

## Term Information

Effective Term Autumn 2016

## General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area Japanese  
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org East Asian Languages & Lit - D0527  
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences  
Level/Career Undergraduate  
Course Number/Catalog 2255  
Course Title Postwar Culture in Germany and Japan  
Transcript Abbreviation Postwar GermnyJapn  
Course Description We'll examine postwar culture in Germany and Japan, looking at films, theoretical texts, memoirs, manifestos, and literary works, subjecting our material to cross-cultural analysis that should deepen as our basis for comparison expands.  
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

## Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 7 Week, 4 Week (May Session), 12 Week (May + Summer)  
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never  
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No  
Grading Basis Letter Grade  
Repeatable No  
Course Components Lecture  
Grade Roster Component Lecture  
Credit Available by Exam No  
Admission Condition Course No  
Off Campus Never  
Campus of Offering Columbus

## Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites  
Exclusions Not open to students with credit for German 2255

## Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings Cross-listed in German

## Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 16.0302  
Subsidy Level General Studies Course  
Intended Rank Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

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## Requirement/Elective Designation

General Education course:

Culture and Ideas

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

## Course Details

### **Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes**

- Students will be able to write cogently about the similarities and differences between the cultural landscapes of postwar Germany and Japan, as well as the role of literature in historical understanding, and be able to identify key cultural figures.

### **Content Topic List**

- Life in Postwar Germany and Japan
- Representing/Negotiating Guilt, Trauma, and Mourning in the Postwar Period
- Generational Tension and the Politics of Public Memory
- Backlash and Fatigue
- The Persistence of the Past

## Attachments

- G-J\_2255\_GE\_rationale\_Assessment.pdf: GE Assessment  
*(GEC Course Assessment Plan. Owner: Knicely, Yuching Hsu)*
- Holub\_support\_Reitter\_Yasar\_2015Sep.pdf: Germanic Chair Support Letter  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal)*
- YasarReitter%20letter%20September%202015.docx: DEALL Chair Support Letter  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal)*
- UPDATED Germany\_Japan\_Postwar-1.docx: updated Syllabus  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Knicely, Yuching Hsu)*
- UPDATED GermanyJapanTeamTeaching-1.docx: Rationale  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Knicely, Yuching Hsu)*
- GE Assessment plan German and Japanese 2255.pdf: GE Assessment Plan  
*(GEC Course Assessment Plan. Owner: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal)*

## Comments

- Please ignore first attachment, which is a previous version that should be deleted. *(by Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal on 12/01/2015 01:57 PM)*
- I have changed the GE category as per Bernadette's email. *(by Heysel, Garrett Robert on 12/01/2015 10:40 AM)*
- This is a team-taught course *(by Knicely, Yuching Hsu on 09/29/2015 09:16 AM)*

**COURSE REQUEST**  
2255 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette  
Chantal  
12/01/2015

**Workflow Information**

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Knically, Yuching Hsu	09/29/2015 02:08 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Bender, Mark A	09/29/2015 04:05 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel, Garrett Robert	10/02/2015 06:49 AM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal	11/05/2015 11:22 AM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Denton, Kirk Alexander	11/30/2015 01:36 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Denton, Kirk Alexander	12/01/2015 09:33 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel, Garrett Robert	12/01/2015 10:40 AM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen, Dawn Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal Hanlin, Deborah Kay Jenkins, Mary Ellen Bigler Hogle, Danielle Nicole	12/01/2015 10:40 AM	ASCCAO Approval



September 9, 2015

College of Arts and Sciences  
186 University Hall  
230 North Oval Mall

Dear Dean <sup>David</sup> Mandersheid,

I am writing today in support of a course developed for the team-teaching program in the College. The syllabus has been written jointly by Paul Reitter of our Department and Kerim Yasar of DEALL. The course deals with postwar culture in Germany and Japan, but it examines postwar developments from the perspective of how each of these countries dealt with their problematic pasts.

This course represents a fascinating opportunity to examine how two cultures that are very different in traditions and history faced up to their responsibilities for horrific occurrences during the Second World War. As far as I know, there is only one book on this topic, Iam Buruma's *The Wages of Guilt*. Most scholars of German are simply unable to deal with Japanese events, and vice versa.

We are fortunate to have two scholars who are interested enough to put together a course based on their expertise in postwar culture in Germany and Japan. The course will demand an openness to traditions less familiar to some students coming from different backgrounds, and will help to highlight different ways of thinking about history, about war, and about racism.

