

SUBJECT: German

GERM 111 Elementary German I (4)

Basic elements of German. Practice in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing, including work with pronunciation, grammar, and culture. Designed for students with no prior study of German.

GERM 112 Elementary German II (4)

Continuation of basic German with emphasis on acquiring communicative skills, both narrative and descriptive, in a variety of practical situations.

GERM 202 Reading Group in German (0-1)

Selected readings deal with world languages and cultures. Texts read may be classics in a national literature, works by writers who recently won a high literary prize, or texts dealing with current topics critical to the history or politics of a particular country. Texts may be tied to on-campus lectures on world literature by invited speakers. This course can be repeated once for credit with the permission of the chair. Offered for S/U grading only

GERM 211 Intermediate German (4)

Review and continued study of German structures, with an emphasis on the development of reading skills and the discussion of ideas. Satisfactory completion of GERM 211 fulfills the global language proficiency requirement and prepares students for GERM 212.

GERM 212 Introduction to German Culture (4)

Study and analysis of cultural texts in German emphasizing contemporary issues. GERM 212 is required for students who wish to earn a major or minor in German. GERM 212 fulfills the global language proficiency requirement as well as a Common Curriculum humanities requirement (HM).

GERM 271 Individual Learning Project (1-4)

Supervised reading or research at the lower-division level. Permission of department chair required. Consult department for applicability towards major requirements. Not available to first-year students.

GERM 302 Reading Group in German (0-1)

Selected readings deal with world languages and cultures. Texts read may be classics in a national literature, works by writers who recently won a high literary prize, or texts dealing with current topics critical to the history or politics of a particular country. Texts may be tied to on-campus lectures on world literature by invited speakers. This course can be repeated once for credit with the permission of the chair. Offered for S/U grading only

GERM 324 German Culture Before 1850 (4)

A survey of some of the key figures and periods of German art, literature, music, and public life in German-speaking countries that have made significant cultural contributions to world civilization up to the early 19th century, focusing on literary and cultural trends and movements of the Middle Ages, the Reformation, the Baroque, and the Age of Goethe. Selected readings will include courtly epic, lyric poetry, drama, prose texts and narratives from some principal authors. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered alternate years.

GERM 325 German Culture 1850 to Present (4)

A survey of various periods of German art, literature, music, public life and people that have made significant cultural contributions to world civilization from the early 19th century to the present. The major purpose is to analyze the interrelationship between the major social/political developments of German-speaking Europe, and their cultural manifestations. Selected readings will include lyric poetry, essays, novellas, drama, and prose texts and narratives from some principal authors. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered alternate years.

GERM 330 Germanic Myths and Legends (2-4)

Thor, Herman the German, Beowulf, Siegfried and Kriemhild, dragons and monsters. Taught in English, this course covers the feuds, founding myths, and legends of the gods and heroes in the Germanic traditions. Add Hildegard von Bingen, Saint Nicholas, Saint Benedict, and Martin Luther and we sketch an arc from the pagan Germanic-language-speaking peoples through the medieval period to the early modern, studying each of these towering figures on the way. Main texts: Beowulf, The Nibelungenlied, Sturluson's Edda, Gregory's The Life of Saint Benedict, Hildegard's Illuminations. No prerequisite. (Taught in English, can be taken for German credit.)

GERM 333 The Language of Love: German (2-4)

Goethe's genius challenged inherited literary forms, created new ones, and developed the expressiveness of the German language so profoundly that the effects are still felt today. Born to the upper middle class, but employed at court, Goethe recognized attempts by men and women to cross barriers--literary, cultural, national, gender, and spiritual. As a founder of German Classicism (along with Schiller), Goethe's cosmopolitan spirit and enthusiasm impacted Romantic thought and generations to come. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered every third year. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs. (HE)

GERM 337 Early 20th Century (2-4)

The Weimer period is a time of tremendous creativity in art, architecture, literature, music and politics, when German-speaking lands find themselves caught between theories of democratic freedom and the slide into fascism. This period, punctuated by the new excitement with freedom and decadence, encompasses the rise and strengthening as hints at the aftereffects of Hitler's Third Reich. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered every third year. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs.

GERM 342 Poetry in the German Tradition (2-4)

Poetry expresses more emotion and content in fewer words than any other kind of literature. German lyric across the ages conveys the essence of the culture and gives readers texts that will have both personal and cultural meanings throughout their lives. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs.

