

German Newsletter



STETSON UNIVERSITY

Volume 5 No 1

October 2013

Käthe Kollwitz, Mutter mit Zwillingen, 1937

Liebe Deutschstudierende,

It's time again for academic advising and choosing your courses for the Spring semester. Now is a good time to think about your goals in the German Program. Remember, learning a language is like learning an instrument, it needs "üben, üben, und noch mehr üben ... But why? Here some important reasons for studying German:

- ◆ About 229 million people worldwide communicate in German
- ◆ Knowing German and demonstrating intercultural competence are today key factors in securing a job in business.
- ◆ Germany is the leading economic power in the EU in Europe and the fourth largest worldwide.
- ◆ Learning German improves other important academic skills such as writing and math (you already know that learning German grammar greatly improves your writings skills in English)
- ◆ German is a leading language in science, literature, philosophy, theology, history, music, film and art.



Thank you to Julie Stevens who organized the German film series for two years! Although participation was not always as we'd wished for, Julie was never discouraged and made sure students would be introduced to some good German films. This year Jasmine Banegas and Jeremy Szitas chair the German Club and organize film nights. The first was a great success, with many students coming to watch *Soul Kitchen* by Turkish-German director Fatih Akin. We continue with the multiethnic food theme in the next film by Sandra Nettelbeck *Mostly Marta* on Nov. 4th at 7 pm in the Language Commons. Last but not least mark your calendar for Dec. 5, at Dr. Dysart's home for the Christmas party with his famous "Glühwein."

Congratulations to Julie Stevens and Laurel Rotolante who have been accepted into the Study Abroad Program to spend the Spring semester 2014 at the PH in Freiburg.

Happy Halloween
Dr. Poeter and Dr. Dysart

Department of Modern
Languages and
Literatures
German Section

FACULTY AND STAFF
DR. DAVID DYSART
DDYSART@STETSON.EDU
SAMPSON 126
EXT 7279

DR. ELISABETH POETER
EPOETER@STETSON.EDU
SAMPSON 125
EXT 7280

CATHY BURKE
DEPT. ADMINISTRATIVE SPE-
CIALIST
CBURKE@STETSON.EDU
SAMPSON 119
EXT 7260

Inside this issue

German Courses Spring 2014	2
Summer Program In Freiburg	3
Nachrichten aus Deutschland	3
Wort der Woche	4
German Major/Minor Requirement.	4

Lower division courses



Hamburger Fischmarkt, Skulpturen

GERM 102L— Elementary German II

If you are in GERM 101 now, we strongly encourage you to continue in the spring with GERM 102. Your linguistic and cultural understanding of German and Germany will be

broadened by learning about topics such as the German educational system, Germany in the European context and the role of entertainment, the arts, and travel in German culture

Dr. E. Poeter: Section 1 MW 9-9:50 am; TR 8:30-9:45 am
Dr. D. Dysart: Section 2 MW 1:30-2:20 pm TR 1-2:15 pm



Hammering Man,
Frankfurt/Main. Messe

GERM 202L—Intermediate German II

You will explore in greater depth German cultural diversity while expanding your speaking, writing and reading skills. The course focuses on the different German speaking countries, their history and traditions, and provides an overview of German culture in the Middle Ages, The Age of Enlightenment and German Romanticism with a final focus

on contemporary social projects around institutional power and individual conformity and resistance

Dr. D. Dysart MWF 11-11:50

Upper Division Courses



Skulptur beim Konzerthaus,
Freiburg

GERM 302L— Advanced German II

If you enjoyed working with “Aspekte”, then this is the course for you. The focus is, again, on interactive learning as we explore contemporary issues such as “Gesund und munter”, “Recht so”, “Die Welt der Künste” “Erinnerung “ and other topics.

