

Spring 2-1-2018

GRMN 317L.01: Introduction to Multicultural Literature in Contemporary Germany

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Multicultural Literature in Contemporary Germany
GRMN 317 L MWF 10:00-10:50 am Spring 2018

Contact Professor:

- Dr. Hiltrud Arens
- Office: LA 441
- Office hours: Mon/Wed 1:00-2:00 pm; Fri: 9:00-10:00 pm; or/and by appointment
- [Email: hiltrud.arenso@mso.umt.edu](mailto:hiltrud.arenso@mso.umt.edu)
- Language of instruction is English

Goals:

- 1) To give an introduction and a survey of contemporary multicultural literature in Germany.
- 2) To learn about the historical, legal, social, and political context of postwar immigration (post 1945) to the Federal Republic and to understand the history of existing minorities (Roma & Sinti, Afro-Germans, Jews) in Germany.
- 3) To examine literature and films produced by multiethnic writers and artists to gain a nuanced insight into their literary production.
- 4) To obtain knowledge through the texts (primary and secondary texts) on issues of immigration, identity, nationality, multilingualism, gender, diversity, and transnational and crosscultural concerns regarding Germany, Europe, and the world in transnational terms.

Required Texts:

- * Antje Harnisch, ed.: *Fringe Voices. Texts by and about minorities in the Federal Republic of Germany*
- * Katharina Oguntoye, May Opitz, eds.: *Showing our colors: Afro-German Women speak out.* [Farbe bekennen]
- * May Ayim: *Blues in Black and White: A collection of Essays, Poetry, and Conversation.* [Grenzenlos und unverschämt/ nachtgesang/ blues in schwarz weiss]
- * Wladimir Kaminer: *Russian Disco* [Russendisko]
- * Yoko Tawada: *Where Europe begins* [Wo Europa beginnt]
- * Emine Sevgi Özdamar *The Bridge of the Golden Horn* [Die Brücke am Goldenen Horn]
- * Rafik Schami: *Damascus Nights.* [Erzähler der Nacht]
- * Abbas Khider *The Village Indian* [Der falsche Inder]

Formats:

The class consists of short introductions and lectures about materials and contexts, and whole class and/or smaller group discussions of primary and secondary sources. Students are also asked to present certain themes/writers and give an individual presentation towards the end of class. The language of this course will be primarily in English, but some knowledge of German might be helpful.

Expectations:

It is expected that all students will be in attendance daily. Regular class participation is the essence of this course. Therefore, in addition to any subsidiary detrimental effect of absences, absences in excess of 3 during the semester will lower your course grade half a level, unexcused absences in excess of 6 will lower your grade one full grade: A- to B-, B to C, etc. It is also expected that all students will complete assigned work (both oral and written) as requested and be prepared for each class session.

Grading:

Final Grade Breakdown	Points of Grade
Attendance and Oral class participation (42x5)	210 points
3 essays (2.5 -3 pages typed) (3 x 100)	300 points
Midterm (120)	120 points
Final essay presentation	70 points
Final Essay (10 pages/ English)	300 points
Total:	1000 points

Electronic Devices (Cell Phones, Laptops, Music Players, etc.)

If you bring a cell phone to class, please set it either on vibrate or mute. Unless specified for a class activity, personal computers, music players, and messaging devices are not to be used in class.

Students with Disabilities

This course offers equal opportunity in education for all participants, including those with documented physical and documented learning disabilities. For information regarding documentation of disabilities, approaching your instructor with pertinent information, and establishing guidelines for potential accommodation, you may consult the [Disability Services for Students \(DSS\) website](http://life.umt.edu/dss) at <http://life.umt.edu/dss>. The DSS Office is located in Lommasson 154; the phone number is 243-2243.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty

Please refer to the Student Conduct Code of the University as it pertains to your responsibility to hand in work and/or perform activities assigned to be your own as indeed representing your own efforts and research. The [Student Conduct Code](http://www.umt.edu/SA/vpsa/index.cfm/page/2585) is available for review online at: <http://www.umt.edu/SA/vpsa/index.cfm/page/2585>.

