

<b>Course Title</b>	<i>Urban neighborhoods in transition - The Case of Berlin</i>
<b>Category</b>	Metropolitan Studies & Urban Development
<b>Class Time</b>	<b>Winter Session: January 7<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> 2019</b> <b>Track B</b> <b>Weekly schedule</b> Monday: 1.30 pm – 3 pm & 3.20 pm – 4.50 pm Tuesday & Wednesday: 9.00 am – 10.30 am & 11.00 am – 12.30 pm Friday: 1.30 pm – 3 pm & 3.20 pm – 4.05 pm
<b>Course Level &amp; Target Group</b>	Undergraduate students with an interest in neighborhood and urban development and planning, geography, politics, social sciences, economics.
<b>Course Language</b>	This course is taught in English, including readings in English. For the understanding of the texts and the discussions in class a language level B2 or higher (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) is required.
<b>ECTS</b>	5 ECTS (45 contact hours)
<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Robert Kitzmann Dipl.-Geogr. Sylvana Jahre Dipl.-Geogr. Mattias Romberg and Prof. Dr. Lech Suwala

## Course Description

The aim of this course is to understand and learn about the different challenges urban neighborhoods are facing, e.g. integration and migration, housing provision, gentrification, social exclusion, demographic change, creative milieus, economic decline, shrinking cities and ecological renewal.

The city of Berlin offers a variety of different neighborhoods, with different development trajectories facing numerous challenges. Several of the above mentioned aspects will be explored and explained during excursions in Berlin's heterogeneous urban landscape.

Students of all relevant disciplines who are interested in different aspects of urban and neighborhood development and planning, including e.g. city and regional planning, geography, politics, social sciences and economics, are most welcome to join this course.

## Course Objective & Learning Outcomes

The seminar provides students with a critical understanding of different planning related issues as well as possible solutions. This includes theoretical and technical knowledge that is required to identify problems, values and attitudes of planning as well as skills to formulate, evaluate and implement planning policies urban and neighborhood scale.

## Suggested Readings

Strom, E. / Mayer, M. (1998): The New Berlin. German Politics and Society, Issue 49, Vol. 16, No. 4, Winter 1998, pg. 122-139.

Arandjelovic, B. / Bogunovich, D. (2014): City profile: Berlin Cities, Volume 37, April 2014, pg. 1-26.

A course reader with supplementary reading materials will be distributed at the beginning of the class.

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## Assignments

- In order to be granted 5 ECTS, students are required to
- attend all classes
- participate actively in all classes,
- to draft a presentation on a specific topic discussed in the course
- provide regular reading notes

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## Assessment Components

A minimum of 80% class attendance is required. The final grade will be composed of active participation during class discussions and the presentation.

Failure to fulfil one of the mentioned components results in failure of the class.

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## Expectations & Policies

Preparation for lively discussions in the classroom: be on time, have at least the required readings completed and points in mind for discussion or clarification.

Assignments: complete all assignments according to the specified requirements on schedule including handing over to the lecturer.

Commitment in class: pay particular attention to the lecturer and respect differences of opinions (classmates', lecturers, local constituents engaged with on the visits).

Academic guidelines: Comply with academic integrity policies (such as no plagiarism or cheating, nothing unethical), especially the academic honor code and the student code of conduct (see *FAQs* on [www.huwisu.de](http://www.huwisu.de)).

Attendance policy: No unexcused absences are permitted. Students must contact their class teachers to catch up on missed work – to excuse absence please contact the HUWISU office (80% class attendance are required).

Field trips: if classes involve a field trip or other external visits, these require attendance as well as appearance in time – transportation difficulties are never valid reasons for an excused absence.

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## Cultural Extra-curricular Activities

HUWISU offers a fine selection of interesting extra-curricular activities and aims to give all participants an unforgettable stay in Berlin. Your program includes excursions, sport activities and social gatherings providing you the opportunity to get to know the city, the university and your classmates better and to meet students from all parts of the world. The costs for these offers are included in the course fees.

