BADESCHIFF

Arguably the hippest swimming pool in Berlin (German).

<http://www.arena-berlin.de/badeschiff/>

NATUR-PARK SCHÖNEBERGER SÜDGELÄNDE

A former switchyard transformed into a natural landscape.

<http://www.gruen-berlin.de/parks-gaerten/natur-park-suedgelaende/>

TEMPELHOFER FREIHEIT

The former airport "Flughafen Tempelhof", now a unique landscape known as "Tempelhofer Freiheit."

<http://www.tempelhoferfreiheit.de/en/>