This lecture investigates the many contact points between 20th-century German philosophy and modern youth cultures and establishes how German philosophers thought through the possibilities, limitations and consequences of youth rebellion and conformity in ways that youth cultures themselves rarely did. Of particular concern will be youth culture’s triumvirate: sex, drugs, and rock music. Students will read and discuss seminal texts by thinkers like Adorno, Arendt, Benjamin, Bloch, Gadamer, Habermas, Heidegger, Jaspers, Jonas, Marcuse, Nietzsche, Simmel and Sloterdijk. In order to illuminate these philosophical readings, lectures will address a selection of American feature films portraying modern youth cultures. For more information contact: relangst@unc.edu

Readings in English + Philosophical & Moral Reasoning (PH) + North Atlantic World (NA)