

Nazareth-in-Berlin Residential Program

Course Descriptions, Fall 2014

Course Title: **German Language (Elementary, Intermediate or Advanced) 5 credits**
(*All students*)

The study of language at DIE NEUE SCHULE, an international language school in Berlin. Intensive language learning at all levels with other international students. Course levels and curriculum follow the EU *Referenzrahmen* (guidelines) of the European Union for language acquisition. All instructors are specially trained in German language acquisition and pedagogy. Students with no prior German language experience enroll in the A1 level. At all levels: emphasis on active listening and speaking and reading/spelling abilities. Intermediate and advanced levels help prepare students acquire all the skills required for independent interaction in the society or to pass German university entrance exams. *The course is conducted intensively during the first two months of the semester.*

Course Title: **Professional Internship 3 credits**
(*All students*)

Professional internships, for academic credit in the Liberal Arts, available in a discipline appropriate to students' abilities, major area of studies and relative ability in English and/or German. Students complete an internship, conducted full time, in the last four weeks of the semester. All internships follow guidelines for all academic internships taken through Nazareth College, at home or abroad. By the time of the internship all students will have at least a basic working knowledge of German. Students with less knowledge of the language will be placed in environments where good English language skills (communicating and writing) are required. Good computer skills, a definite advantage. Students with facility in the language have a broader range of options. Suitable academic preparation is required in some cases. Internship areas may include: business; government; political and cultural foundations; chemical labs; museums; theaters; education; international organizations; etc. All students must present an up-to-date résumé. Internship sites are assigned in consultation with the student and advisement from the student's home campus. Internships for US citizens are unpaid, by law.

There exists the option to substitute the internship with an independent research project with a special mentor.

Students choose three courses from among the six listed below.

Course Title: European Economics and Business Administration, 3 credits

This course explores: patterns of the European (EU) integration process and the related national economies; analysis of the institutional transformation of Western Europe from a collection of fractious nation-states to a partially amalgamated European Union; the impact of “widening” and “deepening” of the European Union on the business environment. This course also analyzes: European monetary and financial structures; capital and labor movements; migration. Prospects of the EU’s continued integration process and its implications for international business relations also considered. We also arrange visits to Berlin venues with political-economic significance.

Course Title: 20th Century German Theater, Literature, Cabaret 3 credits

This course includes readings and discussion of dramas, prose, poetry and song from the Weimar Republic to the present, including works by Brecht, Döblin, Tucholsky, Kästner, Peter Schneider, Christa Wolf and others. Artistic works will be discussed as a reflection of creative and aesthetic forms, as well as social milieus, ideologies, moral and philosophical questions. We engage in the analysis of theater in Berlin (Max Reinhardt, Gustaf Gründgens, epic theater, post-war theater in divided Berlin). Attendance at theaters, especially those staging B. Brecht’s works is crucial. We will also engage in the study of selected films from the Weimar Republic to the present, and take field trips to film museums and cultural sites in Berlin – Babelsberg – Potsdam that relate to literature and theater. Finally, we will conduct some study of cabaret life (art, song and dance).

Course Title: German History 1870 to the Present 3 credits

This course conducts an analysis of turning points of German history in the European context, beginning with the first German unification 1871 and the Bismarck era or Wilhelmine Empire. We will explore empire growth and colonialism, the causes of World War I, and the troubled liberal democracy of the Weimar Republic until 1933. Special attention paid to Nazism, Anti-Semitism, the Holocaust and World War II during the Hitler period (1933 to 1945). Also considered are Germany’s place in the post-WWII Cold War, with a divided Germany, 1949 to 1989, and unification in 1990, as well as current developments in the emerging European Union. Attention will be paid to the historical backgrounds of current German developments. Course visits to museums and major historical sites in and around Berlin included.

Course Title: Symphonic Music and Opera: Mozart to Mahler 3 credits

This course includes a thorough survey of two major idioms in music during the Classic, Romantic and part of the post-Romantic eras, tracing the rapid development and maturity of these two genera, beginning with Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven, and the evolution of symphony music in the works of Schubert, Schumann, Mendelssohn and Brahms, as music expression expands. We explore the development of Program Music as represented by Liszt et al. Finally, we look at the expansion of music with its more developed emotional power in the works of Bruckner and Mahler. In parallel with symphonic music, the course investigates the development of opera from the magnificent and provocative operas of Mozart through to

the romantic-nationalistic style of Weber and the music-drama style of Wagner. Course work includes listening assignments and attendance at concerts and recitals in Berlin.

Course Title: **Conflict and Peace Studies** *3 credits*

This course explores the development of the concepts of war and peace within the framework of the Social Sciences. Especially since 9/11, and now within the context of more current conflicts and international interventions, the ensuing debate engages an even wider public and affects the discourse about old and new forms of conflict. The course will look at the causes and consequences of conflict as well as appropriate strategies to end them. The theoretical-historical approach will make use of case studies from past and ongoing violent conflicts (Europe, Middle East, etc.), to focus on common and divergent lines of development and the potential reasons for persistence or termination of conflict. Field trips will take students to relevant political sites and research centers in Berlin.

Course Title: **Sustainability – European Approaches** *3 credits*

Germany is a major player in the sustainability initiatives within the European Union. This course investigates those successful actions that can be applied world wide, particularly in terms of energy conservation and waste recycling, to confront global warming and general environmental degradation. Topics will include Germany's National Sustainability Strategy, the role of the Green Party in shaping government policy and the role of other stakeholders in decision-making, to maximize the acceptance of sustainable practices by the world's populations. The course will also address the various measures used to develop sustainability actions and monitor their success. Field trips are included to environmental and governmental centers and to scientifically relevant sustainability sites such as a windmill farm or a net zero energy village.