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Office Hrs.: Mondays, 9pm-9:30pm (at 172 College Ave) and by appointment

**Contemporary German Media and Society 299 (1.5 credits)**

**01:470:299; index 00267**

**Fall 2012**

**Mondays 7:40pm-9pm** (8<sup>th</sup> period)

Venue: **German House Library** (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), 172 College Avenue, CAC

**Course Description:**

This course aims to provide an overview of the German media landscape and to help explore the role various media (including print, Internet, TV, radio, and film) play in contemporary German politics and society. Special attention will be paid to cultural comparisons between Germany and the United States. Development of active language skills and cultural awareness will be encouraged through the assigned material. Texts and presentations will accommodate the language level of students enrolled. In cooperation with the Rutgers College Housing German Special Interest Section, it is an ample opportunity to take advantage of their numerous events and activities, which enable students to learn more about contemporary German culture. Successful completion of at least German 102 or comparable linguistic ability is highly recommended. This course may be repeated; three credits from 470:299 may be counted toward the major and minor.

Taught in German.

**Prerequisite:** 470:102

**Final Grade:**

Class participation	20%
Weekly worksheets	20%
Midterm	20%
Presentation	20%
Final exam	20%

**Grade distribution:**

A=90-100%; B+=85-89; B=80-84; C+=75-79; C=70-74; D=65-69; F=64 and below

**Required texts:** available on the class website on Sakai.

**Final Exam:** Monday, Dec 17, 2012: 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM at German House Library (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), 172 College Ave, CAC.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones and all other technological devices (beepers, iPods, MP3players...) must be turned off during class out of respect for the instructor and fellow students. Please schedule all important phone communications outside of class time.

**Class Website:** All the readings required for this course will be available on the class website at Sakai ([www.sakai.edu](http://www.sakai.edu)) along with their corresponding worksheets. The reading links in the schedule below lead to complete articles (to give you an idea of the themes to be discussed), but you will only be expected to read the abridged and simplified versions of these articles for class. To log in, you will need your Rutgers NetID and password. If you cannot access the course website by the first week of classes, please contact course instructor via email.

### **Departmental policies:**

- Attendance

All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. Those who miss more than two class sessions without a compelling excuse should expect a one-step reduction in the course grade (i.e. an A becomes a B+, a B+ becomes a B). Every additional three absences may entail a further one-step grade-reduction. Three late arrivals count as one absence. Note: It is the responsibility of students who have been absent (for any reason) to find out what they have missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out.

- Photocopies

Department photocopying fees add up quickly and impressively; we will therefore need to collect from each student 5 cents per page toward the cost of handouts other than quizzes and tests.

- Disability Support Services

Students who may be requesting accommodations due to disabilities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with procedures and policies regarding disability support services at the following website: <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/>. It is recommended that students seeking accommodations begin filing paperwork as soon as possible as the documentation review process may take up to 30 business days. Students are encouraged to speak with teachers about these issues at the beginning of the term. All such conversations will be kept strictly confidential.

- Academic Integrity

Violations of academic integrity are an extremely serious matter, and can lead to a student's failing the course and being referred to the University's Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action. When referring to ideas other than your own, always acknowledge your sources clearly and completely, whether you are quoting or paraphrasing. Note also that use of online translation services is not permitted as a tool for generating work that you submit for course credit. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>, and discuss with your instructor any questions you may have about this and related issues.

## Important!

i) No textbook is required for this course (except for a German-English dictionary of your choice). Links to the relevant texts/videos have been given below. Please note, however, that these texts will be used in an abridged or simplified form (between 1-2 pages, accommodated to the language level of the class). Therefore, you should ensure that you prepare the correct (abridged) version for class: you will find this on the class website Sakai, under 'Resources'.

ii) Worksheets: A short worksheet for each corresponding text will be provided on Sakai. You are expected to respond to it after reading the text (or going through the assigned video, website etc) and bring it to class. The worksheets are designed to enable you to improve your language skills by actively using new vocabulary, phrases, etc from the assigned readings and videos. Each class will start with a quick overview of your responses, so please be sure to complete the worksheet.