GLL currently has courses that touch on postwar materials, and several that deal with the Holocaust and its aftermath. But the course proposed by Reitter and Yasar is unique since it goes beyond the German and European context, providing students with insights into a country that experienced the same issues that Germany faced, but approached these issues in a different fashion. This course will therefore assist GLL majors in situating coming to terms in the past within a global framework.

I fully support the efforts to establish this course for the curriculum and to have it taught by Reitter and Yasar.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. C. Holub".

Robert C. Holub, Chair, Department of German Languages and Literatures

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to write in strong support of the new interdisciplinary undergraduate team-taught course collaborative teaching proposal between DEALL and German in the form of a course concerning Post-war Germany and Japan to be offered by Prof. Kerim Yasar of DEALL and Prof. Paul Reitter of the German Department.

The proposed course is GLL/DEALL 22260 Postwar Culture in Germany and Japan. My support is based on the belief that students will benefit from the combined expertise of these two outstanding professors on a unique subject that focuses on literature and film media to explore cultural developments in two of the major players in the spheres of World War II. Such a course also has the potential to increase the enrollment net for each department.

The two professors have put together a thought-provoking and substantial syllabus that should attract students from a wide variety of disciplines and interests due to the unique vantage point of examining parallel developments.

The course fits well with DEALL's academic goals in providing both texts and contexts concerning modern, pre-war, and contemporary East Asia. It also enhances DEALL's curricular map, strengthening the offerings in modern Japanese literature and culture, and those of modern Chinese and Korean literatures and culture as well. It would be a first in terms of such comparative content.

This is an excellent example of the type of transnational/transdisciplinary teaching and research that is encouraged by ASC.

As chair of DEALL I will point out that Prof. Kerim Yasar is a true rising star in the field of Japanese film, media, and modern literature. This opportunity will enrich his career and I feel it is likewise the same for his collaborator. Again, I give my full support to this application.

Yours truly,

Mark Bender  
Professor and Chair  
DEALL

## GLL/DEALL 2255

### Postwar Culture in Germany and Japan

Prof. Paul Reitter  
Office: 326 Hagerty Hall  
Office Hours: T/R, 2-3:30 and by appointment  
Email: [reitter.4@osu.edu](mailto:reitter.4@osu.edu)

Prof. Kerim Yasar  
Office: 366 Hagerty Hall  
Office Hours: T/R, 12:30-2:00 and by appointment

German/DEALL 2255 is a GE course that satisfies the category Cultures and Ideas.

**Goals:** Students evaluate significant texts in order to develop capacities for aesthetic and historical response and judgment; interpretation and evaluation; and critical listening, reading, seeing, thinking, and writing.

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students analyze and interpret major forms of human thought, culture, and expression.
2. Students evaluate how ideas influence the character of human beliefs, the perception of reality, and the norms which guide human behavior.

In reading, discussing, and writing about postwar culture in Germany and Japan, students will develop their abilities to read, think, and write critically. Lectures will aid students in expanding their analytical capabilities. As students learn about cultural responses to the postwar situation in the main “perpetrator nations”—responses that of course shaped the very contexts they engage with—and as students consider and compare the underlying values driving these responses, they will also gain awareness of the ways in which such cultural negotiations relate to social values. This, in turn, will prompt reflection on whether the works under consideration do or do not correspond to students’ own values and beliefs.

**Course Description**

In the present course, we will be probing the dynamics of postwar culture in Germany and Japan by looking closely at an extensive body of the cultural material produced in these two most notorious “perpetrator nations”—films, theoretical writings, memoirs, artist manifestos, and, above all, literary works—and by subjecting our material to cross-cultural analysis, which should deepen as our basis for drawing distinctions, comparisons, and connections expands. In doing all this, we will enlist the help of a few secondary resources, most notably the groundbreaking recent efforts of the critic Ian Buruma.

**Required Texts:**

Course Reader (Available at Campus Barnes and Noble)

Assigned Films can be screened at [drm.osu.edu/media](http://drm.osu.edu/media)

**Assignments:**

1. **Three multiple-choice quizzes.** These quizzes will test students' completion of the readings and knowledge of major lecture concepts.
2. **Mid-term exam.** The exam will consist of short answer questions on facts and concepts covered in class, and essay questions in which students will interpret the course material—the culture and ideas—we experience and discuss.
3. **Final exam.** The format of this exam is the same as the mid-term.
  
