

GERMAN 8200
WENDELITERATUR

Spring 2016
Prof. Eva Revesz



When Peter Schneider coined the expression “Die Mauer im Kopf” in his text *Der Mauerspringer*, published in 1982 seven years before the fall of the wall, he identified a phenomenon that persists to the present day. The extent to which the division between east and west continues to define the German nation has become the subject of an entire genre of literature, one that is deeply rooted in the notion that the personal is always already political. In this seminar, we will be looking at the different ways in which authors have thematized the demise of the GDR and German reunification. This will include a detailed look at the explosive *Deutsch-deutscher Literaturstreit* following the publication of Christa Wolf’s *Was bleibt*; representations of the Stasi; the wave of *Ostalgie* as well as *Westalgie* following the fall of the wall and the question of the extent to which these divisions continue to define the German national character.

The following reading list is in chronological order. Readings will be restricted to no more than 150 pages per week. Oral presentation and the option between a research paper and final exam.

Peter Schneider	<i>Der Mauerspringer</i>
	<i>Extreme Mittellage</i>
Jana Hensel	<i>Zonenkinder</i>
Christa Wolf	<i>Was bleibt</i>
	<i>Medea</i>
Stefan Heym	<i>Auf Sand gebaut</i>
Rolf Hochhuth	<i>Wessis in Weimar</i>
Günter Grass	<i>Ein Schnäppchen namens DDR</i>
Wolfgang Hilbig	<i>Ich</i>
Monika Maron	<i>Stille Zeile Sechs</i>
Yadé Kara	<i>Selam Berlin</i>