Generation Green: Germany and the Environment
GETR 3590/STS 2500, TR 11:00 – 12:15, CAB 311
Fall 2009, University of Virginia

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Course Description:

Germany is a global front runner in environmental policies and technology. How did Germany come to play this pioneering role? And what can we learn from its example? This course will study the history and politics of the German Green movement, new trends in German environmental research, the relationship between technology and culture, as well as environmentally friendly business strategies. Lectures by experts in the field of environmental sustainability will be complemented by readings, films and class discussions. Requirements include weekly response papers, a midterm exam, a final team project, and a learning portfolio.

Assignments and Grading:

- 15% Attendance and Participation
- 15% Response Papers
- 10% Presentations
- 20% Midterm Exam
- 15% Final Team Project
- 25% Learning Portfolio

Attendance and Participation: Attendance in class is mandatory. You are expected to complete the readings before each class meeting, and to actively engage in the lectures and discussions. You will be allowed one unexcused sick day, after which further absences might have a negative effect on your grade. Please arrive in class on time. If you are shy and have trouble talking in class, please let me know so we can discuss strategies for getting you to be comfortable in class.

Presentations: You will be asked to give two short oral presentations (10-15 minutes). One presentation will introduce a text we have read for class. The other will summarize a lecture. At the end of your presentation, you should ask three discussion questions. Feel free to bring in hand-outs or display images.
Exams: The mid-term exam will require familiarity with materials from the lectures, readings and discussions, and will consist of a combination of identifications and essay questions. Make-up exams will not be administered except in cases of documented illness or severe personal emergency. If you are concerned about being able to take the exam at the scheduled time, please discuss this with me before the deadline.

Response Papers: Once a week, you will be asked to hand in a written response to the lectures or readings. Each weekly response should address issues that you found (a) objectively most important and (b) subjectively most surprising or thought provoking. You may be asked to present your observations in class. Your response should be typed, and should be no longer than one single spaced page. You may draw on these responses when composing your learning portfolio.

Team Project: Since global challenges will only be resolved if people across the globe work together, it is important that you develop your collaborative skills. You will therefore be asked to work with your peers on a team project that you will present at the end of the semester. The project should relate the materials covered in this course to the UVa environment.

Learning Portfolio: The learning portfolio to be handed in at the end of class (in lieu of the final exam) will reflect upon the changes in your thinking about the subject of the course. Everything you will write and read in this course is eligible for inclusion in your portfolio. Your success with this final assignment will depend in large measure on your continuous effort. Look for topics that engage you early on and pursue them in your weekly reading responses. The learning portfolio is due on Friday, December 11, 2009, by 1:00 PM, my office (CAB 506).

All written work should be word-processed, double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font on paper with 1” margins.

Honor: It is expected that all wording and ideas presented in any written work handed in for this class are your own, unless you have explicitly credited your source/s. It is also assumed that any work turned in for this class was composed exclusively for this class, and not recycled from an earlier assignment in another class. If you have questions about the UVa honor code, please go to:

http://www.virginia.edu/honor/

You will receive more information on all of these assignments as we get closer to their due dates. If you have any questions about any of the requirements for this class, please feel free to talk to me during my office hours or email me to make an appointment.

Required Readings: All materials for this course will be available through Collab, the UVa course collaboration site.
Schedule

**WEEK 1**
T (08/25)  Introduction
Th (08/27)  Germany in Numbers

**WEEK 2**
T (09/01)  Arne Jungjohann (Böll Foundation): Germany’s Environmental Policies
Th (09/03)*  History and Politics of the German Green Movement (Discussion)

**WEEK 3**
T (09/08)  Renewable Energies in Germany
Th (09/10)*  Everyday Environmentalism – What Germans Do to Protect the Environment (Internet Research)

**WEEK 4**
T (09/15)  Sustainable Education (Presentations / Discussion)
Th (09/17)*  A Special Case: Nuclear Energy in Germany (Discussion)

**WEEK 5**
T (09/22)  Prof. Chad Wellmon (German Department, UVa): Romantic Ecologies
Th (09/24)*  “Nature” in German History – How Green were the Nazis? (Discussion)

**WEEK 6**
T (09/29)  Prof. Dana Elzey (Materials Science and Engineering, UVa): Technology and Culture/Culture and Technology
Th (10/01)*  Brian Marrs (Bosch Foundation Fellow and Energy Consultant for Vattenfall): German Climate Policy – Ambitions and Reality

**WEEK 7**
T (10/06)  Reading Day (no class)
Th (10/08)  No class

**WEEK 8**
T (10/13)  Prof. Mark White (McIntire School of Commerce, UVa): Putting a Price on the Planet
Th (10/15)*  Benjamin Goodman (Darden MBA Class of 2010), and Jim Madden (Business Developer for BP Wind Energy and Darden Alumnus): Onshore and Offshore Wind Energy

**WEEK 9**
Tue (10/20)*  Review
Th (10/22)  Exam
WEEK 10
T (10/27)  Prof. Joerg Sieweke (Landscape Architecture, UVa): Landscapes of Resistance: Redesigning Industrial Sites
Th (10/29)*  Prof. Timothy Beatley (Urban and Environmental Planning, UVa): Green Urbanism: Learning from European Cities

WEEK 11
T (11/03)  Dale Medearis (Senior Environmental Planner at the Northern Virginia Regional Commission): The Transfer and Application of Environmental Lessons From Germany to the U.S.
Th (11/05)*  Eugene Ryang (Landscape Architect in Charlottesville, and UVa Alumnus): Regenerative Design for a Bank and a School

WEEK 12
T (11/10)  Review / Discussion / Presentations
Th (11/12)*  Prof. Ed Freeman (Darden School of Business Administration): Shades of Green. Business Ethics and the Environment

WEEK 13
T (11/17)  Prof. Jose Fuentes (Environmental Sciences, Penn State): Climate Change in Germany and Abatement Strategies
Th (11/19)*  Discussion / Presentations

WEEK 14
T (11/24)  Michael Mehling (President of the Ecologic Institute in Washington, D.C.): Germany's Ecological Tax Reform: Perspectives from a Think Tank
Th (11/26)  Thanksgiving Recess (no class)

WEEK 15
T (12/01)*  Anja Kueppers (Climate and Energy Office, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany), Friedo Sielemann (Energy & Environment Counselor, Embassy of the Federal Republic), and L. Preston Bryant (Secretary of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Virginia): The Transatlantic Climate Bridge (Roundtable)
Th (12/03)  Outlines of Final Team Projects

Week 16
T (12/08)  Presentation of Final Team Projects

DECEMBER 11 – Learning Portfolio due by 1 PM, CAB 506 (my office)

* Written response due at the beginning of class.
Course Materials

AUG. 27 – INTRODUCTION

- “Germany: An Overview,” Deutsche Welle, 01/29/2009
  http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,3881262,00.html
- Fell Lecture – Official Event Flyer
  http://www.ies.unsw.edu.au/docs/Fell_flyer.pdf

SEPT. 1 – ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES (JUNGJOHANN LECTURE)

- “Lessons From Germany”, Time/CNN, 23 April 2008
  http://www.time.com/time/specials/2007/article/0,28804,1730759_1734222_1734213,00.html
- “No Country is More ‘Green by Design,’” Newsweek, July 7-14, 2008
  http://www.newsweek.com/id/143679/output/print
- Böll Foundation Website
  http://www.boell.de/climate-transatlantic/index-34.html

SEPT. 3 – GERMAN GREEN MOVEMENT (DISCUSSION)


SEPT. 8 – RENEWABLE ENERGY (OVERVIEW)


Background:

  http://www.globalchange.umd.edu/energytrends/germany/1/
SEPT. 10 – EVERYDAY ENVIRONMENTALISM (PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSION)
• “We Must Discuss Climate Change's Devastating Consequences Openly,” Interview with German Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel, Der Spiegel, 23 April 2009 http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,druck-620819,00.html

SEPT. 15 – SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION (PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSION)
  o Journey into the future - Four teenagers discover the energy supply scenario of the future
  o Energy from the future - Renewable energies at a glance
  o Energy research - Experiments with renewable energy sources
  o What is fair? - Lifestyle and energy consumption
  o Energy network of the future - Renewable energies worldwide
  o The renewable energy Superstars - Who has visions for the future?
  o Green power - Eco-electricity at the socket
  o A tank full of sun? - Fuels of the future
  o Learning / competence check - Are you and your pupils fit for pisa?

