

GERMAN STUDIES (GRMST)

GRMST-101 Elementary German

Fall. Credits: 4

This course introduces speaking, reading, and writing German. Cultural and literary readings together with frequent use of video and other online resources dealing with everyday situations and experiences in the German-speaking countries sensitize students to the cultural context in which the language is used. Weekly conversation sessions with a German language assistant supplement class work.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive

C. McNally

Coreq: GRMST-101L.

Notes: Requires conversation session (50 minutes). Labs will begin the week after classes start.

GRMST-102 Elementary German

Spring. Credits: 4

Continuation of the elementary German course; practice in speaking, reading, and writing German. Cultural and literary readings together with frequent use of online resources dealing with everyday situations and experiences in the German-speaking countries sensitize students to the cultural context in which the language is used. Weekly conversation sessions with a German language assistant supplement class work.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive

C. McNally

Prereq: GRMST-101, or see department for placement. Coreq: GRMST-102L.

Advisory: It is recommended that students have taken GRMST-101, or the equivalent. Incoming students who have not taken German at Mount Holyoke should take the placement exam to determine proper course level.

Notes: Requires conversation session (50 minutes). Labs will begin the week after classes start.

GRMST-201 Intermediate German

Fall. Credits: 4

This course emphasizes further development of contextual reading, writing, and speaking skills in German. Focus on strategies that help students learn vocabulary and use grammatical structures in appropriate ways. Discussion of a variety of texts and genres, as well as exploration of topics such as immigration and social justice. Frequent writing assignments and speaking opportunities.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

C. McNally

Coreq: GRMST-201L.

Advisory: It is recommended that students have taken GRMST-101 and GRMST-102, or GRMST-103, or the equivalent. Incoming students who have not taken German at Mount Holyoke should take the placement exam to determine proper course level.

GRMST-205 Decentering Europe: An Introduction to Critical European Studies

Spring. Credits: 4

Europe embodies crossroads of multiple cultures, memories, migrations, and political demarcations. What remains of the ancient and modern regimes? How have global movements, historical upheavals, and shifting boundaries within and adjacent to European borders, from early empires to contemporary global networks, affected the transformation of lives? How do ideological projects such as democracy, pluralism and fascism interact within Europe and the global scale? Taking a critical view of conventional paradigms of European nation states and "master" narratives, this course studies shifting European cultures and identities through multiple perspectives a cross time and space.

Crosslisted as: HIST-255DE

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive

C. McNally

Notes: Taught in English.

GRMST-213 The Gender of Yiddish

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

Yiddish and questions of gender have a long history. The language was called "mame-loshn" (mother tongue); it was associated with home and family. Jewish women were the primary intended readers of Yiddish, beginning with religious literature for those who could not read Hebrew and developing into a modern, secular, often moralizing literature. Despite the strong connections between Yiddish and women, women writers have been marginalized and underestimated. This course will explore the gendered history of Yiddish, including through the lens of queer theory. We will also read English translations of literature by modern Yiddish women writers who are being rediscovered today through new translations and scholarly attention.

Crosslisted as: JWST-213, GNDST-210YD

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities

M. Cohen

Notes: Taught in English.

GRMST-221 German Culture and Histories

Topics in German Culture and Histories examine historical, cultural, political and social developments that continue to frame debates surrounding German identity.

GRMST-221CW German Culture and Histories: 'Crafting Witches: Tracing the Historical Persecution of Racialized and Gendered Bodies Through Accusations of Witchcraft'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This course focuses on the persecution of people accused of witchcraft, beginning with European pagan religions and the spread of Christianity; the "Burning Times" in early modern Europe, and 17th-century New England. We examine the connections between the persecution of those accused of witchcraft and the oppression of colonized subjects through global perspectives, looking at aspects of persecution that illuminate broad ideas about race and gender that arose concurrently with colonization and capitalism. Course materials include readings and film examining witch persecutions from contemporary feminist and postcolonial perspectives.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

C. McNally

Prereq: GRMST-201.

Notes: Taught in German.

