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Contemporary German Media and Society: Germany's "Integration Course"

Course number:	01:470:299:01
Course index:	00226
Semester:	Spring 2016
Credits:	1.5
Meetings:	Mondays, 7:40-9:00 pm, Scott Hall 221 (Period M8)
Prerequisites:	01:470:102 or 01:470:121 or placement in 121 or higher, or special permission
Instructor:	Christina Mandt
Email address:	christina.mandt@rutgers.edu
Office Hours:	Mondays, 6:30–7:30 pm (before class) & by appointment Campus Bookstore Cafe, College Avenue Campus
Dept. Address:	Department of Germanic, Russian and East European Languages and Literatures 172 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8541
Dept. Phone:	732 932 7201

Course Description

The current refugee crisis and Germany's political response have raised new questions surrounding the topic of integration and multicultural life in Germany. In this course, we will take a look at Germany's integration course (Integrationskurs), a program introduced in 2005 meant to introduce immigrants to the German language and culture. We will focus on the orientation course (Orientierungskurs), which refers to those parts of the program that center on Germany's history, politics, culture, and legal system. For one semester, students will take on the role of immigrants preparing for the program's final examination, the "Life in Germany" test. However, in addition to introducing students to the topic areas covered by the

orientation course, class discussions will also interrogate the course materials regarding the cultural perspectives that these entail in order to foster cultural awareness. Furthermore, students will be encouraged to make use of course materials and discussions in order to draw comparisons between Germany and the United States. Communicative skills trained in this course include discussing and comparing information, as well as expressing opinions and arguments in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational (written and oral) settings.

Successful completion of at least German 102 or comparable linguistic ability is required (prerequisite: 470:102; further details listed above). This course may be repeated; 3 credits from 470:299 may be counted toward the major and minor. In cooperation with the Rutgers College Housing German Special Interest Section. Taught in German.

Assessment

Grade Composition

Aspect	Percentage
Class Participation (see rubrics below)	15%
Homework, Written Assignments	30%
Quizzes	30%
Final Examination	25%

Grade Distribution

Grade	Points (%)
A	90–100
B+	85–89
B	80–84
C+	75–79
C	70–74
D	65–69
F	64 and below

Class Participation Rubrics

	Attentiveness	Contribution	Use of German
Expectations are exceeded (90–100%)	The student always pays attention.	The student is always eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student often asks questions. The student always volunteers answers.	The student speaks only German during class.
Expectations are met (80–89%)	The student pays attention most of the time.	The student is usually eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student occasionally asks questions and volunteers answers most of the time.	The student speaks German almost always during class.
Expectations are barely met (70–79%)	The student sometimes pays attention.	The student is occasionally eager to contribute to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student occasionally asks questions and sometimes volunteers answers.	The student speaks German most of the time during class, but sometimes still switches to English.
Expectations are not met (65–69%)	The student rarely pays attention.	The student almost never contributes to class discussion, exercises, and group work. The student almost never asks questions or volunteers answers.	The student speaks German some of the time during class, and often switches to English.

Study Materials

- **Sakai** (<http://sakai.rutgers.edu>) is the general website for our course. All readings and homework assignments will be made available via Sakai in the form of worksheets, links to online resources, or discussion forums. All students officially enrolled in this course have access to the course website, which will be published a few days before the first class. Students who do not have access need to contact the instructor during the first class meeting. During the semester, students should check the website frequently for the most recent announcements, worksheets and other resources.
 Note: students are required to check Sakai weekly in order to print and bring the most recent worksheets to each class meeting.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Class Participation • 15%

- Students are expected to arrive prepared and participate actively in class discussions and group work. For details, please refer to the Class Participation Rubric (p. 2f.).

Homework Assignments • 30%

- Homework assignments will be announced and distributed via Sakai or email. Assignments must be submitted via online discussion forums or the Dropbox on Sakai and an additional copy must be brought to class (unless otherwise instructed). Please note that for each day that an assignment is overdue, 10% of its score will be deducted. Please note that the instructor might assign additional homework during class.

Quizzes • 30%

Two quizzes will test students' knowledge of the course topic, grammar, theme-related vocabulary, and expressions.

Final Examination • 25%

Date/Time:

TBA.