Below you will find examples of previously offered cultural activities. You will be informed about the respective cultural program after your enrolment via email as well as during the course period.

Political and historical guided tours:

- **Federal Chancellery (Bundeskanzleramt):** It's the central coordination point for the entire government policy. The office is in constant contact to departments and other authorities.
  - **German Parliament (Bundestag):** As the highest organ of the legislative in Germany it's elected by the German people. In practice Germany is governed by a bicameral legislature, of which the Bundestag serves as the lower house and the Bundesrat equals the upper house.
  - **House of Representatives (Abgeordnetenhaus):** It's the state parliament (Landtag) of Berlin and located in the center of the reunified city. Together with the Martin Gropius Bau, the Topography of Terror and the Bundesrat, it presents an arresting contrast to the flair of the new Potsdamer Platz.
  - **Topography of Terror:** A permanent exhibition with focus on the central institutions of the SS and police during the "Third Reich" and the crimes they committed throughout Europe. With the help of mostly photographic material, visitors are led through the major themes of the exhibition's five main segments.
  - **Political Archive:** As the "memory" of the Federal Foreign Office it preserves the files on German diplomacy since 1867, as well as the international treaties signed by the Federal Republic of Germany and its predecessors in title. The records are preserved, processed and made available for academic research.
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### Cultural guided tours:

- **Kreuzberg Tour:** Kreuzberg has emerged from its history as one of the poorest quarters in Berlin in the late 1970s to a cultural center of today's Berlin. A unique area and one of the hippest neighborhoods in Berlin with many bars, pubs and clubs.
- **Museum Island (Museumsinsel):** was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Status in 1999 and is an ensemble of five museums: Old Museum, New Museum, Old National Gallery, Pergamon Museum and Bode Museum.
- **Berlin Cathedral (Berliner Dom):** Berlin's largest and most important Protestant church is located on the Museum Island.
- **Daytrip to Potsdam:** Be inspired by the illustrious attractions of the UNESCO's World Heritage while underway through the city of Potsdam. Immerse yourself in the history and present of Potsdam and discover many palaces, gardens, and historic quarters such as the "Holländisches Viertel" or the "Nikolaikirche".
- **Exhibitions:** Berlin is known for its unique galleries and exhibitions, that is why we will visit at least one during the Winter University.

### Social gatherings

- **Welcome Get-Together:** We invite you to meet all participants as well as the HUWISU staff in a relaxed atmosphere.
- **Ice Skating:** A fun outdoor sport activity for everyone; even for those who have never been on ice-skates before. Afterwards you may head out for hot beverage to warm up from the inside.
- **Farewell Party:** At the end of the Winter University we will come together to celebrate the exciting time with HUWISU.

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## Your Instructors

**Dr. Robert Kitzmann** is currently post-doctoral research associate in Economic Geography at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Besides his teaching obligation in the division of Economic Geography he is actively engaged in research on real estate and urban/neighborhood development, for which he was inspired during his graduate research on the consequences of the housing bubble and crisis for the urban development in Phoenix, Arizona. Following his passion for topics related to urban development his doctoral research is dealing with the transformation of Berlin's housing market and the consequences for neighborhood development. This research and the enthusiasm for his hometown Berlin has led to the elaboration of several seminars and a broad variety of field trips. Since 2013, he is regularly giving insights to international students on how the urban landscape of the growing metropolis of Berlin is transforming.

**Dipl.-Geogr. Sylvana Jahre** is currently employed as a research associate in Economic Geography. She is holding a degree from the Department of Geography, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and has also gained international study experience at Lund University (Sweden) und at University of Melbourne (Australia). Throughout her work she has focused on issues such as urban policies, urban governance and the connection between space and marginalization. Her doctoral research is going to deal with refugee reception policies in Germany focusing on education. She has taught introduction seminars about scientific working, a methodological course on the preparation of field trips and has participated in various projects in and about Berlin.