GRMST-221DE German Culture and Histories: 'Decolonial Approaches to German Culture'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This course revisits German cultural production (textual and visual representation) through the lens of decolonial practices. We explore how modes of power, transnational exchange, cultural upheaval, and constructions of identity from the mid-18th century to the present are represented in German-speaking realms, both real and imaginary. What role does colonialism play in shaping early and present-day German national identities? How do particular historical movements, events, and narratives create multifaceted constructions of race, gender, and ethnicities? We will address these questions and others through case studies of pivotal moments in German history.

*Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language; Multicultural Perspectives
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive*

K. Remmler

Advisory: Recommended GRMST-201 or higher. Students who have not taken a German language course at Mount Holyoke are required to take the German Language Placement Exam.

Notes: Taught in German. Can be taken for 300-level credit with permission of instructor.

GRMST-221FT German Culture and Histories: 'Into the Woods: Magic and Mischief in European Folkloric Traditions'

Spring. Credits: 4

This course introduces students to the tradition of the German fairy tale and the development of the short story from the 19th century to the present. We will read and discuss fairy tales written by E.T.A. Hoffmann, Wilhelm Hauff, Ludwig Tieck, Adelbert von Chamisso as well as by contemporary authors such as Elfriede Jelinek, Yoko Tawada, and Kim De L'Horizon who incorporate fairy tales into their writings. We will engage with scholarship on fairy tales' oral and written transmissions, structures, meanings, and functions and analyze cinematic adaptations within the German speaking realm and beyond. Various interpretations of fairy tales will be explored, including their potential for social subversion through reinterpretation and rewriting.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

C. McNally

Prereq: GRMST-201 or equivalent.

Advisory: Upper-level students may take course for 300-level credit with permission of instructor. 300-level credit will require additional weekly meeting with instructor.

Notes: Taught in German.

GRMST-221GN German Culture and Histories: 'The Graphic Novel in Germany: Histories and Identities in Words and Pictures'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

In this course we will read a selection of German-language graphic novels, including Nora Krug's 2018 *Heimat: Ein deutsches Familienalbum*, Birgit Weyhe's 2016 *Madgermanes* and Simon Schwartz's 1983 *Drüben!*. We focus on themes such as the representation of the Holocaust, reunification and migration and we examine the graphic novel as a unique literary genre that has garnered controversy in recent history. We will analyze the relationships between visual art and texts, as well as gain an understanding of how to read the graphic novel.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive

C. McNally

Coreq: GRMST-221L.

Advisory: GRMST-101, GRMST-102, and GRMST-201 or equivalent.

Notes: Taught in German.

GRMST-223 Topics in German Studies

Topics in German Studies provide students with an intensive study of major themes, issues, and paradigm shifts in German cultural studies.

GRMST-223AR Topics in German Studies: 'The Art and Science of Revolution in German Cultures from 1789 to the Present'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

Revolutions are deeply embedded in cultural, economic, political, and environmental structure. Some are violent, some are peaceful; some evolve out of historical processes over long periods of time; and others emerge spontaneously without warning. Still others are material in nature, such as the industrial revolution or the end of the Berlin wall. The seminar explores the causes, forms, and impact of major revolutions in German cultures from the invention of the printing press to the most recent "Wende" that led to unification. Other revolutions include the French Revolution, the German Revolution of 1848, the founding of the Weimar Republic, and the student movement in 1968.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

K. Remmler

Advisory: Previous study of German, normally equivalent to 3 semesters of college German, or 3 or more years of high school German recommended.

Notes: Taught in German. May be taken for 300-level credit with permission of instructor.

GRMST-223FR Topics in German Studies: 'Fascism, Gender and Sexuality: Gender and Far-Right Movements in 20th Century Europe'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This course explores the use of gender in historical and contemporary fascist movements, examining the ways in which fascist movements construct images of "masculine" and "feminine" to shape ideology. We will look at the rhetoric of gender equity to enforce regression and oppression systems, and how these rhetorics are used as tools to enforce xenophobic and racist narratives against immigrants to the United States and Europe. This course will incorporate theoretical readings from political and social histories of 20th century Europe, gender and sexuality, as well as media sources like film, journalism and social media.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

C. McNally

Prereq: GRMST-221.

Notes: Taught in German.

