

## **HIS 740 Transatlantic Centuries: Ideas, Culture, and Politics between Germany and America**

Fall Semester 2013

TTH 6:30-9:20 MHRA 1304

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Office Hours: TH 3:30–5:30pm, and by appointment



### **Course Description**

Speaking at the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin in June 2013, President Obama recalled John F. Kennedy’s “ich bin ein Berliner” speech, delivered 50 years ago. Echoing Kennedy’s message, Obama evoked the shared “fighting spirit” of Germans and America to secure “peace with justice, beyond yourselves and ourselves to all mankind.”

Well before Kennedy was in Berlin in 1963, the German-American exchange was a feature of Western society. In the nineteenth century, nearly 10,000 Americans went to study at German universities and returned persuaded to adapt the German university model for America. In the twentieth century, the relationship was nearly reversed. American exports from washing machines and rock ‘n roll, to business organization and cultural philanthropy, became central features of German life.

Over the last two decades, transatlanticism has become a popular approach for historians seeking to assess these complex relationships. Americanists have adopted this framework to place American history in a global setting and German historians have followed suit to bring Germany into dialogue with other national histories. Drawing on analytic concepts from “soft power” to “cultural diplomacy,” these historians have challenged us to think about our fields in a transatlantic context. The goal of this course is to evaluate these new approaches to the study of the twentieth century.

As “case studies” for transatlanticism we will consider the mutual adaptation of the research university in Germany and America, the transatlantic golden age in politics as typified by Kennedy, “cultural imperialism” after World War II, and 1968 as a transatlantic cultural crisis. Mary Nolan’s *The Transatlantic Century* will provide a historical backbone for our inquiries and will be supplemented by theoretical and methodological essays as well as recent monographs in the field. Students are encouraged to draw on their own subfields in discussion and will write an assessment at the end of the course on the usefulness of this approach for their own work.

### **Course Requirements**

- one short-range book review
- one long-range book review
- one lecture on the topic of the “Cultural Cold War”
- one final historiographical/analytic essay evaluating the merits of the transatlantic approach for teaching, and its applicability to research in your field
- at least one oral presentation
- on all days, active and spirited discussion

### **Evaluation/grading**

Participation including oral presentation	20%
Short book review	10%
Long book review	20%
Lecture assignment	20%
Final Essay	30%

### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century* (Cambridge, 2012).

Victoria de Grazia *Irresistible Empire: America's Advance through Twentieth-Century Europe* (Harvard, 2006)

Lawrence A. Scaff, *Max Weber in America* (Princeton, 2011).

Andreas Daum, *Kennedy in Berlin* (Cambridge, 2007).

Reiner Pommerin ed., *The American Impact on Postwar Germany* (Berghahn, 1996)

John, Krige, *American Hegemony and the Postwar Reconstruction of Science in Europe*, (MIT, 2006)

Volker Berghahn, *America and the Intellectual Cold Wars in Europe: Shepard Stone Between Philanthropy, Academy, and Diplomacy* (Princeton, 2002).

Carol Fink, ed. *1968: The World Transformed* (Cambridge, 1998)

Assorted articles – those marked online you are responsible for accessing; those marked with an \* you can find on Blackboard.

## **Course schedule**

### **Unit 1: Americanization in Europe—A European or American Field?**

#### **Week 1: Introduction**

##### **T, 8/20: Historical methods and goals**

In class: document analysis, definitions, terminology

#### **Week 2**

##### **T, 8/27: Transatlanticism for History, Historians, and Historiography**

#### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century: Europe and America, 1890–2010* (Cambridge, 2012), Introduction and Chap 1: An Uncertain Balance, 1890–1914.

\*Marcus Gräser, “World History in a Nation-State: The Transnational Disposition in Historical Writing in the United States,” *Journal of American History* vol. 95 (March 2009): 1038–1052.

\*Ute Frevert, “Europeanizing Germany's Twentieth Century,” and David Blackbourn’s Reply. *German Historical Institute Bulletin* 36 (Spring 2005)

\*Jessica C.E. Gienow-Hecht, “Introduction: On the Division of Knowledge and the Community of Thought: Culture and International History.” *Culture and international history* (2003): 3–26.

#### **Supplemental Reading:**

Marcus Gräser, “Modell Amerika” (America as a Model) in: Europäische Geschichte Online (EGO), edited by the Institut für Europäische Geschichte (IEG), Mainz European History Online (EGO), published by the Institute of European History (IEG), Mainz 2010-12-03.

