

<b>Course Number</b>	: HS-539
<b>Course Name</b>	: Post-War Germany: Politics, Society, and Culture
<b>Credits</b>	: 3-0-0-3
<b>Prerequisites</b>	: None
<b>Intended for</b>	: Ph.D./Masters/B.Tech. (3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> year)
<b>Distribution</b>	: HSS Free Elective
<b>Semester</b>	: Odd/Even

## **1. Preamble:**

The course will introduce the students to a brief social and cultural history of Germany during the second half of the twentieth century. The students will gain an insight into the political and economic situation prevalent at the time, beginning with the post-war period, which saw Germany being divided into the FRG and GDR, and ending with the reunification of the two in 1990. A brief overview of the history of the European Union is also given to facilitate an understanding of present-day Europe so that the students have a broad understanding of culture and diversity as a whole. In addition, students will examine contemporary issues that impact Europe like the current migrant crisis in Germany, the debate around Brexit, rise of Eurosceptic parties in addition to the far-right ones.

## **2. Course Modules:**

### **Module I: (2 hours)**

This module provides the students with a background on the events leading up to the Second World War, briefly outlining topics like the First World War, Weimar Republic, and National Socialism among others.

### **Module II: Allied Occupation of Germany (4 hours)**

- Zero hour/*Stunde Null*
- Denazification
- Four occupation zones

### **Module III: Germany-US relations (2 hours)**

- Bizone/Trizone
- Berlin Blockade
- European Recovery Program/Marshall Plan

### **Module IV: GDR and FRG (12 hours)**

- Formation of GDR and FRG
- Comparison of political and economic systems. Basic Law
- Democratisation of education
- NATO and Warsaw Pact
- Adenauer era
- Brandt's Ostpolitik

**Module V: Anti Government Protests (2 hours)**

- East German uprising
- Students' movement
- Green movement (anti-nuclear movement, environmentalism)

**Module VI: Migrants in Germany (4 hours)**

- Gastarbeiter/'Guest Worker'
- Debate over Multiculturalism
- Current migrant crisis
- Emergence of far-right parties like AfD

**Module VII: The reunification of Germany (2 hours)**

- Fall of the Berlin Wall
- Reunification
- Problems in the process of internal integration

**Module VIII: Post-War German Cinema/Literature (6 hours)**

The students will engage with selected works of German literature/cinema, which will offer them a historical as well as a cultural perspective of the German society as it existed during the postwar period. It will include dealing with themes like *Heimat* ('homeland'), *Vergangenheitsbewältigung* ('coming to terms with the past'), and *Wende* ('turn').

**Module IX: European Union as it exists today (8 hours)**

- European Integration (ECSC, EEC)
- Expansion of the EU (1993 – today)
- Germany's role within the EU
- Euroscepticism
- Brexit

**3. Textbooks:**

- Judt, Tony: *Postwar. A History of Europe since 1945*, New York, Penguin Press, 2005
- Staab, Andreas: *The European Union Explained: Institutions, Actors, Global Impact*, Bloomington, Indiana University Press, 2008

**4. Reference:**

- Braunthal, G, *Right-Wing Extremism in Contemporary Germany*, Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2009
- Childs, David, *The Fall of the GDR: Germany's Road To Unity*, Longman, 2001
- Dennis, Mike, *The Rise and Fall of the German Democratic Republic 1945-1990*, London: Routledge, 2000
- Dinan, Desmond: *Europe Recast: A History of European Union*, Boulder, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2014
- Fulbrook, Mary, *A History of Germany 1918-2014: The Divided Nation*, Wiley-Blackwell 2014
- Gilbert, Mark: *European Integration: A concise History*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2012

- Göktürk, Deniz, David Gramling and Anton Kaes (eds.), *Germany in Transit: Nation and Migration, 1955-2005*, California: University of California Press, 2007
- Hofmann, Arne, *The Emergence of Détente in Europe: Brandt, Kennedy and the Formation of Ostpolitik*, London, New York: Routledge: 2007.
- Jones, Erik, Anand Menon and Stephen Weatherill (eds.): *The Oxford Handbook of the European Union*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2012
- Kitchen, Martin: *A History of Modern Germany 1800-2000*, Malden, Blackwell, 2006
- Maier, C.S. and G. Bischof (eds.) *The Marshall Plan and Germany: West German Development within the Framework of the European Recovery Programme*, Oxford: Berg, 1991.
- McCormick, John: *Understanding the European Union*, New York, Palgrave, 2008
- Müller, Jan-Werner (ed.): *German ideologies since 1945; studies in the political thought and culture of the Bonn republic*, New York 2003
- Pulzer, Peter: *German Politics 1945-1995*, New York, Oxford University Press, 1996
- Smith, Helmut Walser (ed.): *The Oxford Handbook of Modern German History*, Oxford, 2011
- Vorländer, Hans, Maik Herold, Steven Schäler, *PEGIDA and New Right-Wing Populism in Germany*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018.
- Warleigh-Lack, Alex: *European Union: The Basics*, London, Routledge, 2008
- Wilhelm, Cornelia (ed), *Migration, Memory and Diversity: From 1945 to the Present*, New York: Berghahn Books, 2016.

#### 5. Similarity Content Declaration with Existing Courses

S.N.	Course Code	Similarity Content	Approx. % of Content
	<b>HS363: Post-war Germany: A Literary Perspective</b>	The course examines the trajectory of German history from the ‘Stunde Null’ or ‘Zero Hour’ in 1945 to the Fall of the Wall in 1989 through its literary reflexes. It focuses on advanced reading comprehension by a thorough study of select short stories and poems besides short excerpts from novels that dwell on major defining moments in post-war Germany.	<b>5%</b>

#### 6. Justification for new course proposal if cumulative similarity content is > 30%:

NA