GERM 345 Novels, Novellen, Stories and Tales. (2-4)

An exploration of the world of storytelling in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. This course investigates the phenomenon of narrative, its elements, techniques, and forms; its relation to other modes of discourse; its power and influence in cultures past and present. A variety of interpretive strategies include such activities as classroom storytelling, Nacherzählungen, interpretive presentations, skits and group discussions. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered every third year. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs.

GERM 349 Genius!: The Romantic Invention of Creativity (2-4)

Romanticism began as a protest of German writers and scholars against the limits of the Enlightenment with its over-emphasis on reason. The Romantic strove to stretch beyond reason to embrace the irrational, the feared and the misunderstood. Seeking the unknown is still considered romantic today and thus is a force that ranges beyond any specific period of time. Nature, emotions and the infinite take on a central position. The mysterious, the miraculous and searching find expression in the works of these writers, musicians, artists, philosophers and scientists. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered every three years. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs.

GERM 350 Current Debates and Issues (2-4)

A course based on today's explosive debates and issues in German-speaking countries using up-to-date materials from the internet, German radio, television, film, and newspapers. This is a course for researching and debating controversies and listening to provocative news. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered every three years. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs.

GERM 355 Seminar in a Specific Period Topic (2-4)

This course varies in the cultural period explored, but focuses on an especially significant or influential time in German history. The course will provide a framework for the understanding of the particular period in terms of philosophy, literature, music, painting, sculpture, architecture, and socio-political make-up and may focus on a topic such as: The Age of Luther; Fin de Siècle; or The Late Twentieth Century: War to Postwar, Wall to Post Wall. See semester class schedule for further details. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered as needed. Can be repeated with

permission of instructor if content differs.

GERM 356 Seminar in a Specific Genre: Topic (2-4)

A more intensive exploration of a specific genre. The course may focus on a genre such as: The Novelle From Its Beginnings into Modernity; The Drama as Multivalent Text; The Essay as Medium for Social Change; New German Cinema and Political Revolt. See semester class schedule for further details. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Offered as needed. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs.

GERM 356E The Fairy Tale Tradition: the Brothers Grimm, Disney, and Beyond (2-4)

Taught in English, this course confronts the ethics of the wildly popular household and nursery tales. From their oral roots, through their textual anthologizing, to their use as Nazi propaganda, and their Hollywood adaptations, the tales have always depicted “good” and “evil.” This course draws on ethical writings from the Grimm Brothers’ age (Kant) and current work on literature and ethics (Peter and Renata Singer) to examine the ethics in the tales as well as in their uses. No prerequisite. (Taught in English, can be taken for German credit.)

GERM 356F Imagining the Nation in German Film (4)

A more intensive exploration of a specific genre. The course may focus on a genre such as: The Novelle From Its Beginnings into Modernity; The Drama as Multivalent Text; The Essay as Medium for Social Change; New German Cinema and Political Revolt. See semester class schedule for further details.

GERM 357 Seminar in a Specific Theme: Topic (2-4)

A more intensive exploration of a specific theme or linguistic topic. The course may focus on a topic such as: The Holocaust, Its Origins and Effects; The Persistent Problem of Imported Labor; The Discourse of Evil in German Language Culture; Linguistic Style in Essays and Feuilleton; Marx, Freud and Nietzsche in the Modern World. See semester class catalog for further details. Prerequisite: GERM 212; Offered as needed. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs. Qualifies as a course in Theme.

GERM 357B Seminar: The Holocaust, Its Origins & Effects (2-4)

The collapse of 1945 leaves a physical and spiritual vacuum in Germany. The lost generation of young German writers who emerge from the rubble desperately try to come to terms with the Nazi past and establish new values in order to combat the inner chaos. The creation of the Gruppe 47 is their early attempt to salvage and maintaining positive values. They do this to distance themselves from the tradition associated with a totalitarian regime. Initially they are anticlerical and filled with social consciousness. Very soon, however, it changes to a loosely-knit society of writers, primarily interested in the quality and originality of their writings. Though their status is unofficial, it gives rise to the best known writers of a new Germany. This course examines the consequences of the WW II upon the German mind as reflected in literature, film and the media. The difficult historical, moral, and artistic legacies of the Holocaust for Germany after 1945 will be central to this probe. We will look at the issue of remembrance and its victims, asking: were Germans casualties, perpetrators, or both? Can a new German state overcome the historical image associated with the holocaust? What's the difference between guilt and responsibility and how does it affect future generations? And how have discussions changed over the past decades? Qualifies as a course in Theme

GERM 357H Migration and Culture: Contemporary Germany (2-4)

