

1968: Ein europäisches Entscheidungsjahr // 1968 – A European Year

Grundlagenmodul Theorie und Methode

FB 04/ Geschichte/ Historisches Institut

BA-Studiengang Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften/ BA Osteuropäische Geschichte/ HF; NF
3-4 Sem.

Donnerstags: 10:00 - 12:00 Ort: Phil. I, G 333

Dr. Victoria Harms

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Description

The year 1968 symbolically refers to far-reaching social, political, cultural and economic changes during the “global sixties.” This seminar focuses on Europe, particularly West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, France and to a lesser extent Hungary and Yugoslavia. The simultaneous developments in the U.S. are necessarily part of the debate. The glorification of the socialist revolutions in Cuba, Vietnam, and Maoist China as well as the struggle for independence in the then so-called “Third World“ complement the transnational approach.

This seminar investigates the historiographical contextualization and classification of the causes and consequences of 1968. Essential historical concepts such as revolution, gender and intersectionality, (auto-) biography, narrative, and historiographical periodization will be discussed. Theories and methodologies associated with scholars such as Hayden White, Edward Said, Leslie McCall, Jürgen Kocka, and James C. Davies will enlighten our discussions.

Participants will analyze primary sources by influential actors and participants in the 1960s movements as well as further key documents of 1968. Secondary literature by Timothy S. Brown, Tony Judt, Philipp Gassert, Martin Klimke, Jacques Rupnik, James Mark and Péter Ápor, Anna von der Goltz, and others provide the analytical and scholarly context of our discussions.

****Ausreichende Englischkenntnisse sind für die Textlektüre und Diskussionen unabdingbar.****

****Some knowledge of German would be opportune but is not a requirement.****

****You are free to choose the language in which you complete the written assignments.****

Written Assignments/ Schriftliche Leistungsnachweise:

1.) Weekly Reading Notes

In your note, focus on topic, research question, thesis, argument (if applicable). Full sentences, key words, and bullet points are all acceptable as long as they reflect the essence of the assigned reading. Limit your note to about half a page. Upload it to Stud-IP prior to class. Please use the following format to name the file:

lastname_note_lastnameofauthor_dateofclass (example: Harms_Note_Judt_2017-10-19)

2.) Essay I: Biography/ Autobiography (max. 4 pages)

Pick any one actor that participated in the sixties movements and analyze her or his recollections (autobiography, interviews, essays, roundtable talks, and the like). How do they assess their actions and ideas retrospectively? Have their views changed? If so, why? Please consult primary and secondary literature to analyze selected ego documents and autobiographical sources.

Note: We will discuss a selection of actors that you may choose to investigate further in class.

Deadline: December 22, 2017

3.) Essay II: Comparison (max. 5 pages)

Pick two countries and compare what “1968“ meant for each or how they influenced one another! You’re encouraged to investigate actors, motives, goals, etc.

Deadline: January 21, 2018

4.) Essay III: Historiographical Analysis (max. 5 pages)

What does the year 1968 stand for? Which long-term effects did the “global sixties“ have? You’re free to choose a specific focus such as looking at the generational conflict, women’s movement, equal rights, the environment, university reforms, communism and socialism, historiography, etc.

Deadline: February 11, 2018

Comments on written assignments:

- Your written assignments will be graded based on clarity of argument, structure and organization, choice and proper use of primary and secondary sources as well as compliance with the standards of good academic work at JLU.
- Make sure to clearly state your topic, research question, and thesis.
- You are free to choose the language in which you wish to complete your written assignments.
- You are encouraged to discuss a first paragraph, an outline or a draft of any written assignment with the instructor prior to submission.
- Submit your assignment on time! **Email it to victoria.harms@herder-institut.de**

Format: 1.5 space, normal margins (e.g. top and bottom: 1, left and right: 1.25), normal font (e.g. Times New Roman or similar 12 pt). Page numbers at bottom right. Your choice to put your name and other personal information on a separate cover page or at the top. Your choice of heading.

Participation:

- Come to class on time and prepared. Have your reading note ready.
- Common rules of courtesy apply.
- If you are in need of special assistance, please notify the instructor in advance.
- Please take note of the standards of academic ethics that the University of Gießen adheres to. Compliance is a given. For more, see <https://www.uni-giessen.de/studium/lehre/plagiate>.

Grading Scheme:

Participation	20%
Reading Notes	20%
Essay I	15%
Essay II	25%
Essay III	20%

SCHEDULE

October 18, 2017

Introduction

Davies, James C. "Toward a Theory of Revolution." *American Sociological Review* 27, no. 1 (1962): 5-19. [Presented by the instructor]

October 26, 2017

1968 – Say What?

Workload: 19 Pages

Brown, Timothy S. "1968. Transnational and Global Perspectives,." *Docupedia - Zeitgeschichte* 1.0 (11 June 2012). http://docupedia.de/zg/brown_1968_v1_en_2012.

Rupnik, Jacques. "1968: The Year of Two Springs." *Eurozine* (2008).

Leggewie, Claus. "1968 ist Geschichte." *Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte*, no. B22-23/2001 (26 May 2002): 3-6.

November 2, 2017

The U.S.

Workload: Watch approx. 2 hours of documentary

PBS (2005), "The Sixties," dir. by David Davis and Stephen Talbot, approx. 1'55".
For the official website, please go to <http://www.pbs.org/opb/thesixties/about.html>.

November 9, 2017

Generational Conflict

++ Theory++

Workload: 30 pages

Daniel, Ute. "Generationengeschichte." In *Kompendium Kulturgeschichte. Theorien, Praxis, Schlüsselwörter*, 330-345. Frankfurt: Suhrkamp, 2001.

