IDH 2930 Tunnel 29: Escaping the Berlin Wall

1 Credit, Fall 2022

This course examines a true story about escapees from the Berlin Wall. It embodies heroism and the triumph of freedom. Based on interviews and archival research, Tunnel 29 is a pageturning Cold War rescue thrille=r of journalism. We complement Tunnel 29 by also examining the factors that led to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the long-lasting consequences of a divided society following re-unification. Finally, we consider how walls continue to divide our society today and who will be considered heroes in the future.

Required text: Tunnel 29, Helena Merriman, 2021

Instructor: James W. Jawitz, Professor, Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences, 2191 McCarty Hall, 352-294-3141, jawitz@ufl.edu



Dr. Jawitz works on sustainability and the relationship of human society to natural resources. He directs the UF collaboration with the German Environmental Research Center in Leipzig, Germany and he was recently the Dresden Fellow at Technical University-Dresden, Germany. He leads a summer study abroad program 'Cities in Civilization' that travels by train through European cities from London to Rome, including Berlin.

Office hours: after class or by appointment.

Weekly topics:

- Week 1 Cold war: Curtains and walls
- Week 2 Migrants and border control
- Week 3 Crossing under borders
- Week 4 Tunnel logistics
- Week 5 Other tunnels
- Week 6 Human dimensions
- Week 7 Fall of the Wall
- Week 8 Berlin and Germany after the Wall
- Week 9 Walls today and in the coming years

Student expectations include weekly one-page commentaries based on readings from the text (50%) and active participation during in-class discussions (50%).

UF Policies (Updated August 2021) http://aa.ufl.edu/media/syllabusufledu/syllabi_policy_8_5_2021.pdf

Grades and Grade Points: For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/.

Attendance and Make-Up Work: Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <u>https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/</u>.

Online Course Evaluation Process: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Services for Students with Disabilities: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center, <u>https://disability.ufl.edu/</u>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Honesty: 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 Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions.

Campus Helping Resources: Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling& Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

•University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, <u>www.counseling.ufl.edu</u>, Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library, Wellness Coaching

•U Matter We Care, <u>www.umatter.ufl.edu/</u>

- •Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, <u>https://career.ufl.edu/</u>.
- •Student Success Initiative, <u>http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu</u>.

In-class Recording: Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor