

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Media and Society in Germany - Historical and Contemporary Perspectives - 54835

Last update 18-10-2020

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Cont. German Studies:politics, Soc.&Cult

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Gisela Dachs

Coordinator Email: gisela.dachs@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday, 13.00-14.00 or by prior arrangement

Teaching Staff:

Prof Gisela Dachs

Course/Module description:

The course teaches the development and impact of the media in Germany since 1945 with a special focus on contemporary society and its relations with Israel. Furthermore, it examines the shifting media landscape of the 21st century with an emphasis on news and current affairs.

Course/Module aims:

The course aims to transmit a comprehensive view of the media landscape in Germany. This includes the acquirement of knowledge about ongoing current affairs and debates as well as media ethics, the influence of ownership and journalistic standards.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- To orient themselves within the German media landscape and assess the role of major as well as minor media outlets from a historical and contemporary point of view.
- To read, analyze and discuss media content relating to current affairs.
- To evaluate news content and its impact on various audiences and the political landscape.
- To gain insights into the journalistic process of producing and distributing media content within a national and transnational context.
- To have a reflective view on German society through the critical discussion of the media.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The teaching combines theoretical and practical approaches. Each unit focuses on a thematically arranged overview focusing on chronological developments since 1945 as well as on current

affairs. Each topic will be discussed by referring to its historical and sociological context. The students introduce key media players to the class and present a weekly "media revue" summarizing the main news and current affairs debated in Germany. Furthermore, guest lecturers from the field will be invited to give insights into their own journalistic work.

Course/Module Content:

Structure of the main topics:

- The development of German media after 1945*
- Media Scandals that changed the country*
- Ownership and control*
- Media standards and ethics*
- The impact of digital media and fake news*
- Media and Migrants*
- Minority media*
- Media in the GDR and contemporary former East Germany*
- Germany and the world – perceptions and debates*
- Changing audience/s and how the far right tries to influence the public via social networks*
- Beyond the news – TV entertainment*

Two guest lectures at least

Required Reading:

full reading list will be provided at the beginning of the semester

Additional Reading Material:

See above

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 50 %

Assignments 40 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 10 %

active participation in class

Additional information:

- *Two presentations: (1) introducing a key player/topic of the German media, (2) summarizing and contextualizing the news of the week.*
- *One written final assignment based on one or more of the subjects of the course. Or research proposal can be written instead.*