• Climate Protection and Climate Policy http://www.bmu.de/publikationen/bildungsservice/bildungsmaterialien/sekundarstufe/lehrer/doc/42085.php
  o Climate Research - A climatic journey through time
  o The global climate on its sickbed - What are the consequences of climate change?
  o Where do the emissions come from? - CO2 emissions and the polluters
  o Who can save the world? Climate protection and climate policy in Germany and worldwide
  o A round trip to the future - Scenarios for climate change
  o Competence check

SEPT. 17 – NUCLEAR POWER (LECTURE / DISCUSSION)
SEPT. 22 – ROMANTIC ECOLOGIES (WELMON LECTURE)

SEPT. 24 – “NATURE” IN GERMAN HISTORY (PRESENTATIONS / DISCUSSION)

SEPT. 29 – TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE (ELZEY LECTURE)
- Elzey Lecture Slides

OCT. 1 – AMBITIONS AND REALITIES (MARRS LECTURE)
- “Where will Germany’s Energy come from?,” *Der Spiegel*, April 15, 2008
  [http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,druck-547555,00.html](http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,druck-547555,00.html)
- Photo-Gallery: Germany’s Energy Gap, *Der Spiegel*
  [http://www.spiegel.de/fotostrecke/fotostrecke-30665.html](http://www.spiegel.de/fotostrecke/fotostrecke-30665.html)
- “Germany Not Likely To Achieve CO2 Reduction Targets,” *Der Spiegel*, 24 August 2009
  [http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,644677,00.html#ref=nlint](http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,644677,00.html#ref=nlint)
- “German Renewable Energy Roadmap,” *Der Spiegel*, February 13, 2009
  [http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,607412,00.html](http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,607412,00.html)
- Marrs lecture slides

Week 7 – No class!

OCT. 13 – PUTTING A PRICE ON THE PLANET (WHITE LECTURE)
- Mathis Wackernagel, “The Ecological Footprint” (Video)
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94tYMwz_Ia4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94tYMwz_Ia4)
- Satish Kumar, Deep Ecology (Video)
  [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2gZ6FRhc3w](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2gZ6FRhc3w)
- White lecture handout
- White lecture slides
OCT. 15 – WIND ENERGY (MADDEN AND GOODMAN LECTURE)

- “Offshore Wind Farms: A Green Revolution off Germany's Coast,” Der Spiegel, July 24, 2008; http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,druck-567622,00.html
- “Germany's First Offshore Wind Park Goes Online,” Der Spiegel, August 13, 2009 http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,642243,00.html

Week 9 – Review and Exam

Oct. 27 – LANDSCAPES OF RESISTANCE (SIEWEKE LECTURE)

- Sieweke, Text 1: Landscape Urbanism
- Sieweke, Text 2: Venice
- Sieweke lecture slides

OCT. 29 – GREEN URBANISM (BEATLEY LECTURE)

- Build to Last (Video) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGJt_YXI0J1

NOV. 3 – CULTURAL TRANSFER (MEDEARIS LECTURE)

- Dale Medearis, “Looking Beyond Copenhagen - Sub-National Governments as Transformers of Energy, Climate and Transatlantic Policies” (manuscript)
- Medearis lecture slides
Nov. 5 – Regenerative Design (Ryan Lecture)


Nov. 10 – Review, Presentations, Discussion

Nov. 12 – Shades of Green (Freeman Lecture)


Nov. 17 – Climate Change and Abatement Strategies (Fuentes Lecture)

  http://jed.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/17/4/356
- Max Planck Institute for Chemistry, Institute Report 2007/2008 (bilingual)

Nov. 19 – Review, Presentations, Discussion

Nov. 24 – Ecologic Tax Reform (Mehling Lecture)

- Michael A. Mehling, “The Ecological Tax Reform in Germany” (manuscript)

Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving Recess

Dec. 1 – Transatlantic Climate Bridge (Kueppers, Sielemann, Bryant Lecture)

- Transatlantic Climate Bridge Website
  http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/09__Press__InFocus__Interviews/03__Infocus/03__ClimateBridge/TCBgeneral/ClimateBridge__general.html
- *Deutschland Magazine Special* (hard copy)
- German Christmas cookies (*Weihnachtskekse*)

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