In English at:

URL: <http://www.ieg-ego.eu/de/threads/europa-und-die-welt/modell-amerika/marcus-graeser-modell-usa>

Additional essays in Gienow-Hecht ed., *Culture and international history*.

#### **Week 3**

##### **T, 9/3: Americanization—A First Look**

## Required Reading

Victoria de Grazia *Irresistible Empire: America's Advance through Twentieth-Century Europe* (Harvard, 2006)

\*Paulus, Stefan. "The Americanization of Europe after 1945? The Case of the German Universities." *European Review of History– Revue européenne d'Histoire* 9 (2000): 241–253.

## Supplemental Reading

Uta G. Poiger, *Jazz, Rock, and Rebels: Cold War Politics and America* (Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2000).

Wade Jacoby, *Imitation and Politics: Redesigning Modern Germany* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2000).

James C. van Hook, *Rebuilding Germany: The Creation of the Social Market Economy, 1945-1957* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004).

Jonathan Zeitlin and Gary Herrigel, eds. *Americanization and Its Limits: Reworking US Technology and Management in Post-war Europe and Japan* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).

**Due: Short book review on de Grazia's *Irresistible Empire*.**

## Unit 2: The (first) American Colony in Germany

### Week 4

#### T/9/10: The Humboldt Ideal

### Required Reading

\*Wilhelm von Humboldt, "On the Internal and External Organization of the Higher Scientific Institutions in Berlin (1810)," *Vol 2: From Absolutism to Napoleon, 1648–1815, German History in Documents and Images*. Available online at: [http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/docpage.cfm?docpage\\_id=4223](http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/docpage.cfm?docpage_id=4223).

\*Charles McClelland, "To Live for Science: Ideals and Realities at the University of Berlin," *The University and the City: From Medieval Origins to the Present*, ed Thomas Bender (New York: Oxford, 1988), 181–197.

\*Rüdiger vom Bruch, "A Slow Farewell to Humboldt? Stages in the History of German Universities, 1810–1945," in *German Universities Past and Future: Crisis or Renewal?*, edited by Mitchell G. Ash (Providence: Berghahn, 1997), 3–27.

\*David Sorkin, "Wilhelm Von Humboldt: The Theory and Practice of Self-Formation (Bildung), 1791-1810," *Journal of the History of Ideas*, Vol. 44, No. 1 (Jan. - Mar., 1983): 55–73.

### **Supplemental Reading**

Ringer, Fritz. "Bildung and Its Implications in the German Tradition, 1890–1930." In *Toward a social history of knowledge: collected essays*, 193–212 (New York, 2000)  
J.G. Fichte, *Addresses to the German Nation* (1808)  
Abraham Flexner, *Universities: American, English, German* (1930)

### **Week 5**

#### **T, 9/17: The German University, American Style**

### **Required reading**

\*Turner, Roy Steven. "Humboldt in North America? Reflections on the Research University and Its Historians." In Rainer Christoph Schwinges, ed. *Humboldt International. Der Export des deutschen Universitätsmodells im 19. Und 20. Jahrhundert* (Basel, 2001): 289–302.

Peter Novick *That Noble Dream: The 'Objectivity Question' and the American Historical Profession* (Cambridge, 1988). Sections: "Objectivity Enthroned" and "The European Legacy: Ranke, Bacon, and Flaubert," 19– 46.

Available online at: <http://ebooks.cambridge.org/ebook.jsf?bid=CBO9780511816345>

\*Richard Hofstadter and Wilson Smith, eds. *American Higher Education: A Documentary History* (Chicago, 1961), Vol 1, Part IV, "The German University and the American College," 251–309. CHECK PAGE NUMBERS/SCAN.

\*Walter Metzger, "The German Contribution to the American Theory of Academic Freedom," *Bulletin of the American Association of University Professors*, Vol. 41 No. 2 (Summer 1955), 214–230.

### **Supplemental Reading**

Carl Diehl, *Americans and German scholarship, 1770-1870* (New Haven, CT: Yale, 1978).

Lawrence Veysey, *The Emergence of the American University* (Chicago, 1965)

Lawrence Veysey, "The Emergence of the American University," *The American Journal of Education* Vol. 90, no. (1981): 103–106.

Walter Metzger, *Academic Freedom in the Age of the University* (Columbia University Press, 1961)

Björn Wittrock, "The Modern University: the Three Transformations." In *The European and American University since 1800*, edited by Sheldon Rothblatt and Björn Wittrock (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993), 303–362.