Dr. E. Poeter: MWF 11-11:50



Lenin Statue in
“Good Bye Lenin”

GERM 305A: German Cinema since 1945

This course focuses on the intersection between narrative film and German cultural history. Our focus will be on representations of gender, sexual, racial and ethnic identities in film and we will investigate how these categories

inform the larger cultural/social space within which film is located. We will reflect on how the film director’s standpoint shapes the film’s narrative and how our own identities inform our reading of the film.

Dr. E. Poeter : T 6-9 PM



Uta, Naumburger Dom

GERM 303B: Germany and National Identity

This course concentrates on the concepts of Nation, Nationhood and Nationalism. What does it mean to be a member of a nation, to celebrate nationhood and how is this expressed, positively and negatively, in the phenomenon of Nationalism? Although the concentration will be on Germany’s search for and struggle with national identity, we will want to examine our own values and pre-

cepts, i.e. what has (and does) it mean to “be German,” but also to be a citizen of any nation. Germany’s pursuit for national identity will proceed from Roman time and progress to the founding of the first German nation, 1872. German art, architecture, language and cultural norms will be examined as a reflection of this pursuit.

Was ist ein Schickimicki?

Schickimickis tragen immer die modischste und teuerste Kleidung, essen das beste Essen, sind auf fast jeder Prominentenparty zu finden und halten sich für sehr wichtig.

Summer Program in Freiburg 2014



Studying abroad can be one of the most important learning experiences in your educational career at Stetson. You can expand and deepen your understanding of German cultural and everyday life. German students who participated in the program remarked that many things looked familiar because of the rich photography in “Auf geht’s and “Weiter geht’s

Whether just walking through downtown Freiburg, taking the local train to the Black Forest, spending an afternoon in Basel/Switzerland or Strasbourg/France, or



crossing borders into other European countries on long weekends, you can learn much about how people in other cultures organize their daily lives and deal with social and political questions. Your minds will be opened to questions of environmental sustainability, consumer culture, educational opportunities, of how Germans deal with their most recent history and much more. Germany is one of the most culturally rich nations with a wealth of historical and religious landmarks, art, music and theater, philosophy, literature and architecture. Freiburg itself is not only home to the only cathedral finished in the Middle Ages, but also known as the environmental capital of Germany where bicycles and pedestrians outnumber cars in downtown.



Freiburg itself is not only home to the only cathedral finished in the Middle Ages, but also known as the environmental capital of Germany where bicycles and pedestrians outnumber cars in downtown.

Course choices for 2014:

GERM 306B—From Division to Reunification. The New Germany

FREN 305—France and Germany in Europe: Together Forever?

HUM 300A—Wanderlust: The Art of the Flâneur

THEA 261A – TheatreFest: German Theatre

ENCW 311A or 411A—Travel magazine writing: nonfiction workshop

Orientation Meeting

November 13, 2013 @ 5 pm in Sampson 227

Nachrichten aus Deutschland

Martinstag (11. November)

November 11th is a special day in the U.S., Canada, and German-speaking Europe, but when North Americans are observing Veterans Day/Remembrance Day, most Austrians and German Catholics are celebrating a different kind of holiday. The Feast of Saint Martin, the Germanic Martinstag celebration, is more like Halloween and Thanksgiving rolled into one. Martinstag or Martini commemorates **Sankt Martin** (c. 317-397), Bishop of Tours, one of the most revered European saints. The best-known legend connected with Saint Martin is the dividing of the cloak (**die Mantelteilung**),

when Martin, then a soldier in the Roman army, tore his cloak in two to share it with a freezing beggar at Amiens. In the past, Martinstag was celebrated



as the end of the harvest season (thanksgiving). For workers and the poor it was a time when they had a chance to enjoy some of the bounty and get a few crumbs from the nobles' table (“einige Krümel vom reichgedeckten Tisch”). Today in many parts of Europe the feast is still celebrated by processions of children with candle-lit lanterns (**Martinslaternen** - see the German children's song "Ich geh mit meiner Laterne") and a banquet of roast goose (**die Martinsgans**). In former times, **Martini** was the “official” start of winter and the 40-day Christmas fast. Today **Martinstag** is the unofficial start of the Christmas shopping season in German Europe.