**Dipl.-Geogr. Mattias Romberg** is currently employed at the Department of Geography, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, at the School of Economic Geography as a research associate and doctoral researcher. In his teaching, he focuses on the theoretical foundations of economic geography, but also includes applied research and empirical methods. Here the city itself, and especially Berlin, is the focus of various analyses, which encompass topics such as green space and its economic benefit, night economy and special forms of retailing. Another emphasis lies on the topic traffic and city. During his part-time project job at Deutsche Bahn AG he acquired manifold practical experience which enables him to give his students a varied insight into this exciting field of urban research.

**Prof. Dr. Lech Suwala** is currently a Full Professor (Guest) for Urban and Regional Economics at Technische Universität Berlin. Apart from that, he worked as a Visiting Associate Professor for Innovation Management at Ritsumeikan University, Japan, Osaka and Senior Lecturer in Economic Geography at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. He is a geographer and economist with working experience in both science and industry. He has held positions as Research Fellow at Simon-Fraser-University, Vancouver, Canada; Lecturer at the University of Namibia, Windhoek and University of Applied Sciences on Technology and Economics, Berlin.

His expertise includes spatial creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship research, European and regional planning, as well as smart and green approaches towards urban development. His research has been published in both peer-reviewed journals (e.g. Regional Studies, German Journal of Economic Geography) and internationally edited volumes (Ashgate, Routledge, Springer).

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## **Course Schedule (preliminary)**

### **Week 1: General ideas of urban and neighborhood development**

Mon, 7th January 2018 – 1.30-5.00pm

Lecture: Welcome, Introduction to Berlin and urban/neighborhood development

Tue, 8th January 2018 – 9.00-12.00pm

*Excursion: Friedrichshain – Nigh-time economies and touristification!*

Meeting point: 9:00am S-Bahn Station Ostkreuz (S3, S 41/42, S5, S7, S75, S8, S85, S9). In front of McDonalds.

Wed, 9th January 2018 – 9.00-12.00pm

*Excursion: Oberschöneweide – economic restructuring in an old industrial neighborhood*

Meeting point: 9.00am S-Bahn Station Schöneweide (S45, S46, S47, S8, S85, S9). In front of station hall.

Fri, 11th January 2018 – 1.30-4.00pm

Lecture and seminar: Theoretical aspects of the neighborhood

### **Week 2: Housing**

Mon, 14th January 2018 – 1.30-5.00pm

Lecture and seminar: History and recent challenges on Berlin's housing market

Tue, 15th January 2018 – 9.00-12.00pm

*Excursion: Marzahn – redevelopment of large housing estates?*

Meeting point: 9:00am S-Bahn Station Ostkreuz (S3, S41/42, S5, S7, S75, S8, S85, S9). In front of McDonalds.

Wed, 16th January 2018 – 9.00-12.00pm

*Excursion: Prenzlauer Berg - Gentrification*

Meeting point: 9.00am U-Bahn Station Senefelder Platz (U2). At the U2 rail track platform.

Fri, 18th January 2018 – 1.30-4.00pm

Lecture and seminar: Housing policies (in Berlin)

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### **Week 3: Diversity in Berlin**

Mon, 21st January 2018 – 1.30-5.00pm

Lecture and seminar: General ideas of migration and inclusion

Tue, 22nd January 2018 – 9.00-12.00pm

Excursion: Refugees in Berlin

Meeting point: 9.00pm U-Bahn Station Blaschkoallee (U7). At the rail track platform.

Wed, 23rd January 2018 – 9.00-12.00pm

Excursion: Migration in Kreuzberg

Meeting point: 9:00 U-Bahn Station Moritzplatz (U8). At the rail track platform.

Fri, 25th January 2018 – 1.30-4.00pm

Lecture and seminar: Migration policies (in Berlin), concluding remarks, evaluation

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Please note that the course and its syllabus are subject to change. Last update: September 2018