

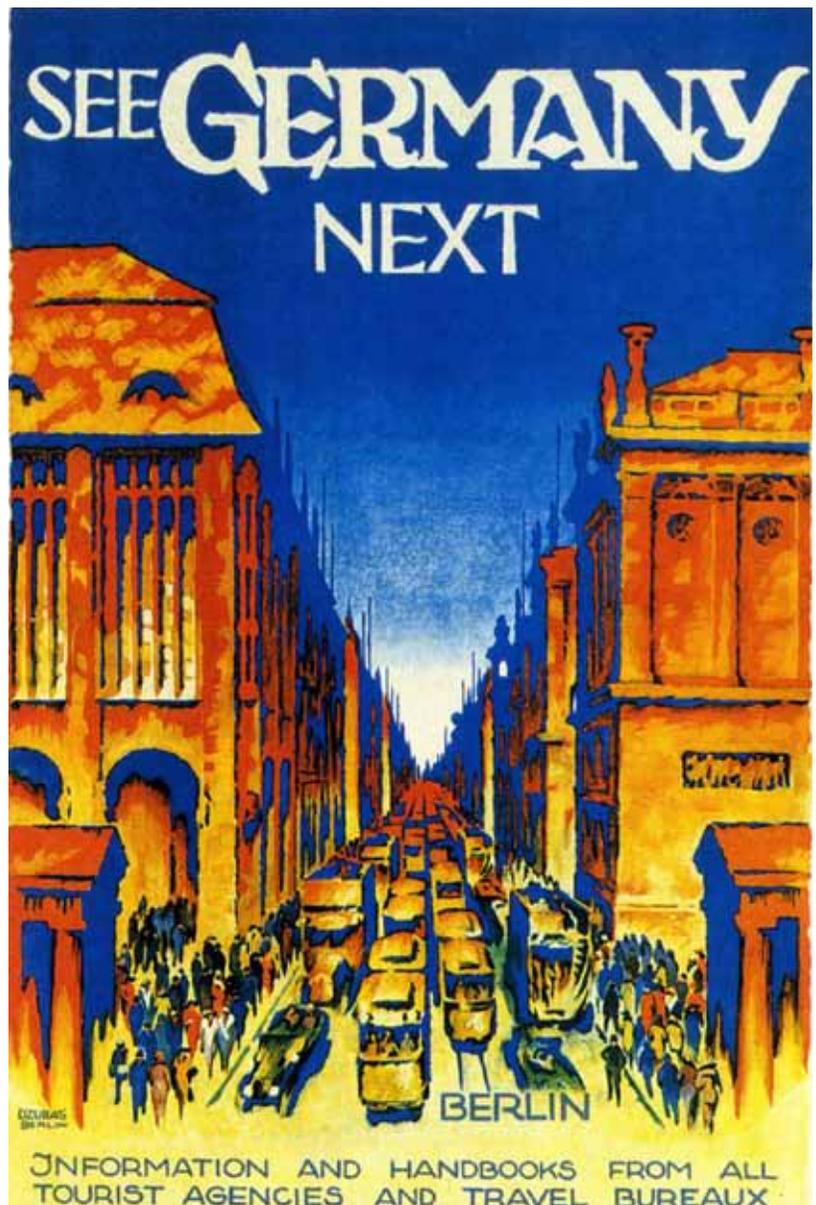
## Landscape Architecture Summer Program Rutgers Study Abroad

In the 1920's the German tourist office launched a campaign in the US with the title "See Germany Next." This slogan was chosen with reference to the 1906 marketing campaign by the American Great Northern Railway "See America First," intended to promote their resort facilities in Montana. The slogan was later adapted by the National Park Service and became an expression of the close relation between the self-concept of the US as a nation and the desire to protect natural beauty.

For the LA summer program, "See Germany Next" may inspire the exploration of a country where the cultural interpretation of nature and landscape has supported the creation of a strong environmental movement, fostering innovative solutions in Landscape Architecture, Architecture and Urban Planning.