GRMST-223MG Topics in German Studies: 'Migration and Belonging in German Cultures'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

What does it mean to belong? Who gets to decide who belongs? This course will explore ideas on belonging in the German-speaking context from the perspectives of marginalized communities. Through close-readings and analyses of visual images, narratives, and films produced by or about the experiences of migrants, refugees and people of color in Germany from the 18th century to the present, this seminar re-imagines the German literary canon to include those voices that are typically marginalized in cultural discourse.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language; Multicultural Perspectives

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

C. McNally

Prereq: GRMST-201 or equivalent. Coreq: GRMST-223MGL.

Notes: Taught in German.

GRMST-231 Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context

An introduction to critical analysis of narrative and visual texts, cultural representation and production. Courses are taught in English.

GRMST-231HC Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context: 'Remembering the Holocaust in Global Perspectives'*Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

This seminar explores the impact of different cultural forms of remembering the Holocaust within a global perspective. At the same time that the European Holocaust continues to be remembered, subsequent genocides and related mass violence around the globe are being remembered through multiple forms of memorialization, such as art, film, memorials, and narratives that mirror particular material and virtual forms of remembering the Holocaust. We explore how the interrelationship between Holocaust remembrance and other atrocities drives discussions about subsequent genocides, current antisemitism and racism, and forms of remembering violence.

*Crosslisted as: JWST-225HC**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities**Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive**K. Remmler*

Notes: Taught in English. Students interested in developing their German language speaking skills in conjunction with this course are encouraged to enroll in the 2-credit discussion section GRMST-295-02.

GRMST-231HH Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context: 'The Habsburgs, Hitler, and the Law'*Fall. Credits: 4*

This course explores the complex, often comic, and ultimately tragic history of Bohemia, a territory located today in the Czech Republic, but previously a part of the Habsburg Monarchy, then of Czechoslovakia, and then of Hitler's Third Reich. Students will complement historical studies with autobiographical material and contemporary fiction, beginning with the Revolution of 1848, progressing through the achievements and worrisome trends of Emperor Francis Joseph's 68-year reign, and concluding with the world wars. Emphasis on the interplay among Czechs, Germans, Jews, and other pivotal players: the House of Habsburg and its supporters, and the political elites of neighboring countries.

*Crosslisted as: HIST-260HH, JWST-225HH**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities**J. King***GRMST-231PM Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context: 'In Conversation with the Past: The Politics and Problems of Memory'***Fall. Credits: 4*

How should the site of a former concentration camp be preserved? Who designs a memorial? How are atrocities remembered in daily life and culture as well as on the political stage? This course will approach the subject of memory as a meeting point between the personal and political, by considering diverse modes of commemoration in Germany and the United States. While exploring how literature, visual media and political policy engage and shape individual and collective memory, our approach will be comparative and interdisciplinary with an emphasis on relevant social and cultural events. While the focus of this course will be on German history of the 20th century, students are encouraged to think comparatively about memory culture and politics on a global scale.

*Applies to requirement(s): Humanities**Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive**C. McNally**Notes: Taught in English.***GRMST-231TR Topics in German and European Studies in A Global Context: 'Translation Theory and Practice in Jewish Literature'***Fall. Credits: 4*

This course examines translation as a mode of cultural transmission, creativity, and theoretical inquiry for Jewish literature and thought. Topics include: translation as a means of mediating access to the sacred; women's roles as readers and creators of translations; enduring debates about what may be "lost" in translation; and whether translation into "Global English" helps or hurts the survival of literatures in Yiddish, Ladino, and other minoritized languages. Students put theory into practice by reading translations of Jewish literature critically and comparatively and by producing their own translations.

*Crosslisted as: JWST-219, ENGL-217TJ**Applies to requirement(s): Humanities**M. Cohen***GRMST-231YN Topics in German and European Studies In a Global Context: 'Yiddish Nation: Language as Homeland'***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

For roughly 1000 years Ashkenazi Jewish culture has existed in exile. Since these stateless people were living in diaspora, without a sovereign territory, the Yiddish language itself became a symbolic homeland. This course will explore how some Yiddish-speaking Jews embraced their stateless existence not as a historic tragedy but as a revolutionary form of identity called diaspora nationalism. We will explore Yiddish cultural identity through literature, music, film, and politics. We will read works of history and cultural theory and seek points of intersection with other migrant, refugee, stateless, and diasporic cultures.

