

COURSE OUTLINE

FILM-207

German Film

3 Semester Hours

Fine Arts and Humanities Core Course

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course is an interdisciplinary study of contemporary German society and culture through the medium of film. The aim of the course is to show the interconnection between artistic expression and the historical, social, and cultural realities within Germany from the 1900s to the present. (3 hours weekly) NOT: Also listed as GERM-207.

Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Develop a general knowledge of German history and culture from the 1900s to the present.
2. Identify running themes in German movies.
3. Discuss the "auteur theory" of the cinema, especially as it relates to German directors.
4. Analyze the close connection between history, culture, and cinema.
5. Distinguish different cinematic styles and genres based on the cultural models created throughout German history from the 1900s to the present.
6. Discuss the styles of the most important and influential German directors.
7. Compare and contrast films and literary works from this area and place them in their cultural setting.
8. Discuss cultural mores, family life, religion, art, literature as depicted in German film.

Major Topics

- I) The Weimar Republic: The Golden Era
 - a) Robert Weine
 - b) F. W. Murnau
 - c) Fritz Lang
 - d) Josef von Sternberg

- II) Third Reich Propoganda
 - a) Leni Riefenstahl
 - b) Ernst Lubitsch
 - c) Josef von Baky

- III) New German Cinema:
 - a) Bernhard Wicki
 - b) Volker Scholdorff
 - c) Werner Herzog
 - d) Rainer Werner Fassbinder
 - e) Wim Wenders
 - f) Margarethe von Trotta
 - g) Tom Tykwer
 - h) Wolfgang Becker
 - i) Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member, but may include a researched essay, oral presentation, and regular exams.

Other Course Information

This course is an Arts and Sciences elective and a Fine Arts and Humanities Core Course.