

## **GERMANY AT A GLANCE: HISTORY, POLITICS AND CULTURE (SSCI-398 SOCIAL SCIENCE STUDY ABROAD ADVANCED TOPICS)**

### **INSTRUCTOR**

M.A. Mr. Holger Starzmann

### **PREREQUISITES**

Only for Kettering University: HUMN 201, SSCI 201, COMM 101

### **TOPICS (1h=45 min)**

- Introduction: general aspects of German history
- The first Germans and the Romans
- The Medieval period - Encounter between Orient and Occident
- The Reformation and Restoration
- Formation of the Prusso-German nation-state and World War I
- The Weimar Republic
- The Third Reich and World War II
- Germany in a bipolar world
- The rush to German unity
- The German political system
- People and Culture: Language, Religions, Holidays and Traditions
- Today's Germany in Europe and in the European Union

### **TEXTBOOK/REFERENCE MATERIALS**

- Detwiler, D.S. A Short History of Germany. Southern Illinois University Press, 1989
- Fulbrook, Mary: German History Since 1800. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2010.
- Fulbrook, Mary: The People's State: East German Society from Hitler to Honecker. New Haven, Conn. London: Yale University Press, 2008.
- Jarner, Peter, ed. Modern Germany: Politics, Society and Culture. London: Routledge, 1998
- Jones, Alun. The New Germany: A Human Geography. New York: Wiley/Longman, 1994
- Jarausch, Konrad H. The Rush to German Unity Oxford University Press, 1994
- Wehling, Hans-Georg. The German Southwest.
- Baden-Wuerttemberg: History, Politics, Economy and Culture. Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 1991
- Additional materials, maps, newspaper and online articles and handouts
- Online-Sources:
  - <http://www.spiegel.de/international/>
  - <http://edition.cnn.com/>
  - <http://www.ft.com/home/europe>

### **ASSESSMENT AND COURSEWORK**

- Oral presentation and final written exam
- Participation in class

### **GRADING**

The final grade consists of three components:

- Participation during classes - 10%
- Oral presentation - 30%
- Final written exam - 60%

#### ESTIMATED ABET CATEGORY CONTENT

4 credits

#### ECTS CREDITS

4 credits

#### GOALS

This course introduces students to German history from the Middle Ages to the Berlin Republic. It covers major events in medieval and early modern times, such as the German Reformation and the Thirty Years War, but the main focus is on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In particular, the course will involve the study of the German Confederation, the formation of the Prusso-German nationstate and the imperial era, the period of the World Wars, and the history of the two Germanys after the end of the Third Reich and their path to the reunification. On completion of the focus on his-tory, students will be familiar with basic knowledge in German geography, the political system and the cultural legacy of Germany.