



UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS
COLLEGE of VISUAL ARTS AND DESIGN

DEPARTMENT of DESIGN

ART 4120 – S3W1 2025

COURSE INFORMATION

Special Topics Germany: Culture Art Design

ART 4120 3 credit hours

Prerequisites:

Professor / Instructor Contact Information:

Instructor: Heki Wachter
Office Location: Art Building ART 230P
Phone Information: office: 940 565 3621

Office Hours: by appointment
Email: hepi.wachter@unt.edu You must use the course number in the subject line

Co-Instructor: Michael Asbill
Office Location: Art Building ART 230P

Office Hours: by appointment
Email: michael.asbill@unt.edu You must use the course number in the subject line

Text and other Required Materials

posted course packet and reading assignments

Canvas: This course is enriched with a Canvas component. Therefore, students must know their EUID and password and log in to check for learning modules, reading assignments, email and course updates.

Prerequisite: Each prospective student will need to attend a mandatory interview/pre-departure meeting with Professor Wachter and Professor Asbill prior to leaving for Germany. The scheduled meeting is April 30th at 6:15pm in ART 255

Course Description:

3 credit hours. Cultural and historical overview of relevant sites in Berlin and Munich, Germany. This course attempts to connect the inter relations of Culture, Art and Design. The material presented and the sites visited are suitable for non- design majors.

Students will be accompanied by Professor Hans Peter Wachter, who is a German native familiar with the sites of cultural significance, and Professor Michael Asbill who is well acquainted with the sites in Berlin and Munich and its current art scene and representation.

This is an *Education Abroad* course with lecture/presentations, travel and field study through foreign cities. The success of this course is determined by cooperation, participation and interactivity. An enthusiastic attitude is expected, and lecture and tour participation are mandatory. Professor Wachter will lead you through the cultural monuments and culturally significant sites and will engage in discussions how culture and design in Germany

intertwine and relate, Professor Asbill will lead the discussions on art representations in Berlin and in Munich, how art and culture represented in Germany, inform each other and help you form a unique synthesis.

Learning Objectives/Course Objectives:

- Introduce and examine the social histories and cultural relevance of sites visited in Berlin and Munich, Germany, relative to significant cultural monuments and design through presentations, discussions and field study
- Examine art movements and artifacts in Berlin and Munich, Germany, through presentation, discussion and field study,
- understand the interconnections between culture, art and environmental design
- understand the potential impacts of art and designed environments on social and cultural constructs.

- Understand the interconnection of the build environment with cultural developments represented in Berlin and Munich.

Teaching Philosophy

Your success as a student depends primarily on your willingness to accept responsibility for your own learning. We can provide you with the opportunity to learn, motivation to learn, and support for your learning experience (through feedback and individual assistance); We will assist you as you tackle the challenges you will face in this class. But, your responsibility is to attend all daily sessions while traveling in Berlin and Munich, to complete each and every assignment, and to make the personal effort to master the concepts presented in reading assignments and in discussion.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS and CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

No make-up work, extra credit, or anything else of a similar nature will be assigned or accepted. Do the work that is assigned, turn it in on time and you will earn your respective grade.

Most of the communication for this course will be done by email through Canvas prior to departure and through presentations and discussions while traveling. Make sure your email account for UNT is either forwarded to your primary account or make the UNT email account your primary account.

Announcements, grades, project schedules and course documents as well as a list of required text are available in the Canvas course shell. Please bring your own device to Germany to connect to the internet and to work on assignments.

Each student must comply with the policies and guidelines contained in the *Student Pre- Departure Packet for International Travel Course Participation* issued to and signed by the student at registration.

Each student in this course has to acquaint him/herself with the University's code, policies and procedures regarding academic misconduct, grievances, sexual and ethnic harassment and discrimination based on physical handicap, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation or religious beliefs.

