**German Culture and Civilization- GERM 3314**

Fall 2013

**Instructor of Record**: Amy Titus

\* Office Hours: M10:00 am -10:50 am, W10:00 am -10:50 am

\* Office: 210 Trimble Hall

\* E-mail: atitus@uta.edu

**Course Information**

\* Class meeting place: Science Hall 129

\* Class meeting times: MWF 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

\* Credit Hours: 3

\* Prerequisite(s): GERM 2314 with a grade of C or better, or equivalent

\* Additional Information on the Web at: <http://german.uta.edu>

**Description of Course Content:**

German 3314 is a 3-hour course in composition and the history and culture of the German-speaking cultures, consisting of three fifty-minutes per week. Specifically, the course will explore aspects of the 18th, 19th, and 20th century German-speaking world in Europe through reading, writing, listening to songs, and viewing a film. The German love of travel and yearning for far-away places in the past and now, current political trends and forward-thinking technologies, and pre-war Germany will be the topics of focus for the course. Students will write regularly about the texts they read, see, or hear, and engage in class discussions about them, as well as work on grammar and vocabulary gleaned from them. Course may be repeated as topics change.

**Course Objectives:**

Students will understand topics related to German culture during the last three centuries. While focusing on writing, and the grammar and vocabulary that are needed for the specific assignments, the course will also provide opportunities for practice in the other skills of listening, reading, and speaking. This course will strive to engage students in the appreciation and acceptance of language, diversity, and change in an increasingly global society.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Content: Students will demonstrate knowledge of German history, painting, music, and film, as well as knowledge of contemporary attitudes.

Skills: Students will demonstrate the skills of composition writing (description, narration, and analysis).

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials**

* Motyl-Mudretzkyj and Späinghaus. *Anders gedacht: Text and Context in the German-speaking World.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2005 (textbook, workbook, CD). Available at the UTA Bookstore.
* English-German and German-English dictionary at: <http://dict.leo.org>.
* Access to internet, access to printer and paper for printing as needed
* Recommended: Hammer’s ***German Grammar;*** a German or German-English dictionary

**Major assignments:** Three exams, Essays, and One presentation

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is mandatory. The class sessions consist of materials, readings, videos, interactions, activities, and discussions that will not be available outside of class. Homework will be addressed only in conjunction with the above. Students are allowed three absences for illness or other unavoidable absences.

**Grading Policy:**

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

The final grade will be based on the following:

Exams: 20%

Essays: 25%

Presentation: 25%

Homework, quizzes, in-class activities, attendance, and class participation: 30%

**Grade Scale**

A = 100-90

B = 89-90

C = 79-70

D = 69-60

F = 59-0

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:** Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an addition 6 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

**Make-up Work:** Make-up work is allowed with justifiable cause (documented university-approved out-of-town events for athletes, documented hospitalization lasting more than one week).

**Grade Grievances:**

Undergraduates: <http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#18> Graduate students: <http://grad.pci.uta.edu/about/catalog/current/general/regulations/#gradegrievances>

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class

concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center.

Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Please note that the last day to withdraw from class with a "W" is October 30, 2013.

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the

Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected

to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence. I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and

uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Per UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

More specifically for this class, remember that translating someone else's work into another language without attribution falls under the rubric of plagiarism. Also, please keep in mind that information freely available or otherwise on the Internet is to be treated like all other source material and must be fully documented. Please cite, attribute, and document carefully. If in doubt, check with your instructor. A style manual such as the one issued by the Modern Language Association is an invaluable resource for citation guidelines. Finally, bear in mind that translation programs normally do a poor job of translating. They are not to be used as a substitute for your own work.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message

to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in

the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabus. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review

Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Language Lab:** The Language Acquisition Center (LAC), located on the third floor of Trimble Hall, offers audio, video, and computer services. Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Librarian to Contact:** Jody Bailey is the Modern Languages Librarian. She can be reached at 817.272.7516, and by e-mail at [jbailey@uta.edu](mailto:jbailey@uta.edu). Furthermore, you will find some useful research information at <http://www.uta.edu/library/research/rt-foreign.html>.