Syllabus for HU3263
Topics in German-Speaking Cultures:
*German Film and Media*
Summer 2010, Track A (CRN # 52001)

Mo., Tu., We., Th., 12:35 to 1:50 p.m., Walker A&HC, Room 109

**Instructor**
Prof. Dr. Dieter Wolfgang Adolphs

**Telephone**
487-3231 (work); 482-3182 (home)

**E-Mail**
dadolph@mtu.edu; germanfilm-I@mtu.edu

**Office**
Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Room 308

**Office Hours**
Tuesday, 2:00 to 2:30 p.m., and Thursday, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m. (other times by appointment)

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**Course Content and Structure**

HU3263 is an introduction to German-speaking cultures (in English) in a comparative perspective. It includes a survey of German history and an introduction to modern-day German-speaking societies through movies, media, and recent technologies, as well as a critical examination of cross-cultural differences between German and North-American cultures.

We will base our discussions on the viewing of German films (from the early days to contemporary film-making and close reading of the assigned texts as well as oral reports on cultural, artistic, and critical information. We also will aim to investigate the interaction between film adaptations and the depiction of the German culture in literature. One topic we will focus on it the depiction of terrorist movements in the German media, film, and literature.

Every class member is strongly encouraged to voice his or her personal opinion and to actively participate in class discussions.

**Required Books**
*German Culture Through Film*, ed. Reimer; ISBN 1-58510-102-8
*Germany: Unreveling an Enigma*, Nees; ISBN 1-877864-75-7
*The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum*, Böll; ISBN 0-14-018728-6

**Optional Reading for Students of German who are earning a Minor:**
*Arbeitsbuch zu German Culture Through Film*, Reimer

**Course Objectives**
The course will address cultural issues of particular importance today, including national identity, language, immigration, post-colonialism and globalization. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the geography and history of Central Europe, and relate historical events to attitudes and conditions today.
• Describe a variety of literary, cinematic, and artistic achievements in the German-speaking cultures, and place them within a larger cultural context
• Identify and discuss a number of important contemporary issues in Central and Northern Europe societies, such as globalization, immigration, social inequalities, and terrorism
• Discuss the basic components of the following cultural aspects of German and certain German-speaking societies: education, family, food, health care, holidays, political parties, public spaces, urban organization

Course Requirements
a) regular attendance and active participation (25 points)
b) assigned readings; five viewing responses ("log sheets," 20 points)
c) two oral reports (5 points each)
d) participation in two debates (10 points)
e) mid term exam (15 points)
f) final exam (20 points)

Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A/B</td>
<td>87-91.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82-86.9%</td>
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<td>B/C</td>
<td>77-81.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>72-76.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C/D</td>
<td>67-71.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>62-66.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-61.9</td>
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This course can be taken for partial fulfillment of the general education distribution requirements.

Attendance
Attendance is required. Students who miss more than two classes without university-approved excuses will lower their final grade by half a grade; those who miss more than three will lower their grade by a full grade. There will be no passing grade for students who miss more than 30% of classes without university-approved excuses. Excessive tardiness will also result in a grade reduction.

Cell Phone Free Environment
This class room is a "cell phone free environment" from 12:35 to 1:50 p.m. Students who use their cell phones during class will lower their final grade by half a grade.

Laptops
You can bring your laptop to class. I may hold a few longer lectures, and during these times you may type notes. However, you may not type during class discussions. Before you use the internet, possibly to support your own or your discussion group's point of view, you must ask me for permission. At any other time, the use of programs and files that are not related to our class is prohibited. Should you open such files or visit sites that are clearly not related to our class (such as looking up NHL scores or using programs such as My Space), you will lower your grade by half a great (for each incident).
Academic Integrity
MTU's Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as "knowingly copying another's work and calling it one's own or not giving proper credit or citation." The penalties for plagiarism or other forms of cheating range from receiving a failure grade on work in question to expulsion from the university. Students who have any questions about the issue, or who have questions about whether they have cited their sources properly, should consult the instructor or a coach in the Writing Center.