Wisst Ihr, dass

Ca. 240000 Ausländerinnen und Ausländer an deutschen Hochschulen studieren? Mehr als jeder zehnte Studierende kommt aus dem Ausland, die meisten aus China und Russland. Deutschland ist für internationale Studierende nach den USA und Großbritannien das wichtigste Gastland. Ca. 25000 ausländische Wissenschaftler arbeiten an deutschen Hochschulen und 23000 ausländische Wissenschaftler werden von deutschen Förderorganisationen unterstützt

Wort der Woche: Oct 25, 2013

With Halloween just around the corner, Americans are excitedly gathering for haunted hayrides, telling scary stories around campfires, and searching for frightening costumes. At this time of year, it's common to hear stories about the chupacabra, bigfoot, and the headless horseman.

Mythological creatures exist throughout the world, but let's take a look at one that has existed in German folklore for centuries. A popular supernatural creature is the *Kobold*, a mischievous household spirit that is usually invisible, but will occasionally materialize, taking the form of a human, an animal, or an object. An ill-tempered Kobold might, for example, take the form of a feather, descend onto the nose of a sleeping homeowner, and trigger a sneeze.



Meister Eder and Pumuckl - the friendly Kobold

A Kobold is a type of house-ghost. Most images of a *Kobold* depict small, humanlike figures often dressed like peasants. But there are many types of *Kobolds*. Some are friendly spirits that live in one's home, taking care of chores and playing malicious tricks if they feel upset, neglected or insulted. Others live underground, haunting old mines. Some reside on ships, accompanying sailors as they navigate the open seas (this type of *Kobold* is called a *Klaubautermann*).



The origin of the *Kobold* and its etymology remains shrouded in mystery, but this mythical creature is believed to have emerged from Pagan customs many centuries ago. There are numerous other legendary German creatures that are closely related to the original *Kobold*, such as the *Heinzelmännchen* (house gnomes). But while the *Heinzelmännchen* are good-natured creatures that tend to the house, *Kobolds* also have a darker side to them, often wreaking havoc. In some cases, the damage *Kobolds* inflict might resemble that imposed by a poltergeist. A 1961 Bavarian Radio series, which was later turned into a television show, chronicles the life of a friendly *Kobold* named Pumuckl, who is a descendent of the *Klaubautermänner*. This popular children's series features a *Kobold* who is invisible to everyone until he gets stuck in a pot of glue -- an incident that makes him visible to a carpenter named Meister Eder. In the show, Pumuckl expresses immense disappointment when he is mistakenly referred to as a *Heinzelmännchen*. So next time you're in Germany and your things go missing or you hear a bump in the night, remember that you might have a *Kobold* living in your building. Happy Halloween!

THE GERMAN MAJOR AND MINOR**I. General Education Requirements — 10 units**

The student must complete the General Educational Requirements of the College of Arts & Sciences.

II. Major Requirements — 11 units

GERM201— Intermediate German I
GERM202— Intermediate German II
GERM301— Advanced German I
GERM302— Advanced German II

Three of the following

GERM303B — Germany and the Search for National Identity
GERM 304 — Modern German Culture
GERM305A — Contemporary German Cinema
GERM390 — Special Topics in Conversation and Composition
LING301— Introduction to Linguistics

Three of the following

GERM 401 — The German Language as Cultural Expression
GERM 402 — Studies In German Literature
GERM 403 — Happily Ever After? The German Fairy Tale
GERM 404 — Voices from the East and West: German Women Writers

GERM 499 — Senior Project

III. Electives

Units to total a minimum of 32

Minor in German**Minor Requirements — 5 units**

Five Units at the GERM 202 level and above.