

IDH3931 Section: 1A00  
Come to the Cabaret  
Tuesdays, Period 8, 3-3:50pm  
Little Hall 117  
Instructor: Jeffrey Pufahl  
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## Course Description

In this course students will explore the world of the post WWI German Cabaret through the lens of the iconic musical production of "Cabaret." Steeped in history, "Cabaret" tells the story of an American writer's experience in the underworld of Berlin during the rise of the Nazis. To understand the musical and its relevance, students will investigate the theories of revolutionary playwright and theorist Bertolt Brecht, the compelling music of Kurt Weill, iconic figures like Marlene Dietrich and the history of the Weimar Cabaret. As well, students will investigate the source material for the musical, the musical itself, and the movie musical.

\*\*\* Students will be required to attend the musical production of "Cabaret" on Saturday Feb. 3, 2018.

Course readings and films will be made up of selections from the following sources:

Christopher Isherwood "Goodbye to Berlin"  
I Am A Camera  
Cabaret – Film Version  
The Weimar Cabaret  
Bertolt Brecht – The Epic Theater & Alienation Effect  
Kurt Weill  
Marlene Dietrich – The Blue Angel

Students will be expected to complete weekly readings and attend weekly class discussions. One group presentation on a subject/reading/author will be expected from students. This presentation will have an oral (in class) presentation element as well as a written element.

## Schedule of Work

|               |                            |  |
|---------------|----------------------------|--|
| Jan. 9        | Introduction               | Read: Goodbye to Berlin (p.1-75), Isherwood    |
| Jan. 16       | Discussion: Berlin Stories | Read: The Cabaret: Weimar chapter, Appignanesi |
| Jan. 23       | Watch: The Blue Angel      | Read: Making of Cabaret, Ch.1-4, Gareban       |
| Jan. 30       | Watch: I Am a Camera       |  |
| <b>Feb. 3</b> | <b>7:30pm</b>              | <b>CABARET Phillips Center</b>                 |
| Feb. 6        | Discussion: Cabaret        | Read: Brecht articles                          |
| Feb. 13       | Discussion: Brecht         |  |
| Feb. 20       | Lecture: Listen Kurt Weill | Read: Making of Cabaret, Ch. 5: Kander & Ebb   |
| Feb. 27       | Lecture: Dadaism & Cabaret |  |
| <b>Mar. 6</b> | <b>Spring Break!</b>       | <b>No Class</b>                                |

|          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| Mar. 13  | Watch: Cabaret Movie |
| Mar. 20  | Watch: Cabaret Movie |
| Mar. 27  | Presentation 1       |
| April 3  | Presentation 2       |
| April 10 | Presentation 3       |
| April 17 | Presentation 4       |
| April 24 | Reflections          |

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#### Presentation 1

Dissect the role of the compere/narrator in "Cabaret." Trace the history of this role in the cabaret through vaudeville.

#### Presentation 2

Track the progression of Sally Bowles from Isherwood's stories, through "I am a Camera", to "Cabaret."

#### Presentation 3

Find the Brecht in "Cabaret." What Brechtian elements are used in the musical?

#### Presentation 4

Kurt Weill, & Kander & Ebb: The music of the Weimar Republic and "Cabaret."

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#### Some resources:

<https://ufl.kanopystreaming.com/video/der-blaue-engel-blue-angel>

<https://ufl.kanopystreaming.com/video/latest-da-da-r>

<https://ufl.kanopystreaming.com/video/exit-music>

<https://ufl.kanopystreaming.com/video/broadway-musicals>

<https://ufl.kanopystreaming.com/video/threepenny-opera>

<https://ufl.kanopystreaming.com/video/theater-war>

<https://ufl.kanopystreaming.com/video/dada-found-objectssurreal-doodles-and-dreams>

Plays, musical libretti, recordings, and other relevant books have been put on reserve at the Fine Arts/Architecture Library.

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Attendance is required for all classes. 2 points will be awarded for each class and show attended (15 x 2) 2 bonus points will be awarded if no classes are missed.

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate in all class discussions.

2 bonus points will be awarded for a completed course evaluation.

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**Grading:**

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Attendance          | 30 points         |
| Class Participation | 30 points         |
| Presentation        | 200 points        |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>260 points</b> |

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**Grading Scale:**

|    |           |    |              |
|----|-----------|----|--------------|
| A  | 93 — 100  | D+ | 67 — 69.9    |
| A- | 90 — 92.9 | D  | 63 — 66.9    |
| B+ | 87 — 89.9 | D- | 60 — 62.9    |
| B  | 83 — 86.9 | E  | less than 60 |
| B- | 80 — 82.9 |    |              |
| C+ | 77 — 79.9 |    |              |
| C  | 73 — 76.9 |    |              |
| C- | 70 — 72.9 |    |              |

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**Note on Collaboration**

Collaboration is a negotiation and can often present many challenges. It is up to you to negotiate the work load of your projects and divide the work equally among the group. Start early and divvy up the work equally and fairly. Select sections of work for each other to accomplish and put your project together collaboratively.

**Attendance/ Absences:**

One excused absence is permitted during the course. An excused absence must be approved by the instructor before the absence occurs with the exception of medical emergencies (doctor's note required). Participation and discussion points will not be awarded to a student for an excused absence. Unexcused absences are strongly discouraged. An additional 4 points will be deducted from the student's final tally for each unexcused absence.

**UF Grading Policies:** <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

**Course Accommodations:** Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be

presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:**

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

**UF Honor Pledge:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.’”

**The Honor Code:** (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/studentconduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or student teacher in this class.”

**Course Evaluations:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.  
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>