

Department of German Studies
Courses - Fall 2020

GRMN0110 Intensive Beginning German - ONLINE

An intensive, double-credit language course that meets three days a week and focuses on speaking, listening, reading and writing skills and the cultures of the German-speaking countries. At the end of the semester, students will be able to communicate successfully about everyday topics relating to the university, jobs, daily life and traveling. Ideal for undergraduate students interested in learning German for study abroad or for concentration requirements and for graduate students interested in starting their foreign language requirements. The course is designed for new students of German, regardless of any previous experience with German.

Jonathan Fine/Raiany Romanni S01 MWF 1-1:50; 2-2:50

GRMN0300 Intermediate German I - ONLINE

Focuses on deepening students' understanding of modern German culture by reading texts and viewing films pertinent to Germany today. Intended to provide a thorough review of German grammar and help students develop their writing, reading, listening, and speaking skills.

Jane Sokolosky S01 MWF 10-10:50

Pasqual Solass S02 MWF 1-1:50

GRMN0500F 20th Century German Culture - ONLINE

A broad exploration of twentieth-century German culture using many kinds of written and visual texts (e.g. literature, journalism, film, art). While continuing to work on all four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, writing) students will gain more intensive knowledge about German culture, society, and history. In German. WRIT

Daniel Lange S01 MWF 11-11:50

Jasmin Meier S02 MWF 1-1:50

GRMN1340Y Germans and Jews - HYBRID

This introductory course will examine the fraught relationship between Germans (and Austrians) and Jews in Germanophone writing across genres from the Enlightenment to the mid- 20th century. We will consider writing by Jewish authors, images of Jews, and the themes of Jewishness and Germanness, emancipation, assimilation, anti-semitism and Zionism. Students will learn analytic reading, writing and research skills. Texts by Lessing, Mendelssohn, Veit, von Arnim, Heine, Marx, Droste-Hülshoff, Laske-Schüler, Kafka, Benjamin, Scholem and Arendt, among others. Readings and discussion in English.

Susan Bernstein S01 M 11-11:50

Susan Bernstein C02 WF 11-11:50 Room to be assigned

GRMN1450L Flusssdichtungen - ONLINE

The flow of words and the flow of water are complicit in many languages. Between fluency disorder and logorrhea the discourse on human speech (and speech deficiency) often recurs to the image of rivers, or streams. The seminar will follow and unfold this complicity between (spoken) language and rivers in excerpts from Homer's *Odyssey*; in poems by Ausonius, Hölderlin, Mörike, Heine, Keller, Stefan George, Bertolt Brecht; in a chapter from James Joyce's *Finnegans Wake* ("Anna Livia Plurabelle"); in two prose pieces (by Hebel and Kafka) on swimmers; and in a song by Johnny Cash: *Big River*. Taught in German.

Thomas Schestag S01 TuTh 10:30-11:50

GRMN2261U Mourning, In Theory - ONLINE

Our graduate seminar will trace the fundamental affinity between critical theory and modes of mourning. Through careful reading of key reflections on the bonds among thinking, language, and mourning, we will work to deepen our understanding of how our relation to finitude, loss, and absence relates to the potentialities of conceptual inquiry. Our texts will include Heidegger on Dasein's finitude in *Being and Time*; Freud on the difference between mourning and melancholia; Benjamin on the "mourning play"; Barthes' *Mourning Diary*, written upon the loss of his mother; Derrida's *The Work of Mourning* (a collection of his eulogies and reflections on the death of friends and colleagues) as well as his newly published seminar *Life Death*; and Butler on the politics of grievable and allegedly ungrievable lives. If there is interest among seminar participants, we will also view and discuss Danish filmmaker Lars von Trier's remarkable end-of-the-world film Melancholia (2011) in light of our concerns. Students from diverse fields are welcome.

Gerhard Richter S01 M 3-5:30pm

GRMN2662C History, Philology - ONLINE

At one point in his *Treatise on Philological Knowledge* Peter Szondi claims that philological knowledge differs, in essence, from historical knowledge. The seminar will pursue and discuss this (non)relation in texts by Seneca, Dante, Vico, Auerbach, Said, Nietzsche, Benjamin, Kafka, Heidegger, Joyce, Beckett, Szondi, Paul de Man, and Derrida. Taught in English.