4. Group analysis project: a short position piece that students will produce collaboratively.
  
5. Careful preparation of all required readings and film viewings

**Attendance Policy:**

**Regular attendance is expected, but we also recognize that occasionally scheduling conflicts and unforeseen hardships arise. You are allowed three unexcused absences, after which each unexcused absence will lower your final grade by one-third (e.g., A- to B+). An unexcused absence is one for which you cannot provide documentation of illness, a university-sponsored athletic commitment, or family emergency.**

**Grades will be determined as follows; Grading Scale:**

1. Quizzes	30%	93-100 = A, 90-92 = A-
2. Midterm	30%	88-89 = B+, 83-87 = B, 80-82 = B-
3. Final Exam	30%	78-79+C+, 73-77 = C, 70-72 = C-
4. Group Project	10%	63-67 = D, below 63 = E

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## Course Plan

### Unit 1: Life in Postwar Germany and Japan

#### Week 1

##### Introduction: 1945

Tues 8/25: Introduction

Thurs 8/27: Selections from Ian Buruma, *Year Zero* 11-45.

## **Week 2**

### **Bombing and Brutality: Survival Stories**

Tues 9/1: Wolfgang Borchert, "Rats do Sleep at Night"

Selections from W.G. Sebald, *Air Warfare and Literature*

Thurs 9/3: Selections from Kenzaburo Oe, *The Crazy Iris and Other Stories of the Atomic Aftermath*

Selections from John Treat, *Writing Ground Zero: Japanese Literature and the Atomic Bomb*

## **Week 3**

### **Return and Repatriation**

Tues 9/8: Heinrich Boell, "Silent Angel"

Wolfgang Staudte, *The Murderers are Among Us* [film]

Thurs 9/10: Dazai Osamu, *The Setting Sun*

Susan M. Lindee, "The Repatriation of Atomic Bomb Victim Body Parts to Japan: Natural Objects and Diplomacy", Selections from Lori Watt, *When Empire Comes Home: Repatriation and Reintegration in Postwar Japan*

## **Week 4**

### **Germany *Stunde Null*: The Texture of Everyday Life in 1945**

Tues 9/15: Helke Sander, *Liberators and Liberated* (film)

Thurs 9/17: Selections from Christa Wolf, *Patterns of Childhood*

Quiz #1

## **Week 5**

### **Japan's War Seen from the Inside**

Tues 9/22: Hara Kazuo, *The Emperor's Naked Army Marches On* (documentary film)

Thurs 9/24: Selections from Donald Keene, *So Lovely a Country Will Never Perish: Wartime Diaries of Japanese Writers*, Emiko Ohnuki-Tierney, *Kamikaze Diaries: Reflections of Japanese Student Soldiers*

## **Unit 2: Representing/Negotiating Guilt, Trauma, and Mourning in the Postwar Period**

## **Week 6**

### **The Cold War Effect**

Tues 9/29: Graham Greene, *The Third Man*

Michael Verhoeven, *The Nasty Girl* (film)

Thurs 10/1: Imamura Shohei, *Pigs and Battleships* (film)

Selections from John Dower, *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*

## **Week 7**

### **Postwar Humanism**

Tues 10/6: Karl Jaspers, "The Question of Guilt"



Ichikawa Kon, *The Harp of Burma* (film)  
Thurs 10/8: Midterm

### **Week 8**

#### **Postwar Aesthetics**

Tues 10/13: Thomas Bernhard, *Heroes' Square*  
R.M Fassbinder, *Devil's Brew* (film)  
Thurs 10/15: Fall Break

## **Unit 3: Generational Tension and the Politics of Public Memory**

### **Week 9**

#### **Anger and Experimentation**

Tues 10/20: Peter Weiss, *The Investigation*  
Marie Kruschwitz, "Hiroshima" (poem)  
Oberhausen manifesto  
Thurs 10/22: Oshima Nagisa, *The Ceremony* (film)  
Selections from Yuriko Furuhashi, *Cinema of Actuality: Japanese Avant-Garde Filmmaking in the Season of Image Politics*

### **Week 10**

#### **Anti-Americanism**

Tues 10/27: Günter Grass, "Learn to Resist"  
Rolf Hochhuth, *The Deputy*  
Thurs 10/29: Tezuka Osamu, *MW* (manga)  
Quiz #2

### **Week 11**

#### **Theorizing Memory**

Tues 11/3: Alexander Kluge, *The Patriot*  
Selections from Alexander and Margerethe Mitscherlich, *The Inability to Mourn*  
Thurs 11/5: Selections from Ian Buruma, *The Wages of Guilt: Memories of War in Germany and Japan*  
Selections from Yoshikuni Igarashi, *Bodies of Memory: Narratives of War in Postwar Japanese Culture, 1945-1970*

## **Unit 4: Backlash and Fatigue**

### **Week 12**

#### **Conservative Responses**

Tues 11/10: Selections from Ernst Nolde, *Fascism and Communism*  
Thurs 11/12: Akiko Takenaka, "Reactionary Nationalism and Museum Controversies: The Case of 'Peace Osaka'"

Peter Luebke and Rachel DiNitto, "Maruo Suehiro's *Planet of the Jap*; revanchist fantasy or war critique?"