Communication with the Instructor

@ E-Mail

The best way to contact the instructor outside the classroom is to send an email to christina.mandt@rutgers.edu. Please include **G299 – [your first name]** in the subject line, e.g. **G299 – Samantha – Question re....**

Department and School Policies

Academic Integrity

Violation of academic integrity is an extremely serious matter; it 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 their own, students should always acknowledge their sources clearly and completely, whether they are quoting or paraphrasing. Note also that **use of online translation services is not permitted** as a tool for generating work submitted for course credit. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu> and discuss with the instructor any questions about this and related issues.

Attendance

All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared. If a student expects to miss a class, he/she should use the University Self-Reporting Absence website (<https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra>) to indicate the date and the reason for the absence. An e-mail notification is automatically sent to the instructor. 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 the student who has been absent (for any reason) to find out and make up for what she/he has missed as well as obtain materials that may have been handed out.

Cell Phones

Cell phones and all other technological devices (beepers, iPods, audio players, etc.) must be turned off during class out of respect for fellow students and the instructor.

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 the instructor about these issues at the beginning of the term. All such conversations will be kept strictly confidential.

Student Wellness Services

[Just In Case Web App](#)

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

The Office of Disability Services works with students with a documented disability to determine the eligibility of reasonable accommodations, facilitates and coordinates those accommodations when applicable, and lastly engages with the Rutgers community at large to provide and connect students to appropriate resources.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

Additional Assistance: German Language

- 1) Students are encouraged to come to their instructor's office hours with any questions and problems pertaining to class (christina.mandt@rutgers.edu).
- 2) Any student who needs additional help should contact the Learning Resource Center or the Department's tutors as soon as possible (<http://german.rutgers.edu/german-activities/language-practice-and-tutoring>).
- 3) Additional practice is available at the conversation tables offered each semester at the Department and the Language Institute. Informal conversation sessions are also held weekly in the Rutgers Student Center (<http://german.rutgers.edu/german-activities/language-practice-and-tutoring>).

Offers and Activities of the German Department

German Movie Nights

All Rutgers students of German are invited to German Movie Nights organized bi-weekly. The movies are shown in German with English subtitles. Admission is FREE. For further details, please follow <http://german.rutgers.edu/german-activities/german-movie-night> after classes have started.

German Coffee Hour & Conversation Cafe

All Rutgers students of German are invited to join informal gatherings meant to encourage students of all levels to use the German language outside the classroom. The department's German Coffee Hour is organized bi-weekly. In addition, the German Club hosts the Multilingual Conversation Cafe. For further details, please follow <http://german.rutgers.edu/german-activities/language-practice-and-tutoring> after classes have started.

Semesterplan

Sitzung	Modul	Datum	Thema	Hausaufgaben
1		25.1.	Einführung und Kennenlernen	—
2		1.2.	Überblick: Integrationskurs, Orientierungskurs und Einwanderung in Deutschland	—
3	Politik in der Demokratie	8.2.	Politische Strukturen	Fragen zum Integrationskurs (Sakai)
4		15.2.	Rechtliche Grundlagen	Fragen zu politischen Strukturen (Sakai)
5		22.2.	Sozialstaat und Soziale Marktwirtschaft Quiz 1	Fragen zu rechtlichen Grundlagen (Sakai)
6	Geschichte und Verantwortung	29.2.	Nationalsozialismus und Zweiter Weltkrieg	Fragen zu Sozialstaat und Sozialer Marktwirtschaft (Sakai)

Sitzung	Modul	Datum	Thema	Hausaufgaben
7		7.3.	Nachkriegszeit, Deutsche Teilung und Wiedervereinigung	Fragen zu NS-Zeit und 2. WK (Sakai)
			Frühlingsferien: 12.-20.03.	
8		21.3.	Deutschland und Europa seit 1989	Fragen zur Nachkriegszeit, Teilung und Wiedervereinigung (Sakai)
9	Mensch und Gesellschaft	28.3.	Familie, Gleichberechtigung, Generationenbeziehungen Quiz 2	Fragen zu Deutschland und Europa seit '89 (Sakai)
10		4.4.	Erziehung und Bildung	Fragen zu Familie, Gleichberechtigung und Generationen (Sakai)
11		11.4.	Interkulturelles Zusammenleben	Fragen zu Erziehung und Bildung (Sakai)
12		18.4.	Religiöse Vielfalt	Fragen zum interkulturellen Zusammenleben (Sakai)
13		25.4.	Alltagskultur	Fragen zur religiösen Vielfalt (Sakai)
14			2.5.	Abschlussdiskussion
		TBA	Final Exam (TBA)	

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the Syllabus.
 The latest version of this Syllabus is available on [Sakai](#) → Syllabus.