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus.

	<b>Datum</b>	<b>Thema</b>	<b>Hausarbeit</b>
1	10. 09. 2012	Syllabus und Einführung	
2	17. 09. 2012	Hintergrund der Medienlandschaft in Deutschland	<a href="http://www.bpb.de/nachschlagen/lexika/handwoerterbuch-politisches-system/40327/massenmedien?p=all">http://www.bpb.de/nachschlagen/lexika/handwoerterbuch-politisches-system/40327/massenmedien?p=all</a>
3	24. 09. 2012	Fernsehen: Kartellgesetze und Senderfamilien	<a href="http://www.tagesspiegel.de/wirtschaft/neue-tv-landschaft-zwei-senderfamilien-gehoren-zwei-verlagskonzernen/630974.html">http://www.tagesspiegel.de/wirtschaft/neue-tv-landschaft-zwei-senderfamilien-gehoren-zwei-verlagskonzernen/630974.html</a>  "Kermit the Frog's German TV offense" <a href="http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/413585/may-02-2012/kermit-the-frog-s-german-tv-offense---hans-beinholtz">http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/413585/may-02-2012/kermit-the-frog-s-german-tv-offense---hans-beinholtz</a>
4	01.10.201	Schrumpfender Printmarkt?	<a href="http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/ein/de3917310.htm">http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/ein/de3917310.htm</a>

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5	08. 10. 2012	Rundfunksgebühren	<a href="http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/rtv/mpg/de8302379.htm">http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/rtv/mpg/de8302379.htm</a>
6	15. 10. 2012	Internet, Piraten Partei und digitale Gesellschaft	<a href="https://www.piratenpartei.de/politik/wissensgesellschaft/digitale-gesellschaft/">https://www.piratenpartei.de/politik/wissensgesellschaft/digitale-gesellschaft/</a>
7	22. 10. 2012	Medien und Selbstkritik	Film: Die verlorene Ehre der Katarina Blum (Schlöndorff und von Trotta, 1975)
8	29. 10. 2012	Medien und Selbstkritik	<a href="http://de.sevenload.com/videos/Wsj6BZw-BILDblog-Werbespot">http://de.sevenload.com/videos/Wsj6BZw-BILDblog-Werbespot</a> <a href="http://www.zeit.de/2011/16/Journalismus-ICH/komplettansicht">http://www.zeit.de/2011/16/Journalismus-ICH/komplettansicht</a>
9	05.11.2012	Blogs und alternative Nachrichten: Slow Media	<a href="http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/pan/de7049870.htm">http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/pan/de7049870.htm</a>
10	12.11.2012	<i>Midterm-Prüfung</i>	
11	19. 11. 2012	Medien und Nationalismus	<a href="http://www.youtube.com/dubistdeutschland2">http://www.youtube.com/dubistdeutschland2</a>
12	26. 11. 2012	Medien und Islamophobie	<a href="http://diepresse.com/home/kultur/medien/605288/Oesterreichs-Medien-tendieren-zur-Islamophobie?_vl_backlink=/home/kultur/medien/index.do">http://diepresse.com/home/kultur/medien/605288/Oesterreichs-Medien-tendieren-zur-Islamophobie?_vl_backlink=/home/kultur/medien/index.do</a>
		<i>22.– 25. Nov: Thanksgiving Break</i>	
13	03. 12. 2012	Medien und Finanzkrise	<a href="http://www.zeit.de/2011/16/Journalismus-Finanzkrise">http://www.zeit.de/2011/16/Journalismus-Finanzkrise</a>

	<b>Datum</b>	<b>Thema</b>	<b>Hausarbeit</b>
14	10.12.2012	Medien und Zensur: FSK	<a href="http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/rtv/mpg/de2636089.htm">http://www.goethe.de/wis/med/rtv/mpg/de2636089.htm</a> This Film is Not Yet Rated (Kirby Dick, 2006)
	17.12.2012	Endsemesterprüfung	8PM-11PM 172 College Ave (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor library)