INCOMPLETE

Students may request an Incomplete per the guidelines stated on the current registrar website. The student must complete the unfinished work on or before the date specified by the instructor when the Incomplete is granted. Failure to complete the entire work assignment on or before the specified completion date will result in a final grade of an "F" with no consideration given to partially completed work. Please note that an Incomplete is reserved solely for extenuating circumstances as outlined in the incomplete policy and will require that the course will be passed with minimum of grade C when an incomplete is requested and complies with the UNT incomplete policy.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance is mandatory and applies to both lecture sessions and field study. The instructors and class members can offer constructive criticism only if you are present and receptive. Participation in orientation sessions for the study abroad program, pre-departure meetings and field study tours and site visits during the program are mandatory. In a professional environment, attendance and punctuality are expected and are particularly important in a learning and living community, such as a study abroad program.

It is critical that you are prompt and prepared for departures so that we can arrive as scheduled for our appointments. Please understand that we cannot wait for late students. Students are expected to arrive **prior to the departure time** in the designated area, dressed appropriately.

Missing an activity and/or being late will seriously impact your grades in this program. It is the responsibility of each student to safeguard his or her own health and well-being in order to be *engaged* during all academic activities. Being engaged means that you are actively listening, asking relevant questions, and giving the speaker your complete

attention. Students are expected to actively participate in all course activities, appointments, social and cultural activities, and other events planned for the group.

COMMUNICATION PARAMETERS

Students should contact us via the message tool in Canvas. Please use the course number in the subject line of any email you send us e.g. *"ART 4120 Germany Study Abroad xxx subject"*. We will attempt to respond to messages as soon as practical during the study abroad.

You are encouraged to develop communication networks with other class peers. A significant amount of your learning happens through discussion with your peers.

Please be aware that we will not be able to respond to "last minute" requests for assignment clarification, and you may encounter unforeseen problems with your Internet provider, software, or hardware. You must allow sufficient time to deal with these problems in order to make your assignment submissions by the published deadlines.

ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Assignments are due on the specified date. Due dates are very well established and communicated in advance. It is your responsibility to make sure everything is turned in the prior to class or prior to the cut-off date on Canvas. Items turned in after the established deadline are considered late and will be downgraded 10% for each calendar day late.

- **CANVAS SUBMISSIONS:** You may ONLY submit word files (docx, doc), pdf files, power point files (ppt), and jpeg files via Canvas. ALL other types of files will not be accepted because we cannot open them!!! If we cannot open your assignment because you sent something other than what is listed above, you will take a zero on the assignment. **I will not allow for late resubmissions, email assignments, or hardcopies. Be sure to check your file type before uploading your final submission onto Canvas!**
- **Remember, there may be a time discrepancy between your home computer, your post study abroad travel destination and the Canvas system. Therefore, it is imperative to submit ALL assignments well before the cut-off time.**
- We will not accept assignments via email. Do not assume that if you emailed us your work, that we are accepting it. Assignments must be submitted through the Canvas course system.
- **All assignments must be typed, double-spaced with a 12-point font, and 1 inch margins.** Points will be deducted from assignments that do not follow these instructions.

COURSE EVALUATION

Pre-departure meeting (10% of semester grade)

Each student will be required to attend meetings prior to departure for Germany. The meeting is intended to prepare students for the cultural experiences they will have in Germany, provide pertinent information on traveling abroad (to and within Germany), safety precautions, course/project expectations; discuss course readings, and any other information deemed necessary to be successful in this study abroad course.

Pre-departure assignments (50% of semester grade)

Each student will be required to participate in the asynchronous course modules for this course and to complete the assignments May 10th and May 11th.

Illustrated Journal (40% of semester grade) * See assignment guidelines for further instructions

Each student will create an illustrated journal of his/her German Study Abroad experience and supporting facts and information of the cultural sites visited. To facilitate this project, you will bring a journal with you. Record your thoughts "as you go" or you may find that you cannot keep all the information as clearly delineated as you would

like. You will find it useful to be further prepared with a small notebook(s) and pens as we attend meetings, events, and excursions.

The purposes of the assignment are to:

- a. Illustrate your perspective of the cultures, the art and the people of Germany
- b. Develop your thoughts and understanding how the and how art, culture and design connect in Germany, specifically in the cities of Berlin and Munich. Reflect on your study abroad experience.

Grade Scale: Grades are not curved. The final semester grade will be determined as follows:

90 - 100% = A

80 - 89% = B

70 - 79% = C

60-69% = D

Below 60% = F

RESOURCES

UNT Portal: <http://my.unt.edu>

UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users:

<http://www.library.unt.edu/services/for-special-audiences/offcampus/information-for-off-campus-users>

UNT Computing and Information Technology Center:

<http://citc.unt.edu/services-solutions/students>

Computer Labs: General access computer lab information (including locations and hours of operation) can be located at:

<http://www.gacl.unt.edu/>

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION

The College of Visual Arts and Design is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the College will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability, it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes for students registered with the ODA as of the beginning of the current semester. If you register with the ODA after the first week of classes, your accommodation requests will be considered after this deadline.

Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at <http://unt.edu/oda> and by visiting the ODA in Sage Hall, room 167. See <https://disability.unt.edu/faq#b>. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

STUDENT ACADEMIC PROGRESS

A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. It is the student's responsibility to manage registered credit hours, GPA levels and course completion for their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. Please visit <http://financialaid.unt.edu/satisfactory-academic-progress-requirements> for more information about financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress. It is wise to schedule a meeting with a CVAD advisor or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each University of North Texas student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See <https://policy.unt.edu/category/policy-chapters/7-student-affairs> for links to policy documentation.

DISCLAIMER

The instructors retains the right to change the course syllabus and schedule and make those updates know on the Canvas course shell.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or exams; dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor, the acquisition of tests or other material belonging to a faculty member, dual submission of a paper or project, resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructors, or any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. Plagiarism includes the paraphrase or direct quotation of published or unpublished works *without* full and clear acknowledgment of the author/source. Academic dishonesty will bring about disciplinary action which may include expulsion from the university. This is explained in the UNT Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty will result in F grade for the course.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a presentation or discussion or field study or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be reported to the Dean of Students office to evaluate misconduct, and the instructors will refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, study abroad engagements etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html.

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING EFFECTIVENESS

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available at the end of the semester to provide students a chance to comment on how this class is taught. Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

As you know, your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs within the my.unt.edu site www.my.unt.edu. If you do not regularly check Eagle Connect or link it to your favorite e-mail account, please so do, as this is where you learn about job and internship opportunities, CMHT events, scholarships, and other important information. The website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward your email: <http://eagleconnect.unt.edu/>

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify you with critical information in an event of emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). The system sends voice messages (and text messages upon permission) to the phones of all active faculty staff, and students. Please make certain to update your phone numbers at www.my.unt.edu. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) ensuring you know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas, determining how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and identifying where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. In the event of a university closure, ***I will communicate with you via Canvas mail as to work you are expected to complete and/or submit during the closure period.***

RETENTION/REPRODUCTION OF STUDENT WORK

Some of the work produced for this class may be retained or copied for future use by the college, department or program.

The Design Department has the right to retain any and all student work for NASAD (*National Association of Schools and Design*) and CIDA (*Council for Interior Design Accreditation*) accreditation reviews for a period of up to 3 years. It is the student's responsibility to document their work for personal purposes (such as portfolios). Students will be allowed to photograph their work prior to retention. When accreditation reviews are completed, students may retrieve their original work. It is the student's responsibility to retrieve their work in a timely manner; after two months of a NASAD or CIDA accreditation review, any work not collected by a student will be destroyed.

ART 4120– Art on Location *Germany Study Abroad*
COURSE SYLLABUS STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT (date)

Hepi Wachter, Professor
Michael Asbill, Adjunct Professor

I, the signing student understand and agree to the provisions of the ART 4120 syllabus (attached and dated).

Print Name

Signature

Date

Email address: _____