

The University of Toronto
GERMAN FILM HISTORY:
GERMAN CINEMA AFTER UNIFICATION
German 350H / Spring 2013

Instructor:	STEFAN SOLDVIERI	Dept:	German
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Hours:	Thursday 2-4 (& by appt.)	Tel.:	416/926-2301

Class meets on **Tuesday 10-12, AH 107**



Ulrich Mühe in *The Lives of Others*

DESCRIPTION

The dismantling of the Berlin Wall, the expansion of the European Union, the end of the cold war, and globalization processes have transformed contemporary Germany. German cinema, too, has undergone significant shifts since the rebellious films of the New German Cinema of the 1970s and 1980s. This course will examine an intertwined set of topics as a way of assessing post-wall cinema in Germany: 1) transnational cinema on the example of Turkish-German filmmaking, 2) so-called heritage films returning to the troubled German past, 3) films dealing with the legacy of terrorism and the generation of 1968, 4) unification films and East-West sensibilities, and 5) films that map the space of the new German capital of Berlin. Practice in speaking and writing German.

REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION

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| ▪ Class participation/preparation | 10 % |
| ▪ Short assignments
(sequence analysis, short essay, quizzes) | 35 % |
| ▪ Film facilitation/presentation | 20 % |
| ▪ Final essay | 35 % |

MATERIALS

Excerpts from:

Sabine Hake, *German National Cinema*. New York: Routledge, 2008.

Other texts available TBA.

Attendance

The Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures allows each student a maximum of four unexcused absences (i.e. four hours) per semester. For each subsequent unexcused absence, a student will incur a 10% penalty off the class participation and attendance grade of the course. If a student misses more than 25% of one or any semester (i.e. more than 12 hours) unexcused, the entire course will count as failed with a final grade of 0%. An excused absence is defined as one that has been validated in writing by a physician, clinic, or a person of authority, e.g. college registrar. Absenteeism inherently has indirect bearing upon all other aspects of the grade weighting. Test material and homework assignments are based on tasks, activities and information integrated into class time instruction.

A Note on Communicating With Your Professor

Even in a class with a manageable size like ours, it is sometimes difficult for a professor to anticipate and recognize all of the issues that can arise regarding classroom environment, expectations, teaching style, assignments, and marking. It is important that you see your professor during office hours (or schedule a special appointment) to discuss any matters related to the class as soon as they arise. Please don't wait until the end of the term; it is generally more productive for professors and students to meet during the term while there is still opportunity to address any problems or concerns.

Email can be a very efficient means of communicating with your professor. I will make every effort to respond promptly to questions posed in emails. However, please do not expect me to respond instantaneously to emails sent shortly before class, during evening hours, or on weekends.

Academic Integrity Statement

Academic integrity is defined as the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. All students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and their efforts. Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, using online translation machines, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Disability Access

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.