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.aren@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]*  
* 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:

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<tr>
<th>Final Grade Breakdown</th>
<th>Points of Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance and Oral class participation</td>
<td>210 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 essays (2.5 -3 pages typed) (3 x 100)</td>
<td>300 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm (120)</td>
<td>120 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final essay presentation Final Essay (10 pages/English)</td>
<td>70 points 300 points</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000 points</strong></td>
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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 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 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
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 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) |
|            | Wednesday, 2/7                                                         | *Reclaiming Space* (scanned article)                                |
|            | 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*                                          |
|            |                                                                      | 2. **Essay due**                                                      |
9. WEEK
Monday, 3/19
Film: Almanyas: Welcome to Germany

Wednesday, 3/21
Almanyas: Welcome to Germany;

Friday, 3/23
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
Midterm (Take home test)

Wednesday, 4/4
Emine Sevgi Özdamar: The Bridge of the Golden Horn

Friday, 4/6
Emine Sevgi Özdamar: The Bridge of the Golden Horn

12. WEEK
Monday, 4/9
Emine Sevgi Özdamar: The Bridge of the Golden Horn

Wednesday, 4/11
Emine Sevgi Özdamar: The Bridge of the Golden Horn

Friday, 4/13
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
Rafik Schami: Damascus Nights

Wednesday, 4/18
Rafik Schami: Damascus Nights

Friday, 4/20
Rafik Schami: Damascus Nights

14. WEEK
Monday, 4/23
Edward Said “Reflections on Exile” (scanned copy);
Introduction: Abbas Khider The Village Indian

Wednesday, 4/25
Abbas Khider The Village Indian

Friday, 4/27
Abbas Khider The Village Indian

3. Essay due
UMCUR

15. WEEK
Monday, 4/30
Abbas Khider The Village Indian
Discussion on Themes of Migration, Exile, Displacement

Wednesday, 5/2
Presentation of Final essay

Friday, 5/4
Presentation of Final essay // Discussion and Conclusion

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