Beller, Stephen. "The End of Modernity? 1968 in the USA and the UK." In *Das Jahr 1968 - Ereignis, Symbol, Chiffre*, edited by Oliver Rathkolb and Friedrich Stadler, 31-53. Vienna: V + R unipress, 2010.

November 16, 2017

Narratives and History

++ Theory++

Workload: 14 + 31 pages

White, Hayden. "The Historical Text as Literary Artifact." In *Tropics of Discourse. Essays in Cultural Criticism*, 81-100. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1978.

Judt, Tony. "The Spectre of Revolution." In *Postwar. A History of Europe since 1945*, 390-421. New York: Penguin, 2005.

November 23, 2017

History in a Historian's Life

++ Theory++

Workload: 30 pages

Vinen, Richard. "The Poisoned Madeleine: The Autobiographical Turn in Historical Writing." *Journal of Contemporary History* 46, no. 3 (July 2011): 531-554.

Judt, Tony. "Revolutionaries." *New York Review of Books* (25 February 2010).

Judt, Tony. "Saved by the Czechs." *New York Review of Books* (11 March 2010).

November 30, 2017

France and Communism in the West

++ Theory++

Workload: 48 or 34 pages

McCall, Leslie. "The Complexity of Intersectionality." *Signs* 30, no. 3 (Spring 2005): 1771-1800.
OR Winker, Gabriele, and Nina Degele. "Intersectionality as Multi-Level Analysis: Dealing with Social Inequality." *European Journal of Women's Studies* 18, no. 1 (2011): 51-66.

AND

Bracke, Maud Anne. "The 'Parti Communiste Français' in May 1968. The Impossible Revolution?". In *Between Prague Spring and French May*, edited by Martin Klimke, Jacco Pekelder and Joachim Scharloth, 64-83. New York: Berghahn, 2011.

December 7, 2017

West Germany

Workload: 28 pages

Klimke, Martin. "West Germany." In *1968 in Europe. A History of Protest and Activism, 1956-1977*, edited by Martin Klimke and Joachim Scharloth, 97-110. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2008.

Goltz, Anna von der. "A Polarised Generation? Conservative Students and West Germany's '1968'." In *'Talkin' Bout My Generation.' Conflicts of Generation Building and Europe's '1968'*, edited by Anna von der Goltz, 195-215. Göttingen: Wallstein, 2011.

December 14, 2017

Czechoslovakia

Workload: 36 pages

Matejka, Ondrej. "'We Are the Generation That Will Construct Socialism.' The Czech 68ers between Manifest Destiny and Mark of Cain." In *'Talkin' Bout My Generation.' Conflicts of Generation Building and Europe's '1968'*, edited by Anna von Goltz, 116-136. Göttingen: Wallstein, 2011.

Nebrensky, Zdenek. "Early Voices of Dissent. Czechoslovak Student Opposition at the Beginning of the 1960s." In *Between Prague Spring and French May*, edited by Martin Klimke, Jacco Pekelder and Joachim Scharloth, 32-48. New York: Berghahn, 2011.

December 21, 2017

Theory: Comparison and Entangled History

Workload: 35 pages

Werner, Michael, and Bénédicte Zimmermann. "Beyond Comparison: Histoire Croisée and the Challenge of Reflexivity." *History & Theory* 45, no. 1 (February 2006): 30-50.

Kocka, Jürgen. "Comparison and Beyond." *History and Theory* 42, no. 1 (February 2003): 39-44.

January 11, 2018

Poland

Workload: 42 pages

Oseka, Piotr. "'The People of March.' A Self-Portrait of Poland's Generation '68." In *'Talkin' Bout My Generation.' Conflicts of Generation Building and Europe's '1968'*, edited by Anna von der Goltz, 137-159. Göttingen: Wallstein, 2011.

Gross, Irena Grudzinska. "1968 in Poland. Spoiled Children, Marxists, and Jews." In *Promises of 1968. Crisis, Illusion, and Utopia*, edited by Vladimir Tismaneanu, 43-53. Budapest: Central European University Press, 2011.

January 18, 2018

Yugoslavia

Workload: 38 pages

Kanzleiter, Boris. "1968 in Yugoslavia. Student Revolt between East and West." In *Between Prague Spring and French May*, edited by Martin Klimke, Jacco Pekelder and Joachim Scharloth, 84-100. New York: Berghahn, 2011.

Fichter, Madigan. "Yugoslav Protest: Student Rebellion in Belgrade, Zagreb, and Sarajevo in 1968." *Slavic Review* 75, no. 1 (Spring 2016): 99-121.

January 25, 2018

Peace and Anti-War Protests

Workload: 36 pages

Mark, James, Péter Apor, Radina Vučetić, and Piotr Osęka. "We Are with You, Vietnam': Transnational Solidarities in Socialist Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia." *Journal of Contemporary History* 50, no. 3 (2015): 439-464.

Frey, Michael. "The International Peace Movement." In *1968 in Europe. A History of Protest and Activism, 1956-1977*, edited by Joachim Scharloth and Martin Klimke, 33-44. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2008.

February 1, 2018

Women's, Inter- and Transnational History

Workload: 13 pages

Schulz, Kristina. "The Women's Movement." In *Between Prague Spring and French May*, edited by Martin Klimke, Jacco Pekelder and Joachim Scharloth, 281-294. New York: Berghahn, 2011.

February 8, 2018

1968 – What's Left?

Workload: 17 Pages

Gassert, Philip. "Narratives of Democratization. 1968 in Postwar Europe." In *1968 in Europe. A History of Protest and Activism, 1956-1977*, edited by Martin Klimke and Joachim Scharloth, 307-324. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2008.