Thomas Schestag S01 Tu 1-3:30pm

SWED0300 S01 Intermediate Swedish I - ONLINE

SWED0300 is an Intermediate language course designed for students with some prior exposure to Swedish, either through study abroad or their own background. The course will be small and informal, tailored to the needs of the specific students, with joint emphasis on speaking, reading and writing. We will see several Swedish films, as well as read some fiction and poetry.

Ann Weinstein S01 TuTh 4-5:30

Courses Offered Beyond German Studies that May Count Towards the Concentration

COLT 1210 S01, CRN 16293

Introduction to the Theory of Literature (Bernstein / Redfield)

An historical introduction to problems of literary theory from the classical to the postmodern. Issues to be examined include mimesis, rhetoric, hermeneutics, history, psychoanalysis, formalisms and ideological criticism (questions of race, gender, sexuality, postcolonialism). Primarily for advanced undergraduates. Lectures, discussions; several short papers.

COLT 1710C S01, CRN 16266

Literary Translation Workshop (Drumsta)

The primary focus of this course is the practice of literary translation as an art. Using the workshop format, each student will complete a project by the end of the semester. Examples and theoretical texts will illuminate the historical, ethical, cultural, political, and aesthetic values that underlie every translation, keeping an eye towards opening up the field beyond inherited practices to consider the contemporary implications of our choices, intentions, and purposes in translation. Open to all levels. Heritage speakers are welcome, collaboration is permitted, and an open-spirited approach to this developing and fascinating practice is strongly recommended.

HIST 1230C S01, CRN 17215

The Search for Renewal in 20th century Europe (Gluck)

The overarching theme of the course is the relationship between modernity and the primitive as manifested in major cultural, aesthetic and political movements in the 20th century. Films are an integral part of the course.

JUDS 0902 S01, CRN 15763

History of the Holocaust (Teller)

Explores questions raised by the Holocaust regarding how such barbarism erupted in our so-called civilized and enlightened age. Attempts to analyze the meaning of the Holocaust from three vantage points: that of European, and more particularly, German history; that of Jewish history; and that of those states and religious institutions which shared responsibility. Enrollment limited to 40. If unable to enroll because of closed registration please contact the professor and a wait list will be created.

JUDS 1614 S02, CRN 18172

Heidegger, the Jews, and the Crisis of Liberalism (Nahme)

This class explores the enduring legacy of Heidegger's critique of Western philosophy in political, theological, and social thought. Focusing primarily upon Heidegger's reception in 20th-century Jewish philosophy, we will explore the

allure of Heideggerian thought and its implication in both left and right political critiques of liberalism. Topics include onto-theology, phenomenology, and radical historicism; science, hermeneutics, and methodology in the humanities; liberalism and the secular; ethics, politics, action; de-structuration and deconstruction; time and the Other. Authors include Adorno, Arendt, Butler, Derrida, Levinas, Löwith, Marcuse, Rosenzweig, Schmitt, Strauss

MUSC 1500A S01, CRN 18373

Major Masters and Repertoires of Music: Bach (Jodry)

An examination of the life and work of Bach, including its place in German church music, views of his contemporaries and explanation of his manuscript and publishing history.

RELS 1390A S01, CRN 17060

Religion and Critical Theory (Willis)

This course will give a critical overview of the Frankfurt School, particularly its contributions to the study of religion. Tracking the insights and blindspots of Adorno, Horkheimer, Habermas and Benjamin (among others), we will consider how technological developments in the 'culture-industry', late-modern capitalist forms of socialization, and post-Enlightenment philosophical claims regarding religion and theology bear on the ways we talk about autonomy, power and authority. Covering topics such as negative theology, the non-secular critique of religion, communicative praxis, and divine violence, our inquiry will emphasize the social features of theology, the aesthetic content of belief, and the communal aspects of religion.