

EUS 1001.01 Mapping Berlin in the 20th Century

Rebecca Panter, Postdoctoral Fellow in Digital Humanities; Clifford Anderson, Director for Scholarly Communications, Jean and Alexander Heard Library

W 4:15–6:00pm (one 50-min. session: 1/11; seven weekly 105-min. sessions: 1/18-3/1)

Course Description

This course does two things, and the final project is a synthesis of the two. One of those things is cultural history: we will survey the culture and geopolitics of twentieth-century Berlin by focusing on several events since 1900. The other is an introduction to some of the questions and tools of the digital humanities based on the premise of HyperCities, “a collaborative research and educational platform for traveling back in time to explore the historical layers of city spaces in an interactive, hypermedia environment” (<http://hypercities.com/>). Students will learn to use several digital tools over the course of the semester and work on group projects in time travel: students curate a tour of Berlin at a particular historical moment since 1900 by using one of those historical maps. The tours will include audio and video clips, historical documents, images, and prose.

Students will come away with general knowledge of the cultural and political history of Berlin since 1900; introductory-level understanding of issues pertaining to the digital humanities; and facility with digital tools such as Atom, GeoJSON, Mapbox, Postman, and Cloudant.

Students will need a laptop for use in class.

Required Readings

- Todd Presner, David Shepard, and Yoh Kawano, *HyperCities: Thick Mapping in the Digital Humanities* (Harvard University Press, 2014)
- Brian Ladd, *The Ghosts of Berlin: Confronting German History in the Urban Landscape* (University of Chicago Press, 1998)

Evaluation

- Attendance 25%
- Prepared participation 25%
- Final project (syllabus includes detailed criteria) 50%