

# The EAST/WEST Competition – Urban Planning, Cultural Policy And Economics in Divided Berlin

– Syllabus WS 2015/16 –

This seminar examines the dualism in urban planning between East and West Berlin chronologically. Seminar presentations and two field trips trace the diverse targets and demands of capitalist and socialist urban planning. For the analysis, we do not only consider architectural and formal aspects. Cultural contexts, political ideas and funding strategies will be looked at as well.

*Course teacher:* Michael Grass  
grass.m@gmx.de

*Course date:* Monday  
12.00 ct – 14.00 ct

*Place:* HU Berlin – Berlin Perspectives  
Hausvogteiplatz 5-7, 10117 Berlin  
room: HV 5 – 0323-26

The two field trips are planned as four-hour blocks. In order to prevent absence on other seminars for more than one time, the starting time for the trips vary.

Field trip dates and rendezvous points will be presented in the first session.

The field trips involve travelling with public transport. Please ensure, that you will have a valid ticket.

## Course requirements

- a. Active participation in class discussions and field trips.
- b. **Attendance Policy:** You may not miss more than 20% of seminar time, that is 3 sessions. If you do know you have to miss a class, let me know in advance in order to arrange a make-up task, if necessary. In the case of illness or other unforeseen situations, do e-mail me as soon as possible. You are asked to send some written confirmation of the emergency/sick certificate to the admin team as well (berlinperspectives@hu-berlin.de).  
Do become familiar with public transport in Berlin. Especially for the field trips: work out how to get to the sites in advance. It is the students' responsibility to get to the sites on time.
- c. Participation in a presentation or a group presentation on a field site
- d. A summary of a text including the moderation of the discussion (max. 2 students)
- e. **Written assignments:** You are asked to hand in one written assignment – one printed copy and one copy as a PDF via email to me. For your essay you may choose one of three topics. Essay topics will be presented during the first session.  
Requirements: 1800 – 2000 words  
double spaced, Times New Roman  
MLA-style citation  
Written work can be submitted in English or German.
- f. **Plagiarism Policy:** The presentation of another person's words, thoughts, ideas, judgements, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. The penalty for this is failure of the course.

Material, presentations and all reading can be found on the *Moodle* archive, once the seminar has started. The archive is restricted to participants of the course, an access key is provided in the first session.

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– course plan –

Session	I	<b>Introduction</b> <i>Keywords:</i> Berlin after the war, Ost-Politik, recovery <i>Admin:</i> Course Plan, Moodle introduction, field trips
	II	<b>Berlin, the Cold War and the conflict of systems</b> <i>Keywords:</i> Berlin Blockade, Berlin Airlift, Marshall Plan, SMAD
	III	<b>Plans and visions</b> <i>Keywords:</i> Collective, Cooperative, “Mietskaserne” and the criticism of Berlin's historic patterns, ideal city, utopia, Brasilia, Canberra  Andrea Contursi:           The <i>Kollektivplan</i> for Berlin of 1946 between Infrastructure Planning, Rationalization and City Design. In: Herold Stefanovska 2012, 90-97
	IV	<b>Prototypes for the New Germany</b> <i>Keywords:</i> Stalinallee, Ernst-Reuter-Speech, the two German nations, Berlin division  <i>Text to prepare session:</i> Ralf Ahrens: Planning priorities, managing shortages: Industrial policy in the German Democratic Republic, from Stalinism to welfare dictatorship. In: Christian Grabas and Alexander Nützenadel (Ed.): Industrial Policy in Europe after 1945. Wealth, Power and Economic Development in the Cold War. London (Palgrave) 2014, S. 300-321
	V	<b>The East/West – competition in urban planning</b> <i>Keywords:</i> Hansaviertel, Interbau, Stalinallee  <i>Text to prepare session:</i> Florian Urban: Recovering Essence through Demolition: The "Organic" City in Postwar West Berlin. In: Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Vol. 63, No. 3 (Sep., 2004), pp 354-369.
	VI	<b>After Stalin, Modern East Berlin vs The West exclave</b> <i>Keywords:</i> Alexanderplatz, Ernst-Reuter.-Platz, “Showcase of the West”  <i>Text to prepare session:</i> Re-arrangement of East Berlins City Centre Flierl, Bruno: Urban Design in Berlin, GDR. Berlin 1986
Sessions	VII+VIII	<b>Field trip</b>  Haus der Kulturen der Welt

## Le Corbusier in Berlin

- Session IX      **The modern city's urban politics**  
*Keywords:* Urban renewal, Berlin West and the FRG, Klausenerplatz, redevelopment, Block 118, Block 270, Block perimeter design
- Text to prepare session:* Salgo, Andreas: The Dawn of the Postmodern. Critical Activism in the 1960s and the Change of Urbanist Paradigm.
- X      **Re-invent the city EAST**  
*Keywords:* Urban Renewal as urban historiography, Problems of wide range redevelopment, WBS 70, Arnimplatz, Nicolai Quarter
- Text to prepare session:* Rubin, Eli: From „Mietskaserne“ to „WBS 70“. Central European History 47 (2014), 334–374.
- Text to prepare session:* Urban, Florian: Neo-historical East Berlin. Architecture and Urban Design in the German Democratic Republic 1970-1990. Surrey, 2009
- XII      **“Careful Urban Renewal”**  
*Keywords:* IBA, International Building Exhibition 1987, Kreuzberg, Kulturforum
- Text to prepare session:* Bauausstellung Berlin (Ed.): First Projects in Careful Urban Renewal. Berlin 1987. (exc.)
- Text to prepare session:* Nelson Mota: Critique: building appraisals Álvaro Siza's Bonjour Tristesse: a symphony for a big city. In: The Journal of Architecture, 19 (5), pp 779-808.
- XIII      **“Critical Reconstruction”**  
*Keywords:* International Building Exhibition 1987
- Text to prepare session:* Wallis Miller: IBA's "Models for a City": Housing and the Image of Cold-War Berlin. In: Journal of Architectural Education. 46 (4), pp 202-216.
- Sessions XIV+XV      **Field trip**
- Oswald Matthias Ungers
- Block 70 / Fraenkelufer Ensemble
- Session XVI      **Berlin Wonderland**  
*Keywords:* reunification, Berlin borderland, reconstruction, Berlin Castle, squatters, city centre, Public private partnerships, “Media Spree”

*Text to prepare session:* 'Revanchist urban planning' and 'burdened landscapes'  
Claire Colomb: Requiem for a lost Palast. 'Revanchist urban  
planning' and 'burdened landscapes' of the German  
Democratic Republic in the new Berlin. In: Planning  
Perspectives, 22 (July 2007) 283–323.