Course description

This course provides an overview of the development of public and private architecture in Berlin during the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. Following an introduction to architectural terms and an examination of the urban development and architectural history of the Modern era, the Neo-Classical period will be surveyed with special reference to the works of Schinkel. This will be followed by sessions on the architecture of the German Reich after 1871, which was characterized by both modern and conservative tendencies, and the manifold activities during the time of the Weimar Republic in the 1920s. The architecture of the Nazi period will be examined, followed by the developments in East and West Berlin after the Second World War. The course concludes with a detailed review of the city’s contemporary and future architectural profiles, including an analysis of the conflicts concerning the re-design of "Berlin Mitte", Potsdamer Platz, and the government quarter and other recent developments, i.e. the housing problem. We will critically examine architectural examples in Berlin by famous international architects like Norman Foster, Frank O. Gehry, Daniel Libeskind and many others.

Student profile
Second-semester or above

Prerequisites
None

Learning objectives
The course aims at offering a deeper understanding of the interdependence between Berlin’s architecture and the city’s social and political structures. It considers Berlin as a model for the development of a European capital in modern times. As a complement to the lectures, formal field-trips to historically significant buildings and sites constitute an integral component of the course and will give students the possibility of discovering the city in a unique way.
Course Requirements
Attendance and participation (incl. 1 Independent Project report): 20%
Midterm exam: 20%
Final exam: 20%
Architectural presentation in class or during field-trip: 10%
Term-Paper: 30%

Literature:
Photocopied course reader

Course schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Topics, Readings, etc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Urban history of Berlin. Basic concepts and terms in historic architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Reading: pp. 1–45</strong></td>
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<td>Concepts and Terms in Architecture</td>
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<td>Session 2</td>
<td><strong>Topic:</strong> Field trip Historical City Center. Humboldt-Forum, Zeughaus and Altes Museum.</td>
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<td><strong>Reading: pp. 46–96</strong></td>
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**Reading:** pp. 97–128  
|---|---|
| Session 4 | **Topic:** Berlin after 1800.  
**Reading:** pp. 129–160  
| Session 5 | **Topic:** German empire: Architecture and Berlin’s industrialization 1871–1918.  
**Reading:** pp. 161–238  
| Session 6 | **Midterm Exam** |
| Session 7 | **Topic:** Weimar culture: Architecture for the Metropolis.  
**Reading:** pp. 239–289  
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| Session 8 | **Topic:** Architecture of the Third Reich, 1933-1945.  
**Reading:** pp. 290–313  
| --- | --- |
| Session 9 | **Topic:** Post-war architecture, 1945-1990.  
**Reading:** pp. 314–343  
| Session 10 | **Topic:** Rebuilding the Divided City: From the Berlin Wall to the International Building Exhibition 1987  
**Reading:** pp. 344–391  
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<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>Session 13</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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