THE DEPARTMENT OF
GERMAN
WINTER QUARTER 2022

This course is structured around the recent German-American Cold War espionage series Deutschland 83, Deutschland 86, and Deutschland 89 (2016-2020) by Anna Winger and Joerg Winger. Participants will explore the political, social, cultural, scientific, and technological climate of the Cold War and the history of secret agents with a focus on East-Germany, West-Germany, and the US, while also critically examining relevant current developments on the global stage. Topics to be discussed in class include youth culture, communism, social democracy, nuclear armament, control by state and media, popular and classical music, the national military, the green movement, the LGBTQ community, and generational dynamics. Authentic materials from a variety of sources will be discussed to complement the film screenings, including propaganda, political speeches, song lyrics, historical texts, and news articles. Aesthetics and film techniques will also be analyzed. Continued development towards proficiency in all language skills is targeted. Aligned with the principles of Exploratory Practice, reflection and collaboration play a significant role; assignments will include regular reflections on selected episodes as well as on individual learning styles and progress, mini-presentations and creative tasks on chosen topics, short quizzes, two research papers, and a final project.