The course will examine how radical cultural changes, such as the advent of new media (film, radio), the influence of American culture, mass consumption, fashion, influenced new ideas about sexuality and gender roles during the so-called Weimar Republic (1918-33) in Germany. The stark contrast between ingrained authoritarian cultural customs and the push for the rights of women and sexual minorities is symptomatic for the polarization of Weimar society. The analysis of texts and films will provide insights into gendered subtexts of modernist aesthetics and popular culture. One of the key questions the course addresses is how ultra-nationalist reactionary forces took advantage of anxieties connected to the push for sexual liberation and gender equality. The course will be taught in English.