In contemporary Germany, many of the most exciting voices in film, theater, criticism, and literature come from migrant and postmigrant artists and writers. Through the award-winning films of Fatih Akin, the groundbreaking postmigrant theater of the Ballhaus Naunynstrasse and the Maxim Gorki Theater, and the bilingual writings of Yoko Tawada (Japanese and German), to name a few, this course analyzes the current political and social conditions in Germany. The stakes raised by these artists and the scholars of their work—Muttersprache (Özdamar), postmonolingualism (Yildiz), “The Turkish Turn” (Adelson)—are the stakes of our time. Drawing on the tradition of and reflection on cosmopolitan moral theory (Kant), world literature (Goethe), and minor literature (Kafka, Deleuze and Guattari), we will address the pressing issues at play when languages and borders are crossed. Prepare yourself for staggering beauty, rigorous critique, and to gain the tools for reading your contemporary world. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Taught in German.

GERM 357I The Crisis of Language: Introduction to Semiotics (2-4)

Around 1900 and across Central Europe, language reached a crisis point. Can our words adequately describe reality (Wittgenstein)? What might slips of the tongue and forgetting names have to do with the depths of the psyche (Freud)? What, actually, is language itself (Saussure)? Even more, what is a 'sign' or 'symbol'? The study of signs generally (semiology) and the specific approaches to its study arose in linguistics, psychoanalysis, film theory, iconography, and the philosophy of language at that time. Artistic production across all fields—literature, architecture, music, dance, and the rise of film—changed dramatically to what we know as modernity. Critically engaging with these fascinating theories of signs and artistic artifacts allows us to interpret our media-saturated situation today and understand how we got here. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Taught in German.

GERM 357J Seminar in a Specific Theme: Green Germany (4)

This course explores the long 'green' tradition in German culture which has led to Germany being recognized today as a worldwide leader in environmental movements thanks to the nuclear power phase-out, the renewable energy transition, and the rise of the green movement and the Green Party. Students will investigate the discourse of ecology and development of contemporary Germany's environmental practices through its literary and cultural legacy by reading and analyzing texts from prominent writers and thinkers. We will uncover the interconnections between cultural history, policy, and technology and connect these literary and historic roots to contemporary environmental issues, consider successful protest movements, and explore Germany as a model for environmental initiatives and engaged citizenship around the globe.

GERM 357K BERLIN:GENIUS/CREATVITY (HM,HE) (4)

NO COURSE DESCRIPTION

GERM 371 Individual Learning Project (1-4)

Supervised reading or research at the upper-division level. Permission of department chair and completion and/or concurrent registration of 12 credits within the department required. Consult department for applicability towards major requirements. Not available to first-year students.

GERM 378A Migration and Culture: Contemporary Germany (4)

In contemporary Germany, many of the most exciting voices in film, theater, criticism, and literature come from migrant and postmigrant artists and writers. Through the award-winning films of Fatih Akin, the groundbreaking postmigrant theater of the Ballhaus Naunynstrasse and the Maxim Gorki Theater, and the bilingual writings of Yoko Tawada (Japanese and German), to name a few, this course analyzes the current political and social conditions in Germany. The stakes raised by these artists and the scholars of their work—Muttersprache (Özdamar), postmonolingualism (Yildiz), "The Turkish Turn" (Adelson)—are the stakes of our time. Drawing on the tradition of and reflection on cosmopolitan moral theory (Kant), world literature (Goethe), and minor literature (Kafka, Deleuze and Guattari), we will address the pressing issues at play when languages and borders are crossed. Prepare yourself for staggering beauty, rigorous critique, and to gain the tools for reading your contemporary world. Prerequisite: GERM 212. Taught in German.

GERM 379A Enlightenment, Tolerance, and Human Rights (4)

The epoch of the Enlightenment created new approaches to truth through philosophy, the sciences, and the arts. In this course, we examine the groundbreaking works of this period that promote tolerance, peace, and human rights. Prerequisite: GERM 212. For Integrations Curriculum Truth Thematic Focus credit, prerequisites include: Learning Foundations, CSD:I, and Theological Explorations. Offered as needed. Can be repeated with permission of instructor if content differs. Taught in German.

GERM 397 Internship (1-16)

Completed Application for Internship Form REQUIRED. See Internship Office Web Page.

GERM 399 Senior Capstone (2)

Unless they complete 398, all majors must present a senior project in a public forum. In consultation with a faculty advisor, students choose a project appropriate to their previous course of study and/or their individual goals. Students completing 398 on a topic relevant to their German major do not need to complete GERM 399.