Syllabus for HU3263
Topics in German-Speaking Cultures:

German Film and Media
Summer 2011, Track A (CRN # 51941)

Mo., Tu., We., Th., 12:35 to 1:50 p.m., Walker A&HC, Room 139

Instructor
Prof. Dr. Dieter Wolfgang Adolphs
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Office Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Room 308
Office Hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 2:00 to 2:30 p.m. (other times by appointment)

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

Required Book
German Culture Through Film, ed. Reimer; ISBN 1-58510-102-8

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)
e) mid term paper (15 points)
f) term paper (20 points)

Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</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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<td>C</td>
<td>72-76.9%</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>62-66.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D/F</td>
<td>67-71.9%</td>
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<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 Schedule

**Week 1**

**Tuesday, 10 May**  Introduction to HU3263

**Wednesday, 11 May**  Overview: Themes and issues of the book, *German Through Film*
Beginning of film, *Nosferatu*

**Thursday, 12 May**  Conclusion of film, *Nosferatu*

**Week 2**

**Monday, 16 May**  Discussion: *Nosferatu*

Short view at *Berlin: die Symphonie der Großstadt*

**Homework for Tuesday:**

a) Read *Germany Through Film* (GTF), pp. 25-35
b) View online: *Berlin: die Sinfonie der Großstadt*
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ejB4nN1WcE

C) Think of Answers to questions 1-3, GTF, page 31

**Tuesday, 17 May**  Introduction: *The Blue Angel*

Beginning of film, *Der blaue Engel*

**Homework for Wednesday:**

Read *Germany Through Film* (GTF), pp. 36-39

**Wednesday, 18 May**  Further: *Der blaue Engel*

**Homework for Thursday:**

a) Read again: *Germany Through Film* (GTF), pp. 36-40

b) Think of Answers to questions 1-5, GTF, page 40

**Thursday, 19 May**  Report: Reviews of *Nosferatu* and *Berlin: die Sinfonie der Großstadt*

Report: Reviews of *Der blaue Engel*

**Written response 1 due on Monday (23 May)**