

CONTEMPORARY GERMAN MEDIA AND SOCIETY 01:470:299:01
SPRING 2011

Instructor: Mareen Fuchs

172 College Ave., New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Main office telephone: 732-932-7201

E-Mail: mareen@rci.rutgers.edu

Thursday from 3-4 PM & by appointment (2nd floor German Department at 172 College Avenue)

Contemporary German Media and Society

01:470:299:01; index number: 40283

Monday 7:40-9:00PM (M7)

Scott Hall 221 (College Avenue Campus)

Course Description

This course seeks to build awareness of German society, culture, politics, media and economy through the use of various media (texts, articles, videos, audio, songs, film clips, internet, etc.). Emphasis will be on the differences and similarities between the United States and Germany. Students will have the opportunity to further develop and improve their spoken and written German language skills. Since students in this course are at various German language levels all materials chosen and evaluations of homework and presentations will be based on the student's individual language level.

Taught in German

Prerequisites: 01:470:102

Final Grade

Class Participation	20%
Homework & Quizzes	20%
Oral Presentation (2)	30%
Final Exam	30%

Grading scale

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

Required books

None. (All required readings will be posted on Sakai.)

Attendance

All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared. Those who miss more than two class sessions during the semester without a compelling excuse (e.g. a doctor's note, college dean's note, etc.) should expect a one-step reduction in the cumulative course grade (i.e. an A becomes a B+, a B+ becomes a B, and so on). Three late arrivals (arriving more than ten minutes after beginning of the class period) count as one absence.

Absences for reasons of religious obligation are excused. However, students are advised to provide timely notification to the instructor about necessary absences for religious observances and are responsible for making up the work or exams according to a previously agreed-upon schedule.

In any case of absence, it is the responsibility of the student to find out what he/she missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out.

Exams and quizzes cannot be made up (missed quiz or exam grade=0).

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is an extremely serious matter, and can lead to a student's failing the course and being referred to his or her dean for disciplinary action. When referring to ideas other than your own, whether quoting or paraphrasing, **always acknowledge your sources clearly and completely.** Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html> and discuss with the instructor any questions you may have about this issue.

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.

Photocopies

Department photocopying expenses add up quickly and impressively. **Therefore, the department charges five cents per page for any handouts given throughout the semester.** **Not** included in this fee are the syllabus, quizzes and tests.

Additional Information

Cell phones and all other technological devices (beepers, iPods, MP3Players, etc.) must be turned off during class out of respect to the instructor and fellow students. Please schedule all important communications outside of class time.

Requirements and assignments

Homework assignments: Any homework, reading, or other assignments are due on the day noted in the syllabus. Questions on the required readings/media will be posted on Sakai in a timely manner. These questions need to be answered on a separate piece of paper to be handed in to the instructor. Late homework will not be accepted and will not receive credit.

Additional homework not listed on the syllabus may be assigned in class by the instructor.

Oral presentations: To practice your oral language skills, you will prepare two oral presentations throughout the semester - one shorter and one longer one. Both presentations can be on a topic of your choice, but you must get prior approval from the instructor. The shorter presentation will be on a current topic discussed in the media in Germany for a specific week. Please feel free to discuss your topic choices with me at any time. More information will be provided in class.

Class Website

You can find a website for the course under the following link: <http://sakai.rutgers.edu>. You should be enrolled and have access automatically if you are a registered Rutgers student and have signed up for the class. Just use your NetID and password. If not, then please contact me and I will give you access. Please check the website frequently for the most recent announcements, worksheets and assignments.

Additional assistance

Students are encouraged to come to their instructor's office hours with any questions and problems pertaining to class. Any student who needs additional help should contact the LRC (Learning Resource Center) or the department's tutors as soon as possible. Additional practice is available at the conversation tables offered each semester at the Language Institute. Informal conversation sessions are also held weekly in the Rutgers student center. Check the German Department website (www.german.rutgers.edu) for further details.

Final Exam: Monday, May 9th from 8-11pm (Location TBA)

Class Schedule

- All required readings will be posted on Sakai.
- Additional texts/media may be added to Sakai depending on current developments in Germany. Please check Sakai frequently.
- The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus.

DATUM	THEMA	TEXTE/MEDIEN/HAUSAUFGABEN
24.01.	Einführung in den Kurs und Vorstellung der Themen	
31.01.	Deutschland und die Deutschen in den USA, in Europa und in Deutschland - Stereotypen, Klischees und die Wahrheit	Umfrage zu Deutschland und den Deutschen "Pünktlich und Gemütlich"; "Junge Amerikaner - Deutschland ist so unsittlich"
07.02.		"Sag' mir, woher du kommst ..." Audio zu dem Text: http://www.fluter.de/de/image/thema/5909/ "Kölner Dom, Schwarzbrot, Appelwoi"
14.02.	Ausländer in Deutschland - Migration und Integration	"Deutsche und Ausländer" Der deutsche Einbürgerungstest: http://www.deutsch-werden.de/einbuengerungstest "Jung und selbstbewusst"
21.02.		"Integration - Meine zwei Familien" "Integrationsbericht_ Eingebürgerte sind erfolgreicher als gebürtige Deutsche"
28.02.	Musik, Film und Fernsehen in Deutschland	Deutsches Fernsehen und Kino Video: "Türkisch für Anfänger"
07.03.		DSDS: Deutschland sucht den Superstar und aktuelle deutsche Musik
21.03.	Politik und Wirtschaft in Deutschland	Sozialstaat Deutschland: Arbeitslos in Deutschland - Hartz IV
28.03.		Die Lebensmittelindustrie in Deutschland
04.04.	Essen und Ernährung - Was isst Deutschland?	"Es geht um die Wurst!" "Du bist, was du isst"
11.04.		Typisch deutsches Essen (www.chefkoch.de)
18.04.	Deutschland in der Zukunft	"Immer der Sonne nach"
25.04.		"Stell dir vor, die Welt wird schöner" Video zum Text: http://www.fluter.de/de/87/thema/8326/
02.05.	Wiederholung und Zusammenfassung	

Class participation rubric

	Exceeds expectations (100-90 %)	Meets expectations (89-80 %)	Meets some expectations (79-70 %)	Below expectations (69-65 %)
Attentiveness	Student is always attentive and focused on work assigned. Student does not interrupt the class with anything that does not pertain to class work assigned, i.e. personal conversations, use of electronic devices, etc.	Student is attentive and focused most of the time and barely interrupts class work with personal conversation, use of electronic devices, etc.	Student is sometimes attentive and interrupts the class at times with personal conversation, use of electronic devices, etc.	Student is barely attentive, not focused and/or frequently interrupts the class with anything that does not pertain to class work assigned, i.e. personal conversations, use of electronic devices, etc.
Contribution/ Participation	Student is always eager to contribute to class, pair and group work and ask questions. Students always volunteers answers. Contributions are beneficial and relevant to class discussion/topic.	Student is eager to contribute to class, pair and group work and occasionally asks questions. Student volunteers answers most of the time. Contribution is mostly beneficial to class discussion/topic.	Student is occasionally eager to contribute to class, pair and group work and asks questions some of the time. Student volunteers answers some of the time. Contribution is somewhat beneficial to class discussion/topic.	Student almost never contributes to class, pair and group work, never asks questions and volunteers answers. Contribution is irrelevant to class discussion/topic.
Risk Taking	Student tries to only speak German during class.	Student tries to speak German most of the time during class, but still switches to English.	Student barely speaks German during class and prefers to speak English.	Student almost never speaks German during class and speaks mostly English.