### **Week 6**

#### **T, 9/24: The First Globalization in Higher Education**

### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century*, Chap 2—World War One: European Crisis and

American Opportunity.

Lawrence A. Scaff, *Max Weber in America* (Princeton, 2011)

Max Weber, "Science as a Vocation," (1922); Translated and edited by H.H. Gerth and C. Wright Mills (Translated and edited), *From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology*, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1946), 129–156.

### **Supplemental Reading**

John Dreijmanis, ed., *Max Weber's Complete Writings on Academic and Political Vocations* (Algora, 2008)

**Due: Long-form Book Review on Scaff's *Max Weber in America***

## **Unit 3: Transatlanticism – Occupation or Golden Age?**

### **Week 7**

#### **T, 10/1: Americans and German Reconstruction**

### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century*, Chap 3—Ambivalent Engagement and Chap 4—The Great Depression and transatlantic new deals.

Gordon A. Craig, "Konrad Adenauer and the United States," *The American Impact*.

Reiner Pommerin "The United States and the Armament of the Federal Republic of Germany," *The American Impact*.

\*John Gimbel, "The American Exploitation of German Technical Know-How after World War."

### **Supplemental Reading**

Matthias Judt and Burghard Ciesla, *Technology Transfer out of Germany after 1945* (Amsterdam, 1996).

John Gimbel, *Science, Technology, and Reparations: Exploitation and Plunder in Postwar Germany* (Stanford, 1990).

Clarence G. Lasby, *Project Paperclip: German Scientists and the Cold War* (New York, 1971).

Arnold Krammer, "Technology Transfer as War Booty: The U.S. Technical Oil Mission to Europe, 1945," *Technology and Culture*, Vol. 22, No. 1 (Jan., 1981): 68–103.

### **Week 8**

#### **T, 10/8: Americans as Berliners; Berliners as Americans**

### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century*, Chap 5—Strange affinities, new enemies.

Andreas Daum, *Kennedy in Berlin* (Cambridge, 2007)

Kennedy “Ich bin ein Berliner.” Online at  
<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jfkberliner.html>.

### **Supplemental Reading**

Willy Brandt, *The Ordeal of Co-existence* (Harvard, 1963).

Gerald R. Kleinfeld, “The Genesis of American Policy toward the GDR,” *The American Impact on Postwar Germany* (Berghahn, 1996).

### **Week 9**

**T, 10/15: NO CLASS- UNCG HOLIDAY**

### **Week 10**

**10/22: Cultural Transfer**

### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century: Europe and America, 1890–2010* (Cambridge, 2012), Chap 6—From World War to Cold War.

Volker R. Berghahn, “West German Reconstruction and American Industrial Culture, 1945–1960,” *The American Impact on Postwar Germany* (Berghahn, 1996).

Uta G. Poiger, “Rebels with a Cause? American Popular Culture, the 1956 Youth Rights, and New Conceptions of Masculinity in East and West Germany,” *American Impact*.

Robert G. Moeller, “Equality, Difference, and the *Grundgesetz: Women, Families, and The Federal Republic’s Basic Law*,” *American Impact*.

Heide Fehrenbach, “Cinema, Spectatorship, and the Problem of Postwar German Identity,” *American Impact*.

### **Supplemental:**

James, Tent. *The Free University of Berlin: A Political History*. (Bloomington, IN, 1988)

Konrad H. Jarausch, *After Hitler. Recivilizing Germans* (Oxford, 2006)

Henry Morgenthau (1945). *Germany is our problem* London. Harper and Brothers.

Karl Jaspers, *The Idea of the University* (1945); translated and edited into English 1959.

Frederic, Lilje. *The Abuse of Learning: The Failure of the German University* (New York, 1948, 2d ed., 1975)

Clark, Mark W. *Beyond Catastrophe: German Intellectuals and Cultural Renewal after World War II, 1945–1955*. Landham, MD: Lexington Books, 2006.

**Due: Undergraduate Lecture on America in Germany during the Cold War.**

## **Unit 4: A New Cultural Imperialism?**

### **Week 11**

#### **T, 10/29: Science and the Marshall Plan**

##### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century*, Chap 7 on Cooperation, competition, containment.

John, Krige, American Hegemony and the Postwar Reconstruction of Science in Europe, (MIT, 2006)

\*American / Allied ban on German applied sciences- see English language document of assessment of German science in 1945. (Gesetz Nr. 25 in Amstblatt des Kontrollrats in Deutschland vom 29. Oktober 1945, 41.)

### **Week 12**

#### **11/5: American Foundations in post-war Europe**

##### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century*, Chap 8 on Culture wars.

Volker Berghahn, *America and the Intellectual Cold Wars in Europe: Shepard Stone Between Philanthropy, Academy, and Diplomacy* (Princeton, 2002).

##### **Supplemental Reading**

Roy MacLeod eds., *American Foundations in Europe. Grant-Giving Policies, Cultural Diplomacy and Trans-Atlantic Relations, 1920-1980*, (Brussels: P. Lang, 2003).

Saunders, Francis Stonor. *Who Paid the Piper? CIA and The Culture Cold War*. (London, 1999)

Coleman, Peter. *The Liberal Conspiracy: The Congress for Cultural Freedom and the Struggle for the Mind of Postwar Europe*. New York: The Free Press, 1989.

Giuliana Gemelli and Roy MacLeod, eds. *American Foundations in Europe. Grant-Giving Policies, Cultural Diplomacy and Trans-Atlantic Relations, 1920-1980*, (Brussels: P. Lang, 2003).

### **Week 13**

## **Unit 5: Crises of Culture—A Shared Transatlantic Heritage?**

#### **T, 11/12: 1968 and the Global Student Movement**

##### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century: Europe and America, 1890–2010* (Cambridge, 2012), Chap 9—The American century erodes, 1968–1979 and Chap 10—Renewed conflict and surprising collapse.



Essays from Carole Fink ed. et al, *1968: The World Transformed* (Cambridge, 1998), TBD

### **Supplemental Reading**

*The Gold and the Blue: A Personal Memoir of the University of California, 1949–1967*  
VI, *Academic Triumphs* and VII, *Political Turmoil*. SCAN.

Ernst Kantorowicz, *The Fundamental Issue: Documents and Marginal Notes on the University of California Loyalty Oath* (June 14, 1949). Online at:  
[http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/~ucalhist/archives\\_exhibits/loyaltyoath/symposium/kantorowicz.html](http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/~ucalhist/archives_exhibits/loyaltyoath/symposium/kantorowicz.html)

Michelle Patterson, “French University Reform: Renaissance or Restoration?” *Comparative Education Review*, Vol. 16, No. 2, University Reform (Jun., 1972): 281-302.

Gerald J DeGroot, ed. *Student Protest: The Sixties and After* (London and New York, 1998)

Stuart J, Hilwig, “The Revolt Against the Establishment: Students Versus the Press, in West Germany and Italy,” in, 321–350.

Moses, Dirk. *German Intellectuals and the Nazi Past* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2007), Chapter 8 “1968 and Its Aftermath,” 186–218.

Jacques Barzan *The American University: How It Runs, Where It Is Going* (1968; 1993).

## **Week 14**

### **T, 11/19: The Current Crisis of the University**

#### **Required Reading**

Mary Nolan, *The Transatlantic Century: Europe and America, 1890–2010* (Cambridge, 2012), Chap 11—A widening Atlantic and Chap 12—Imperial America, estranged Europe.

Alexander Stephan, “Cold war alliances and the emergence of transatlantic competition: an introduction,” in *The Americanization of Europe. Culture, Diplomacy, and Anti-Americanism after 1945*, New York/Oxford 2006: 1-22.

Andreas Falke, “The End of German-American Relations ... “as we know them,” *Amerikastudien / American Studies* 50, *Amerikastudien / American Studies* at 50 (2005): 127–155.

Peter Uwe Hohendahl, “Humboldt Revisited: General Education, University Reform, and the Opposition to the Neoliberal University,” *New German Critique* 113, Vol. 38, No. 2 (Summer 2011): 159–196.

#### **Supplemental Reading**

Allan Bloom, *The Closing of the American Mind* and related documents, (1987), *American Higher Education Transformed, 1940–2005*, ed. Wilson Smith and Thomas Bender. Documenting the National Discourse. (Johns Hopkins, 2008), 181–188.

Bill Readings, “The University in Ruins,” (1996), *American Higher Education Transformed, 1940–2005*, ed. Wilson Smith and Thomas Bender. Documenting the National Discourse. (Johns Hopkins, 2008), 69-74. SCAN

Charles McClelland, "Modern German Universities and Their Historians since the Fall of the Wall," *The Journal of Modern History*, Vol. 77, No. 1 (March 2005): 138-159.

**Due: Prospectus for final historiographical essay with three books from your field.**

**Week 15**

**11/26: NO CLASS—THANKSGIVING WEEK**

**Monday 12/2: Final Papers Due**