### **Week 13**

#### **The Question of Normalization**

11/17: Robert Menasse, *The Land without Qualities*

11/19: Selections from Murakami Haruki, *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*

Naoki Sakai: "History and Responsibility: On the Debates on the Shōwa History"

## **Unit 5: The Persistence of the Past**

### **Week 14**

#### **Anniversaries**

11/24: Günter Grass, *Crabwalk*

Jörg Gleiter, "The Lived Space of Recollection: How Holocaust Memorials are Conceived Differently Today"

Selections from Kazuhiko Togo, *Japan and Reconciliation in Post-War Asia: The Murayama Statement and Its Implications*

11/25: Thanksgiving

### **Week 15**

#### **The Past Persists But the Politics of Representation Change**

Tues 12/1: Selections from Yasha Mounk, *Stranger in My Own Country*

Tues 12/3: Quiz #3

Hayao Miyazaki: *The Wind Rises* (film)

### **Week 16**

Tues 12/8: Last class--review

#### **Academic Misconduct:**

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct ([http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info\\_for\\_students/csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp)).

#### **Disability statement:**

**Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately**

**accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.**

1. This course is interdisciplinary—indeed, profoundly so—in a number of ways. In the first place, it brings together two distinct fields of study, Asian studies and German studies, and in doing so it challenges students to develop new perspectives on both areas as well as an understanding of the interrelatedness of German and Japanese culture in the post-war era. The thematic set up of the course, moreover, calls for interdisciplinary approaches and expertise on the part of the instructors, who will have to frame historically and analyze a wide range of materials, from film, photography, and experimental theater to protest movements and generational conflict, something that will involve working with critical models from an array of disciplines.

2. On the East Asian side, this course will be of interest to undergraduates in DEALL, and those studying modern Japan in the History, Art History, Political Science and other departments. Students will learn about the postwar Japanese experience not only in comparative context alongside that of Germany, but also in terms of the intertwined histories of Germany, Japan, and the United States. The course will thus be of value not only to those interested in the respective histories of Germany and Japan, but also to those who would benefit from learning about the roles that US foreign policy has played during the Cold War and beyond. This gives the course a potentially very wide constituency.

While DEALL currently offers survey and upper-level courses in modern Japanese literature and film, there are no offerings with this course's thematic focus and interdisciplinary approach. This course directly addresses one of DEALL's primary academic goals, which is to teach students about East Asian literature and culture in both historical and transnational contexts. Furthermore, because of what we anticipate will be its broad appeal, it will also introduce the study of postwar Japan to students who might otherwise never take a course on East Asia. Much the same goes for GLL, which shares the goal of presenting its material in a multiplicity of contexts and of engaging students with interdisciplinary approaches. While some versions of GLL's introduction to German studies course touches on post-war culture, others do not, something that also can be said of GLL's GE course on the Holocaust in German literature and film. GLL's honors course on the Holocaust treats this crucial moment in more detail, but not with the depth and the comparative framework that the moment calls out for. It is fair to say that post-war culture, and, more particularly, the post-war German reckoning with the Nazi past, has not figured as significantly in GLL's English-language undergraduate course offerings as one would hope or expect.

3. Germany and Japan share similar experiences of defeat and wartime reconstruction, but their cultural models of remembrance and reconciliation diverge radically. A comparative course of this type calls for deep specialist expertise in, and sensitivity to, the languages and cultures of both nations, a tall order for any individual instructor and one that no single faculty member at Ohio State can fill. There is, furthermore, a disciplinary complementarity at work: While both

Reitter and Yasar have taught both literature and film, Reitter is primarily a scholar of literature while Yasar is primarily a scholar of film and media. This will create ample opportunity for conceptually and analytically productive trespasses across both national and disciplinary boundaries. In short, this particular collaboration not only adds value: It makes the otherwise impossible possible.