# RUTGERS

Department of Landscape Architecture  
LA Summer Program, 01:959:342  
5 cr Praxis Studio,  
3 cr towards SEBS Multicultural  
Instructor: Dr. Wolfram Hoefler  
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<http://studyabroad.rutgers.edu>



The goal of the course is to study such solutions and their cultural context and relate them to planning and design challenges we face in the US. Hopefully we will learn that Germany is more than Autobahn and Oktoberfest. This course is geared towards students in Landscape Architecture, Architecture, Urban Planning, Fine Arts and others who care about the physical shape of our built environment. A design workshop in landscape architecture in cooperation with a German partner school is a main element of the program.

Students should have an experience in creative design and graphic expression. Because of the heavy design component, the class will count as one praxis studio (5cr) in the Rutgers Landscape Architecture program. The knowledge oriented teachings of the course are counting 3 credits towards the SEBS multicultural requirement and are organized around four main themes.

# Contemporary Landscape Architecture



We will visit, explore and critically discuss recent built works of landscape architecture such as plaza, gardens and parks. Study objects are selected concerning the integration of innovative technologies and materials with creative design strategies. Through observation and critical reflection we will examine how people are using the spaces and thus learn which aspects of these designs were successful and where we would see space for improvement. Our field observations and analysis will be informed through discussions with local design professionals. The discussions will reveal the close relation between cultural traditions, design language and uses.

# Urban Planning and Design



The above mentioned relation between cultural traditions and land use will also be discussed with reference to the scale of urban design and planning. One example is the relation between the cultural understanding of landscape and land use laws. We will discover that some of the much stricter building regulations in Germany can be explained with a historically stronger emphasis on the benefits for the society at large rather than the pursuit of individual freedom. Another observation will be: There is no grid in the layout of cities (with some exceptions). We will explore the forces that shaped the urban fabric over the core of the history. Further we will also look into more recent major disturbances in the urban fabric: the bombardments of World War II or the division and re-unification of Berlin. Our urban design analytic studies will examine different solutions of dealing with these disturbances.

# History of Landscape Architecture

One could argue that for studying the history of landscape architecture Italy, France and England would be more suitable; after all, we do not speak of a “German” garden style. We will visit and study gardens that date back to the renaissance, baroque, and classic periods and we will find parks that document the transition and sequence of these periods. Further we will address the conflict between historic preservation and the needs of today’s urban population. One example is the “Englischer Garten” in München, opened in 1796 as the first park in the world that was designed for public use in the first place, however, these uses have changed today



# History and Culture of Germany

Lectures, museum visits and tours of important historic sites will provide an overview of major historic developments in central Europe. These teachings are introduced with the intention to provide the necessary context for interpretation and discussion of actual planning and politics. The schedule will provide time to experience the rich cultural offerings of the metropolitan centers of Berlin and Munich, reaching from main stream entertainment to avant-garde experiments



# Travel Outline

The program will start in and around Munich, exploring the picturesque Bavarian country site as well as innovative, high tech inspired designs in München—a major economical center in Germany.

The high speed train will bring us to the Ruhr-Area in West Germany, best compared with the American Rust Belt. We will stay in the city of Düsseldorf. All over this region the decline of industrial production was taken as an opportunity to create innovative post-industrial landscapes. After studying the economic revival of that post-industrial region for two days, we will take the train again and go via Hamburg (3days) to Berlin where students will spend two weeks.

A free travel weekend is scheduled in Düsseldorf, providing the opportunity to explore other parts of Western Europe on your own.

5 days will be designated to the design workshop in collaboration with the Landscape Architecture Program at Technische Universität Berlin. You will develop a landscape architecture design in collaboration with German students (all of them speak English).

For the course work please bring:

Pencil, sketch book, colored pencils, felt tip pen, camera.



## Requirements

- Preparation of one paper (5-7 pages) to be presented on the trip. Discussion and additional information will be added to the written text that will be part of the booklet.
- Travel journal
- 3 < Perspective drawings (in journal)
- 1 < Plaza Analysis (in journal)
- 2 Sheets presenting design project
- Contribution to booklet
- Presentation in Fall

## Cost

- The cost for this summer class will be determined by Rutgers Study Abroad.
- Tuition, fees, housing, excursions, travel inside Germany and basic medical insurance are included in this fee.
- Flight to Germany, food, major medical insurance, and all personal expenses are not included in this fee.

## Registration

- <http://studyabroad.rutgers.edu>  
search: landscape

