



KIIS Berlin, Summer 2020

ART 491G Topics: Curatorial Studies- Constructing Space Berlin

Instructor: Doreen Maloney

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Instructor's office hours: on site and by appointment

Syllabus subject to change

1. Course Description: Building from the assumption that no space is neutral, the class will explore the aesthetics of various places and their influence on meaning through a combination of readings, discussions, field trips, and written assignments. We will investigate interior and exterior features of art galleries and museums, sacred spaces, civic spaces, memorial sites, and green spaces throughout the city. Over the course of the program, students will respond both critically and creatively to actual space in order to explore its layered context.

2. Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS creates and offers high-quality education abroad programs for students from diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help transform students into global citizens who have personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizing headlines and outdated cultural clichés to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating in KIIS Study Abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Articulate the relationship between ideas, experiences, and place;
- 2) Develop tools to engage with diverse people in the local cultures; and,
- 3) Explore other peoples' values and clarify their own.

In the equivalent of one, single-spaced typed page, reflect on:

How has this experience made you think – or act – differently about the world around you? Please consider the 3 SLOs discussed. Please don't consider course content in your response; instead, think beyond it, and be as specific as possible.

Understand Berlin's past and how it influences its present:

- from the point of view of history, namely WWII, and the Holocaust
- from the point of view of having a border and being divided
- the point of view of design, namely Bauhaus
- the point of view of contemporary art, namely the Berlin Biennial

- the point of view of present, contemporary, cosmopolitan culture
- become confident and familiar with a large European city, its transport system and culture
- become an ambassador of the best of US culture and share that in interactions with locals

3. Course Objectives and Specific Learning Outcomes:

objectives: In this course, students will expand their understanding of place and context, applying actual experience to a broader understanding of what objects mean and how they are experienced.

outcomes: students will produce writing typical of in the field of curation. They will synthesize personal experience with researched information to produce both written and presented creative projects.

4. Major Topics covered in the Course: We will read a number of texts that explore notions of place and architecture in various ways, analyzing what we see in Berlin through these various perspectives. Furthermore, we will analyze how curators think about spaces when they place objects and will assess how curatorial decisions impact the experience of the artwork. Students will be thinking both critically and creatively about what we see in Berlin and what we might imagine seeing in the future.

5. Required Readings and Materials: Students must bring a laptop capable of word processing and WIFI connection. Students will be writing essays as well as conducting online research. WIFI is available on site. Required readings will be provided as PDF documents

6. Graded Assignments: Students will contribute meaningfully to class discussions, turn in notes from readings, create site studies, write a review of the Berlin Biennial and present it in class, and deliver one visual presentation of a site-specific proposal at the conclusion of the course.

Reading notes (x3) 10%

Site profiles (x4) 15%

Class discussion 15%

Class presentation: research and present critical breakdown of a profit and non-profit exhibition space to the class 15%

Berlin Biennial review + presentation 20%

Final proposal + visual presentation 25%

Letter grades will be given in this class and will be assigned using the standard **graduate** grading scale:

A = Represents a high achievement; B = Represents average achievement; C = Represents the minimum passing grade; E = failure

7. Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused

absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

8. Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Office Manager, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.

In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

9. Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270-745-5398 / andrea.anderson@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender

based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eoo/brochure2019update.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.