4. There will necessarily be a number of alternating lectures as each instructor presents the material that he knows best, but we will endeavor to bring the two narratives into dialogue with one another, not only through roundtable-style discussions in class but also through group projects in which students collaborate on comparative analyses focused on specific themes. We will also experiment with having Reitter present some of the Japanese material while Yasar presents some of the German material. Forcing each instructor out of his comfort zone, while presenting challenges, may also yield cross-pollinating insights that would otherwise never emerge. While most lecture classes present the instructor as an authority figure performing mastery, as “the one who knows,” we will here instead model a more authentic mode of scholarly inquiry, the kind that happens at conferences and workshops and seminars, where one is teacher, colleague, and student simultaneously. Yasar has extensive team-teaching experience, having co-taught an East Asian humanities survey course with four different faculty members over four semesters while a postdoctoral fellow at Princeton University, and this experience should prove helpful in navigating both the logistical hurdles and delicate negotiations that teach-teaching often entails. Reitter is currently co-teaching CS 1100 with Maurice Stevens.

## GE Assessment plan, German and Japanese 2255

<i>Expected Learning Outcomes</i>	<i>Direct Methods:</i>	<i>Indirect Methods:</i>	<i>Expected student achievement</i>
1. Students analyze and interpret major forms of human thought, culture, and expression.	Assessment of embedded essay question on final exam, which requires that students offer interpretations of at least two cultural products discussed in class. <sup>1</sup>	Student self-evaluation <sup>2</sup>	Direct: At least 75% of the class receives scores of 3 or higher on the first two rubric items; at least 85% score three or higher on one item. <sup>3</sup>  Indirect: At least 75% of students will choose “agree” or “strongly agree” to describe their experience in the course.
2. Students evaluate how ideas influence the character of human beliefs, the perception of reality, and the norms which guide human behavior.	Embedded essay question on final exam asks students to relate the beliefs, representations of reality, and norms depicted or discussed in course materials to key ideas from their time and place. <sup>1</sup>	Student self-evaluation <sup>2</sup>	Direct: At least 75% of students score three or higher on the last rubric item. <sup>3</sup>  Indirect: At least 75% of students will choose “agree” or “strongly agree” to describe their experience in the course.

Follow-up and feedback process:

The results from the rubrics assessing direct and indirect measures of both ELOs will be evaluated at the end of the semester, and forwarded to the Undergraduate Studies Committee for review. If the results suggest a particular weakness or strength in the course, it will be revised to address the need for

<sup>1</sup> For a sample essay question, see Appendix A.

<sup>2</sup> Students will be asked to complete a self-evaluation that includes questions addressing the GE ELOs in this course. See Appendix C.

<sup>3</sup> For the scoring rubric to be used to assess the essay questions, see Appendix B.

improvement or to extend its successful components. Results will be archived digitally in the departmental Undergraduate Studies files.

**Appendix A:**

*Sample question to be embedded in final exam.*

What is Buruma's argument about the relationship between postwar culture in Germany and Japan and, in particular, what is his argument about the relationship between how culture in the two countries served as a means of dealing with a difficult past? What evidence does he use to support his position? Do the works we have read or viewed lend further support to his claims or do they undermine them? Or do they do both things? Making reference to least four of the works we've read or viewed, explain your answer.

**Appendix B:**

*Rubric for assessing essay answers.*

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Global interpretation and analysis</b>	Essay displays a fundamental misunderstanding of the texts; or, essay has two of the problems outlined in the “2” range	Depends on plot summary, rather than analysis or interpretation; inadequate coverage of the topic; basic reasoning not sufficiently in evidence	Makes an argument based on analysis, but ideas lack depth/detail; ideas are good but are insufficiently explained or justified	A persuasive, insightful presentation of student’s own ideas that analyzes the topic thoroughly; reasoning is clearly articulated throughout
<b>Analysis of evidence</b>	Very few to no concrete examples; no real attempt at analysis	Few concrete examples; little attempt at analysis	Attempt is made to analyze an appropriate number of concrete examples	Appropriate number of concrete examples are thoroughly analyzed
<b>Relate ideas and cultural products</b>	Answer shows little understanding or knowledge of cultural object or phenomena; Little to no coherent explanation of relationship	Answer shows some understanding of both cultural product and the ideas or phenomena to which it relates; Explanation of the relationship between them may be simplistic or	Answer shows good understanding of both cultural product and the ideas or phenomena to which it relates; Solid explanation of the relationship between them	Answer shows excellent understanding of both cultural product and the ideas or phenomena to which it relates; Clear, nuanced explanation of the relationship



		somewhat flawed		between them
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**Appendix C:**

*Student Learning-Self-Evaluation*

Please select the response that best reflects your experience in this course.

As a result of this course I....	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
have developed skills that will help me to analyze and interpret artistic and cultural products, like works of art and literature, films, linguistic forms, and scientific and philosophical texts.				
have developed an understanding of how ideas have influenced the beliefs, social norms, and view of reality of German-speaking peoples over time.				

Please explain your answer: