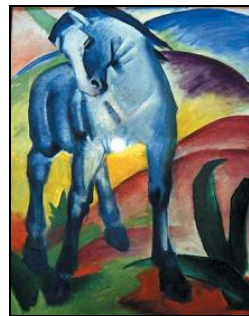


Consultation hours: Montag 10 am – 2 pm/ Mittwoch 1 – 4 pm/ Donnerstag 10-12 am; FL 512



This course is a comprehensive survey of German cultural history, including such periods as Germanic, Medieval, Religious Revolution, Baroque, Enlightenment, Classicism, Romanticism, Realism and Twentieth Century. It offers the opportunity to explore the cultural, intellectual and artistic traditions of German-speaking countries over the centuries in their relation to European history.

9/20	Introduction: What is Cultural History and why to study it?
9/27	The Germans and Germany to 800. Topics: German Tribes and Landscapes – Tacitus – Settlement of Tribes and the Decline of the Roman Empire – Christianity – Carolingian Renaissance
10/4	Holy Roman Empire and medieval Germany, 800-1300 Topics: Chivalry and the culture of knights – Minnesang (love song) Poetry – Epic – Romanesque in Art and Architecture – Roots of Particularism
10/11	Cities and Cathedrals: Gothic, 1200-1300. Topics: Religious Thought and urban developments – Cologne cathedral – Book Illumination
10/18	Renaissance, 1300-1500. Topics: Urban Culture and Folk Traditions – Fashion – Dining and Drinking – Black Death – Chanson style and organ – Craftsmen and Artists – Science and Education – Spreading of the university concept
10/25	Reformation and Counter-Reformation, 1519-1648. Topics: Printing Press (based upon Johannes Gutenberg's invention of moveable metal type)– Protestantism and modern german language – Humanism – Desolation in 30-Years-War – Literature and Music
11/1	From Desolation to Enlightenment, 1648-1770. Topics: Absolutist Society and modern economy – News weeklies and coffee houses; Public sphere and Secret Societies – Rationalism and Enlightenment – Music (Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Friedrich Händel, Joseph Haydn)
11/8	New Generations, renovating Culture, 1770-1800. Topics: Academic Youth in the 18th century – “Storm and Stress” in Literature – Innovations in Music
11/15	Mid-term Examination
11/22	End of the Holy Roman Empire and cultural reactions: Classicism, 1800. Topics: French Revolution and European responses – War, Prussian Reforms, Congress of Vienna – Cities Weimar and Jena as centres of German cultural life
11/29	Romanticism, 1800-1840. Topics: Romantic Movement in Literature, Art, Philosophy and Science – Salons and intellectual Women – Collection of german folk tales by the Brothers Grimm – Rise of Nationalism
12/6	Industrialization and its cultural responses, 19th century. Topics: Industrial Revolution and dramatic social change – Emerging of new classes cultural and new forms in daily life and customs – New Ideas – Revolution 1848 –Realism in Literature and Art
12/13	German Unification and the economic ‘Take off’; 1871-1890. Topics: The Life of the Mind in Imperial Germany –Changes in Philosophy and Sciences, Arts and Music; Literature (Realism and Naturalism)
12/20	Fin de Siècle, 1890-1900. Topics: Mass culture and private circles – Scientific discoveries; technical innovations – Decadence – Psychoanalysis and response in literature and art
12/ 27	Modern Times, 1900-1914. Topics: Economic modernization, mental regressions – New mass media (film) and reactions in culture
1/3, 2008	Conclusion: German cultural history in European context and different ways to modernity
1/10	Conclusion II – Preparation for Final Exam – Looking forward to Themes in Summer 2008
1/14	Final Exam