

Time: Thursday, 1:00–3:45 pm  
RLH, Seminar Room

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Dr. Franziska Deutsch

## **Syllabus: German Politics and Culture**

(draft version 27 January, 2017)

*The aim of this course is to familiarize students with various aspects of German society, its politics, history, and culture. The course will focus upon in-class discussions of readings and events and student presentations. In addition to the course, day or weekend excursions will be offered by Jacobs University.*

30 January                      Introduction  
2:00–5:00 p.m.  
ICC Conference Room

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### **Historical Background**

2 February                      Historical legacy I:  
From the Weimar Republic to World War II

**TBD**                              *Excursion: Concentration Camp Bergen-Belsen*

9 February                      Historical legacy II:  
From the post-war period to German unification

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### **Institutions and Structure of Government I**

**TBD**                              Germany's political system:  
The institutions and structure of government; political parties and elections

16 – 19 February              *Excursion to Berlin*

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### **Germany and the EU**

**TBD 23 February**              **Germany and the European Union**

1 – 4 March                      *Excursion to Brussels*

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### **Institutions and Structure of Government II**

9 March Germany's federalism:  
Structures and interdependencies

**TBC 16 March** *Excursion to Bremen Parliament (Bürgerschaft)*

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### **Culture and Society I**

23 March Political culture(s) in East and West I: Germany – Two peoples in one nation?

30 March Germany's political culture: Attitudes, values and participation – different than in the United States?

*31 March – 2 April Excursion to Helgoland*

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### **Policy Example: Welfare State**

6 April Welfare systems: Germany and the United States

*10 – 17 April Spring Break*

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### **Culture and Society II**

20 April Political culture(s) and institutions in East and West II:  
The case of Russia

27 April Preparatory session Russia (International Office)

*3 – 7 May Excursion to St. Petersburg, Russia*

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### **Conclusion, Exam preparation and Exam**

11 May Concluding remarks & Exam preparation  
*7:00 p.m. Movie Night: Good bye Lenin*

TBD Final Exam (date to be determined by final exam schedule)