WGSS Studies Information

This course is one of the elective classes that count towards the Major and the Minor in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. If you enjoy this course and would like to know more about the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, please contact Beth Hubble or drop by the office, LA 138A-B, or visit the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies website <http://hs.umt.edu/wgss/>

Tentative Schedule during the semester:

1.WEEK

Monday, 1/22 Introduction and Context
Wednesday, 1/24 Introduction / *Fringe Voices* Introduction p.3-22
Friday, 1/26 Introduction / *Fringe Voices* / *Germany in Transit* Introduction (scanned article)

2. WEEK

Monday, 1/29 *Gender, Nation, Immigration to New Europe* (scanned article)
Wednesday, 1/31 *Gender, Nation, Immigration to New Europe*
German Jews / Fringe Voices p. 25-30, Part II

Friday, 2/2 German Jews / *Fringe Voices* p. 25-30, Part II;
Part II Hendrik Broder Essay
“*Heimat ? No, thanks!*” p. 57-74

3. WEEK

Monday, 2/5 Barbara Honigmann: *A Chapter from my Life; excerpt (scanned copy)*
Reclaiming Space (scanned article)

Wednesday, 2/7 Barbara Honigmann: *A Chapter from my Life; excerpt*
Friday, 2/9 Introduction: Wladimir Kaminer: *Russian Disco*

4. WEEK

Monday, 2/12 Wladimir Kaminer: *Russian Disco*

Wednesday, 2/14 Wladimir Kaminer: *Russian Disco /*
Friday, 2/16 *Fringe Voices* p. 75-79, Part III, Afro Germans: Black and German – a Paradox?

1. Essay due

Film: *Audre Lorde the Berlin Years*

5. WEEK

Monday, 2/19 **Presidents’ Day/ UM Holiday**
Wednesday, 2/21 *Audre Lorde the Berlin Years* (Film)

Showing Our Color: Afro-German Women speak out
(2-3 presentations by students on the historical/sociological chapters of *Showing Our Color*)

Friday, 2/23 *Showing Our Color* (presentations and discussion continued)

UMCUR submission deadline

6. WEEK

Monday, 2/26 May Ayim: *Blues in Black and White Blues* (Essay p. 141-157; selected poems)

Wednesday, 2/28 May Ayim: *Blues in Black and White* (selected poems)

Friday, 3/2 *Ein Wort, ein Ort or How Words create Places*: Interview with Yoko Tawada
(scanned copy)

Yoko Tawada: “Canned Foreign”, p. 85; “The Talisman” p. 91; short prose pieces in
Where Europe begins

7. WEEK

Monday, 3/5 *Where Europe begins*, p.121-146

Wednesday, 3/7 *Where Europe begins*

Friday, 3/9 Film: Dorris Dörrie: *Enlightenment Guaranteed* [*Erleuchtung garantiert*]

8. WEEK

Monday, 3/12 *Enlightenment Guaranteed*

Wednesday, 3/14 *Enlightenment Guaranteed*

Friday, 3/16 *Fringe Voices*, Part V p. 171-174 and Part VI p. 219-223;

Essay: “Germany – A *Heimat* for Turks?” Zafer Senocak and Bülent Tulay;
Fringe Voices, p. 256-263

2. Essay due

9. WEEK

Monday, 3/19

Wednesday, 3/21

Friday, 3/23

Film: *Almanya: Welcome to Germany*

Almanya: Welcome to Germany

Almanya: Welcome to Germany;

Introduction to Emine Sevgi Özdamar: *Mothertongue/Mutterzunge, Fringe Voices*
p. 252-255; *My Berlin* (scanned copy)

10. WEEK

3/26 – 3/30

Spring break

11. WEEK

Monday, 4/2

Wednesday, 4/4

Friday, 4/6

Midterm (Take home test)

Emine Sevgi Özdamar: *The Bridge of the Golden Horn*

Emine Sevgi Özdamar: *The Bridge of the Golden Horn*

12. WEEK

Monday, 4/9

Wednesday, 4/11

Friday, 4/13

Emine Sevgi Özdamar: *The Bridge of the Golden Horn*

Emine Sevgi Özdamar: *The Bridge of the Golden Horn*

Arab-Germans / Intro Essay by Khalil “ From the Margins to the Center” in Dagmar Lorenz, ed. *Transforming the Center* (scanned copy);
Introduction: Rafik Schami: *Damascus Nights*

13. WEEK

Monday, 4/16

Wednesday, 4/18

Friday, 4/20

Rafik Schami: *Damascus Nights*

Rafik Schami: *Damascus Nights*

Rafik Schami: *Damascus Nights*

14. WEEK

Monday, 4/23

Wednesday, 4/25

Friday, 4/27

Edward Said “Reflections on Exile” (scanned copy);

Introduction: Abbas Khider *The Village Indian*

Abbas Khider *The Village Indian*

Abbas Khider *The Village Indian*

3. Essay due

UMCUR

15. WEEK

Monday, 4/30

Wednesday, 5/2

Friday, 5/4

Abbas Khider *The Village Indian*

Discussion on Themes of Migration, Exile, Displacement

Presentation of Final essay

Presentation of Final essay // Discussion and Conclusion

Final Exam:

Wednesday, May 9: 10:10 am – 12:10 pm LA 342

