



German Cultural Studies: An Introduction

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Major changes have been taking place in the context of German Studies in both secondary and higher education, with the focus shifting to a broader range of cultural forms. Based on the view that cultures are the products of class, place, gender, and race, German Cultural Studies takes account of these changes and adopts an interdisciplinary approach in its wide-ranging study of German culture and society since 1871. Emphasizing recent and contemporary developments, the book features chronological sections on Imperial Germany, the Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, the German Democratic Republic, and the Federal Republic. The contributors chart the growth of modernization and the culture industry in Germany, and examine the extent to which culture in any given period functions as an instrument of ideological manipulation or critical enlightenment. Throughout, the emphasis is on the interactions of culture, society and ideology, and the role of culture in both public and private consciousnesses. Copiously illustrated, and with a comprehensive bibliography, the volume will be essential reading for anyone interested in modern and contemporary German society and its culture.



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German Cultural Studies: An Introduction From Oxford University Press Bibliography

Sales Rank: #1957851 in Books
Published on: 1995-12-28
Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 6.19" h x .78" w x 9.19" l, 1.32 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 392 pages

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About the Author

Rob Burns has published studies on working-class culture, Arbeiterbewegung in der Weimarer Republik (with W. van der Will, 2 vols., Berlin-Ullstein, 1982) and on the political culture of the Federal Republic Protest and Democracy in West Germany (with W. van der Will, London, Macmillan, 1988).

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