

**Reading and Discussion Questions for Jarausch and Geyer,  
“Unsettling German Society: Mobility and Migration”**

Before you begin to read, you should realize that you can't possibly absorb all the information in this article. You don't need to. Focus on the questions below and on their introduction, the section entitled “The Emigration Axiom,” and the post-World War II developments related in the section “An Unacknowledged Immigration Country.”

1. This essay has a simple and direct overarching thesis, despite the large number of population movements it describes. It has to do with German self-conceptions about migration and the historical realities. What is that thesis?
2. One part of Germans' selective “collective memory” about migration is bound up with emigration and a sense of loss. According to Jarausch and Geyer, what are its origins?
3. Pay close attention to their brief account of the 1913 citizenship law passed under the empire (202-3). What is *jus sanguinis*? (Hint: google is your friend.) It was modified in 2000; how (217)?
4. Apart from forced labor, the big picture is a shift from emigration toward immigration after 1945. What were the major waves of immigration, from 1945 until the 1980s? Pay attention to both German migrants and non-German “guest workers” (210-213).
5. After 1990, political asylum seekers became a much larger source of immigration. What does the German constitution have to say about political asylum (215)?