

Refugee's Germany - Germany at a glance

The lecture series provides a comprehensive overview of the present Germany focusing in the areas of culture (history, religion, education and culture), everyday life as well as society and politics. The objective is to provide an action-oriented overview knowledge in everyday communication situations, but also in the use of media, while attempting to prepare the participants for a scientific training in Germany.

The individual lessons are structured so that (1) the basic knowledge on a common standard is linked up with (2) in-depth case studies. For this purpose, additional guest speakers may be invited in individual sessions (2a) that fully explain a certain question. Therefore the members of the Institute for research of Germany will be asked for their contribution. (2b) As an alternative or (3) as a further supplement short basic texts (provided in English and German) are included, in which the subject will be brought to the point. Each lesson is divided into several sections, whereas in each case systematical (4) questions regarding certain intermediate steps are possible. As a final backup of results of each lesson (5) a thesis-like summary will be provided, which will be designed in the form of a short test or a mini quiz.

All lessons are supported by a rather brief Power Point presentation, further by in-depth texts and summaries. Music recordings, film clips and art reproductions are of course available. As a result, the participants may expect not a handbook but rather a kaleidoscope of the German present age.

The lessons attempt to arouse joy and interest in Germany, encouraging curiosity and independent inquiries, and in this way they will also give an integrative impulse. The core concept is seeking to integrate the knowledge of participants and to take prejudices as a provocation for questions. Even if a relatively heterogeneous group must be assumed, the participants are expected to be highly engaged, eager to learn and to take part voluntarily.

Institute for German Cultural Studies

The Institute for German Cultural Studies (IDF) is an interdisciplinary platform supported by a group of humanists, cultural and social scientists, who have been observing and researching diverse phenomena related to the German division and to the German Democratic Republic (GDR) with comparative methods. The IDF is placing its main emphasis on political and structural changes in East and West Germany and in Europe. Different projects concerning the internal migration and the cultural history of Germany were carried out within this framework. Due to the new international and European focus of its research and teaching activities the IDF has been defined as an established interdisciplinary working group for German and European Cultural Studies at the Ruhr-University Bochum since 2012. It focuses mainly on investigating and analyzing the present age and the history of Germany within the European Community since the second half of the 20th century. Lectures, excursions, research projects and studies take place in the fields of politics, law, society, culture and science.

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Dr. Frank Hoffmann

Fellows of the

Institute for German Cultural Studies

Ruhr-Universität Bochum



Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Institut für Deutschlandforschung
Institute for German Cultural Studies



Wednesday, 10.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.,

Room: UFO 0/10

START: May 11th, 2016

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TIMETABLE

May 12th, 2016

Introduction

(1) The Germans and the people in Germany – who are they actually?

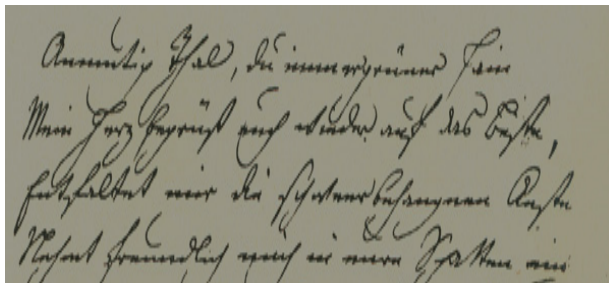
May 19th, 2016

(2) Between the sea and the mountains:
A tour through Germany

June 2nd, 2016

(3) German History (I):
The first thousand years (800-1806)

 (4) German History (II): The last two hundred years (1914-2015)



June 9th, 2016

(5) Busy, always on time and a little bit boring –
Everyday Life in Germany – Discussion with guests
from the Institute for German Cultural Studies

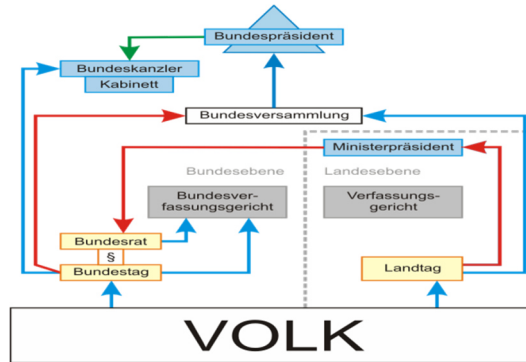
Pictures: Handwriting of Goethe – The German Chancellors since 1949 – The political system – Mercedes Benz 260 D (1936) – Dürer: The Praying hands.



June 16th, 2016

(6) Law and Order – the main principles
of public and constitutional law

Guest lecture: Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Knut Ipsen



June 23th, 2016

(7) Mercedes for everybody?
Economy and society in Germany

Guest lecture: Prof. Dr. Werner Voß



June 30th, 2016

(8) Lifelong Learning – the educational
system in Germany

Guest lecture: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hörner

July 6th, 2016

(9) Ever heard about Goethe? German Culture in
history and present



July 12th, 2016

10) Politics and political parties –
the German political system and culture

July 19th, 2016

(11) Praying as a very
private matter –
religion and ethical
values in Germany

(12) Germany – in the
middle of Europe
A short summary

