

Planning Economic and Urban Neighborhoods in Transition - The Case of Berlin

8 January – 26 January 2024

CATEGORY Metropolitan Studies & Urban Development

COURSE STRUCTURE

You will receive a total of **45 hours of academic lessons** (one lesson equals 45 minutes; 15 hours per week). Lessons will comprise lectures, group work, discussion sessions, and excursions.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

HUWISU courses are grouped into different time tracks. Your course will take place in **Track B**.

Monday: 1.30 pm – 3 pm & 3.20 pm – 4.50 pm

Tuesday: 9.00 am – 10.30 am & 11.00 am – 12.30 pm

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

COURSE LANGUAGE

This course is taught in **English**, including the readings. For the understanding of the texts and the discussions in class, a language-level of B2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) is required.

TARGET GROUP

Undergraduate students with an interest in neighborhood and urban development and planning, geography, politics, social sciences, economics.

CREDITS & CERTIFICATES

Participants will receive **6 ECTS** credit points and a certificate if they attend regularly (at least 80% attendance), participate actively and fulfill all course assignments. Additionally, six weeks after the end of the course a Transcript of Records is issued by Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. All courses are accredited according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

You are invited to **join our cultural and social program**. We offer a fine selection of interesting activities that aim to give you an unforgettable stay in Berlin. Through excursions, social gatherings, and sport activities, you have the opportunity to get to know the city, the university, and to meet students from all parts of the world. **Costs for these offers are included in the program fee.** Below, you find examples of previously offered cultural activities. You will be informed about the respective cultural program shortly before the start of the program via email as well as during the course period.



POLITICAL AND HISTORICAL GUIDED TOURS

- Federal Chancellery (*Bundeskanzleramt*)
- German Parliament (*Bundestag*)
- House of Representatives (*Abgeordnetenhaus*)
- Topography of Terror exhibition
- Political Archive of the Federal Foreign Office

CULTURAL GUIDED TOURS

- Kreuzberg Tour
- Museum Island (*Museumsinsel*)
- Berlin Cathedral (*Berliner Dom*)
- Daytrip to Potsdam
- Exhibitions

SOCIAL GATHERINGS

- Welcome Session
- Ice Skating
- Farewell Get2gether

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 the schedule including handing them over to the lecturer.

Commitment in class: Pay particular attention to the lecturer and respect differences of opinions (classmates', lecturers').

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.

Attendance policy: No unexcused absences are permitted. Students must follow teachers' instructions to catch up on missed work – to excuse absence please contact the HUWISU office.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The aim of this course is to understand and learn about the different challenges European cities and their neighborhoods are facing, e.g. demographic change, housing provision, creative milieus, economic decline, shrinkage and ecological renewal.

How is the ageing society affecting urban areas? Does Berlin have a creative class and if so, how does it affect the city?

These are only some of the questions that will be discussed in the course. The city of Berlin is a hot spot for various regional developments. As a result, several of these aspects will be explored and explained during short excursions and day trips in Berlin (e.g. ethnic businesses and the migration situation in Neukölln, the newly developing zone Tempelhofer Feld).

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

Participants will be invited to draft a presentation on a specific topic discussed in the course (including e.g. the home regions of the participants).

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

The seminar provides students with a

- critical understanding of different neighborhood development related issues
- discussion of possible solutions of this issues
- imparting of theoretical and technical knowledge that is required to identify problems, values and attitudes of planning
- providing theoretical as well as practical insights in neighborhood planning

ASSIGNMENT INFO

The final grade and the grant of 6 ECTS will be composed of the following aspects. A percentage weighting is established for each component:

- Active participation in all classes and discussion during seminars and excursions (33%)
- A presentation on a specific topic discussed during the seminar sessions of 30 minutes (66%)
- Regular reading notes

A minimum of 80% class attendance is required. Regular readings & reading notes based on the given scientific texts are mandatory. Failure to fulfill one of the mentioned components results in failure of the class.

YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Dr. Robert Kitzmann is currently 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 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. Jonas König is a research associate at the Department of Urban and Regional Economics at the Technical University of Berlin. He studied economic geography at the Faculty of Business Administration of the Ludwig-Maximilians- University of Munich and then worked for 10 years as a research assistant at the Department of Urban and Regional Economics at the HafenCity University Hamburg. In addition, he was also a guest lecturer at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg (field of study: Digital media), the University of Applied Sciences Munich (field of study: architecture) and the Istanbul Technical University (field of study: urban and regional planning). Through his activities, Jonas has a multi-layered view within processes of urban and neighbourhood development, which he illuminates holistically through a built, spatial, social and economic perspective.

READINGS

Required reading for everybody:

Berlin – in general:

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

Gornig, M. / Häussermann, H. (2002): Berlin: Economic and Spatial Change. *European Urban and Regional Studies* 9:4 331-341.

Further readings will be announced during the first session.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

Introduction and general ideas of neighbourhoods in Berlin

Mon, 08 Jan – 1.30 pm-4.50 pm

Lecture: Introduction to Berlin and its recent urban trends

Classroom: tba

Tue, 09 Jan – 9.00 am-12.30 pm

Excursion: Urban development in Berlin's historic centre

Meeting point: 9.00 am S+U-Bahn station Alexanderplatz (S3, S5, S7, S9; U2).

At the world time clock.

Wed, 10 Jan – 9.00 am – 12.30 pm

Excursion: To be determined

Meeting point: to be determined

Fri, 12 June – 1.30 pm-4.05 pm

Seminar/Lecture: Demographic transition

Classroom: tba

WEEK 2

Housing

Mon, 15 Jan – 1.30 pm-4.50 pm

Seminar/Lecture: Demographic and housing transition

Classroom: tba

Tue, 16 Jan – 9.00 am – 12.30 pm

Seminar/Lecture: Housing transition and housing policy

Classroom: tba

Wed, 17 Jan – 09.00 am-12.30 pm

Excursion: To be determined

Meeting point: to be determined

Fri, 19 Jan – 1:30 pm-4:05 pm

Marzahn – How to deal with housing shrinkage?

Meeting point: am S-Bahn Station Ostkreuz (S3, S41/42, S5, S7, S75, S8, S85).

In front of McDonalds.

WEEK 3 **(Governance of) economic development**

Mon, 22 Jan – 1.30 pm-4.50 pm

Seminar: Governing urban development for Economic development

Classroom: tba

Tue, 23 Jan – 09.00 am-12.30 pm

Exkursion: Tempelhofer Feld – Sustainable or wasteful brownfield development?

Meeting point: 09.00 U-Bahn station Platz der Luftbrücke (U6). At the rail track platform.

Wed, 24 Jan – 09.00 am-12.30 pm

Exkursion: to be determined

Meeting point: to be determined

Fri, 26 Jan – 1:30 pm-4:05 pm

Exkursion: Dong Xuan Centre – Vietnamese wholesale between integration and rigid planning

Meeting point: 1.15 pm S-Bahn Station Landsberger Allee (S 41, 42, 8, 85, 9). At the rail track platform.

The course and its syllabus are subject to change. Last update: 31.08.2023