

German History auf Deutsch - 2

Course Description

Overview

This is the second semester of a planned four-semester series of OLLI-Delaware online courses covering German History up to 1932. The second semester will cover a period of religious and social upheaval in the Holy Roman Empire. Topics include the Crusades, the Black Death of the 14th century, the Protestant Revolution, the Peasant's War, and the devastating religious war of the 17th century known as the Thirty Years' War.

The course is built around a series of German language docudramas produced by ZDF, a German television network. The videos were first broadcast nationally in 2008 and 2010. Since then, they have been used in German schools in support of the teaching of German History. The videos are tied together with read-along short lectures in German, in which English translations of difficult words and phrases are provided.

Course Objectives

These courses are first and foremost German Language courses directed towards participants with an intermediate to advanced understanding of German who wish to improve their understanding of the German language, particularly their listening comprehension. The topical information will be presented primarily in German, while any important information on the course structure will be conveyed in English. In addition, there will be ample opportunity to ask questions and discuss the course content and German language in either German or English. German-language videos will be played at a slightly reduced speed (85%) to help with listening comprehension. They will be accompanied by "word-for-word" German subtitles. The videos will be intermixed with power point presentations in German, which will include English translations of difficult German words and phrases to make them easier to follow for those with a beginning knowledge of German. There will not be any required homework or course preparation. Participants are not required to speak German in class, and all oral participation is strictly voluntary.

A second objective of the course is to convey information to all – from beginning-level students of German to those fluent in the language – concerning the long and fascinating history that led to modern-day Germany. Native-born speakers, those with ties to countries where German is spoken or knowledge of German history, and those who have travelled to Europe and visited the historical locations where events occurred are encouraged to provide their additional insights and thoughts (in German or English) on the subject matter covered throughout the course.

The third and final objective of the course is to have fun and to learn at your own pace in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere.

Note: This series of four courses was first taught as in-person courses at OLLI-Wilmington in 2018-2019. Since then, the courses have been updated and modified. This is the first time that they will be taught as online courses.

Weekly Layout:

Frederick II. und der Kreuzzug - Teil 1

Frederick II. und der Kreuzzug - Teil 2

Karl IV. und der Schwarze Tod - Teil 1

Karl IV. und der Schwarze Tod - Teil 2

Martin Luther und die Reformation - Teil 1

Martin Luther und die Reformation - Teil 2

Thomas Müntzer und der Bauernkrieg - Teil 1

Thomas Müntzer und der Bauernkrieg - Teil 2

Albrecht von Wallenstein und der Dreißigjährige Krieg - Teil 1

Albrecht von Wallenstein und der Dreißigjährige Krieg - Teil 2

Bonus Video