*Applies to requirement(s): Humanities**M. Cohen*

Notes: All readings will be in English, prior knowledge of Yiddish is not required.

GRMST-295 Independent Study*Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 4**The department**Instructor permission required.***GRMST-325 Advanced Seminar in Transnational and Transdisciplinary German Studies***Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4*

What constitutes contemporary German culture within global perspectives? How might we apply critical race theory, critical social theory, ethnic studies, and queer studies, in order to interpret trajectories of German cultures, histories, and memories? Building on interdisciplinary close-readings of German-speaking cultural production ranging from novels to documentary film, students develop a research topic that spans the humanities, sciences, and/or social sciences. Students may build on previous scholarly work in German studies and other disciplines, community-based learning, internships, and/or learning abroad to consider major concepts, issues, or problems in an original manner.

*Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language**Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive**K. Remmler*

Prereq: Open to all students who have completed the equivalent of GRMST-223, have been placed into a 300-level course based on the placement exam, or with permission of the instructor.

Notes: Taught in German. Required seminar for German majors and highly recommended for minors.

GRMST-395 Independent Study*Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 8**The department**Instructor permission required.*

Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context

GRMST-231 Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context

An introduction to critical analysis of narrative and visual texts, cultural representation and production. Courses are taught in English.

GRMST-231HC Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context: 'Remembering the Holocaust in Global Perspectives'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

This seminar explores the impact of different cultural forms of remembering the Holocaust within a global perspective. At the same time that the European Holocaust continues to be remembered, subsequent genocides and related mass violence around the globe are being remembered through multiple forms of memorialization, such as art, film, memorials, and narratives that mirror particular material and virtual forms of remembering the Holocaust. We explore how the interrelationship between Holocaust remembrance and other atrocities drives discussions about subsequent genocides, current antisemitism and racism, and forms of remembering violence.

Crosslisted as: JWST-225HC

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities

Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive

K. Remmler

Notes: Taught in English. Students interested in developing their German language speaking skills in conjunction with this course are encouraged to enroll in the 2-credit discussion section GRMST-295-02.

GRMST-231HH Topics in German and European Studies in a Global Context: 'The Habsburgs, Hitler, and the Law'

Fall. Credits: 4

This course explores the complex, often comic, and ultimately tragic history of Bohemia, a territory located today in the Czech Republic, but previously a part of the Habsburg Monarchy, then of Czechoslovakia, and then of Hitler's Third Reich. Students will complement historical studies with autobiographical material and contemporary fiction, beginning with the Revolution of 1848, progressing through the achievements and worrisome trends of Emperor Francis Joseph's 68-year reign, and concluding with the world wars. Emphasis on the interplay among Czechs, Germans, Jews, and other pivotal players: the House of Habsburg and its supporters, and the political elites of neighboring countries.

Crosslisted as: HIST-260HH, JWST-225HH

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities

J. King

GRMST-231TR Topics in German and European Studies in A Global Context: 'Translation Theory and Practice in Jewish Literature'

Fall. Credits: 4

This course examines translation as a mode of cultural transmission, creativity, and theoretical inquiry for Jewish literature and thought. Topics include: translation as a means of mediating access to the sacred; women's roles as readers and creators of translations; enduring debates about what may be "lost" in translation; and whether translation into "Global English" helps or hurts the survival of literatures in Yiddish, Ladino, and other minoritized languages. Students put theory into practice by reading translations of Jewish literature critically and comparatively and by producing their own translations.

Crosslisted as: JWST-219, ENGL-217TJ

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities

M. Cohen

GRMST-231YN Topics in German and European Studies In a Global Context: 'Yiddish Nation: Language as Homeland'

Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4

For roughly 1000 years Ashkenazi Jewish culture has existed in exile. Since these stateless people were living in diaspora, without a sovereign territory, the Yiddish language itself became a symbolic homeland. This course will explore how some Yiddish-speaking Jews embraced their stateless existence not as a historic tragedy but as a revolutionary form of identity called diaspora nationalism. We will explore Yiddish cultural identity through literature, music, film, and politics. We will read works of history and cultural theory and seek points of intersection with other migrant, refugee, stateless, and diasporic cultures.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities

M. Cohen

Notes: All readings will be in English, prior knowledge of Yiddish is not required.