

Mount Holyoke College

German Studies

Spring 2015 Course Offerings

GRMST-102s (01) Elementary German

Continuation of the elementary German course; practice in speaking, reading, and writing German. Cultural and literary readings together with frequent use of Internet resources dealing with everyday situations and experiences in the German-speaking countries sensitize students to the cultural context in which the language is used. Online grammar and listening comprehension exercises, as well as weekly conversation sessions with a peer assistant from Germany supplement class work.

Does not meet a distribution requirement

A. Holden (01) MWF 8:35 – 9:50 a.m. 4 credits

 (02) MWF 11:00 – 12:15 p.m. 4 credits

Prereq. See department for placement if you have not taken German 101 at Mount Holyoke College

GRMST-103s (01) Intensive Elementary German

Two semesters in one. Practice in speaking, reading, and writing German. Cultural and literary readings together with frequent use of Internet resources dealing with everyday situations and experiences in the German-speaking countries sensitize students to the cultural context in which the language is used. Online grammar and listening comprehension exercises, as well as weekly conversation sessions with peer assistant from Germany supplement class work.

Meets Language requirement; does not meet a distribution requirement

D. Van Handle MTWF 8:35 – 9:50 a.m. 8 credits

GRMST-221s (01) The Diversity of German Culture: 1800 to the Present

Once Upon a Time: Past and Present Fairy Tales and Stories

(Speaking- and writing-intensive course) 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 discuss texts, picture stories, visual texts (cartoons), and watch short films and examine the historical, cultural, and socio-political context in which these works were produced. Authors include: the Grimm Brothers, Ludwig Tieck, Theodor Storm, Wilhelm Busch, E.O. Plauen, Barbara Honigmann, Janosch, Christa Wolf, Heinrich Böll, Anna Seghers. Students will practice and improve their reading, speaking, and writing skills through class discussions, essays with multiple drafts, grammar review, one oral presentation, one exam.

Meets Language requirement or Humanities I-A requirement

A. Holden **MW 1:15 – 2:30 p.m.**

GRMST-315s (01) Topics in German Culture in a European and Global Context

On Being Human: Medical Technology, Literary Imagination and the Suffering Body

This interdisciplinary seminar takes a close look at the connection between German literature and medicine. We will first explore what it is to be an embodied being: a body that ails, a body that heals, a body confronted with finitude. We will then examine ways in which technological advances have forced us to rethink our definition of embodiment, mental health, disability, and even death itself. In our age of organ transplantation, genetic research and dreams of immortality, what are the benefits and ethical pitfalls of medical technology addressed by German literature and film? Students will delve into a wide selection of literary genres, media and theoretical articles concerning these issues. The course will require active class participation, weekly posts in an online forum, an oral presentation and a final project. Authors include Goethe, Schiller, E. T. A. Hoffmann, Lou Andreas-Salome, Thomas Bernhard, Franz Kafka, Elfriede Jelinek (Nobel Prize 2004), Yoko Tawada, Anna Seghers, Rainer Maria Rilke, and Georg Büchner. Filmmakers include Margarethe von Trotta, Peter Scharf, and Caroline Link.

Meets Language requirement or Humanities I-A requirement

M. Meirosu **TTH** **2:40 – 3:55 p.m.**