MTU's Policy on Discrimination and Harassment
MTU complies with all federal and state laws regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students (487-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).

This course description and all schedules are tentative and may be changed. If any such changes are made, you will receive a printed update during our regular class meetings.
Tentative HU3263 Schedule for Weeks 3-7

Week 3

Monday, 24 May  
Reading/viewing response 1 due
Further discussion
Background information about Die Blechtrommel
Film (Beginning): Die Blechtrommel

Tuesday, 25 May  
Film (further): Die Blechtrommel

Wednesday, 26 May  
Report schedule and sign-up
Film (further): Die Blechtrommel

Thursday, 27 May  
Discussion of Die Blechtrommel
Discussion of Germany, Chapter 3
Reading/viewing response 2 due on Tuesday (1 June):

Week 4

Tuesday, 1 June  
Reading/viewing response 2 due
Reports A1 and A2: Nosferatu and Der blaue Engel
Discussion of Germany, Chapters 4 and 5
Historical background of Aguirre, Der Zorn Gottes
Film (beginning) Aguirre, Der Zorn Gottes

Wednesday, 2 June  
Reports A3: The Tin Drum
Discussion of Germany, Chapter 6 and 7
Film (further) Aguirre, Der Zorn Gottes

Thursday, 3 June  
Report A4: Aguirre, Der Zorn Gottes
Discussion of Germany, Appendix and Glossary, pp. 171-179
Film (conclusion): Aguirre, Der Zorn Gottes
Discussion of Aguirre, Der Zorn Gottes
Mid-Term (take home, due on Tuesday (8 June)
Reading/viewing response 3 due on Monday (7 June)

Week 5

Monday, 7 June  
Reading/viewing response 3 due
Discussion of Boll, Katharina Blum, pp. vii-xix
Discussion of Aust, Baader-Meinhof, pp. xi-xxi, 1-9
Historical background of Boll/Schoendorff's Katharina Blum
Film (beginning): The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum
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| Tuesday, 8 June | Mid-Term due  
Report A5: Heinrich Böll's life and works  
Discussion of Böll, *Katharina Blum*, pp. 1-39  
Film (further): *The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum* |
| Wednesday, 9 June | Discussion of Böll, *Katharina Blum*, pp. 39-81  
Film (further): *The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum*  
Discussion of *The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum* |
| Thursday, 10 June | Report A6, *Katharina Blum* (the film)  
Discussion of Böll, *Katharina Blum*, pp. 81-103  
Film (conclusion): *The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum*  
Final discussion of *The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum*  
Reading/viewing response 4 due on Monday, 14 June |

**Week 6**

| Monday, 14 June | Reading/viewing response 4 due  
Film (beginning): *Der Baader-Meinhof Komplex* |
Film (continuing): *Der Baader-Meinhof Komplex*  
(at my house, 304 Harris Ave., Hancock) |
| Wednesday, 16 June | Report B5 on Aust, *Baader-Meinhof*, pp. 231-302  
Film (conclusion): *Der Baader-Meinhof Komplex* |
| Thursday, 17 June | Report B7 on Aust, pp. 370-432  
Report B8 (open topic, or Volker Schlöndorff, life and works)  
Report A7, *Der Baader-Meinhof Komplex* (film)  
Final discussion of *Der Baader-Meinhof Komplex*  
Reading/viewing report 5 due Monday, 21 June  
*Sample Exam* (exam due on Tuesday, 22 June) |

**Week 7**

| Monday, 21 June | Reading/viewing report 5 due Monday, 21 June  
Film (beginning): *The Edukators* |
| Tuesday, 22 June | Final Exam due  
Film (continuing): *The Edukators* |
| Wednesday, 23 June | Film (continuing and discussion): *The Edukators*  
Report A8, *The Edukators* |