Course Title : HISTORY OF MODERN GERMANY
Course Code : HST4363
No. of Credits/Term : 3
Mode of Tuition : Sectional approach
Class Contact Hours : 3 hours per week
Category in Major Prog. : Elective
Prerequisite(s) : None
Co-requisite(s) : None
Exclusion(s) : None
Exemption Requirement(s) : None

Brief Course Description
This course will survey the course of German history since unification. In particular, it will discuss unification, industrialization, the two World Wars, the Cold War, re-unification, and Germany’s role in the European Union. It will discuss political, social, and cultural developments, including the experience of totalitarianism and the emergence of democracy; the post-1945 critical engagement with the Holocaust; and the development of consumer society.

Aims
To assist students to understand the course of modern German history, both as a means of understanding contemporary Germany in its historical context and as a means of understanding selected aspects of modernity in a focused national context.

Learning Outcomes
Through taking this course, students should
a. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic chronology and themes of German history since the nineteenth century;
b. Demonstrate the ability to understand and analyze difficult primary sources (including fiction) within their historical context;
c. Demonstrate the ability to synthesize information from various sources in order to construct, and evaluate an historical argument;
d. Demonstrate the ability to discuss primary and secondary texts orally;
e. Demonstrate the ability to write clear and well-organized essays.

Indicative Content
I. Before there was “Germany”
   A. Introduction
   B. Background, 1648-1815
   C. 1848 Revolution

II. The Making of Germany and its challenge to the European order
   A. Unification
   B. Bismarck’s Germany
   C. Fin de Siècle culture
   D. The Anglo-German Antagonism, Empire, and Foreign Policy

III. Germany’s “Place in the Sun”, Defeat and its Consequences
   A. World War I
   B. Total Defeat: The early Weimar Republic
   C. The 1920s
   D. The collapse of Weimar and the rise of Hitler

IV. Nazi Germany
A. The nature of Nazi Germany
B. World War II
C. The Sonderweg thesis
D. The Holocaust

V. Germany: Division and renewal
A. Overview of 20th-century Austria
B. The Cold War and the Creation of 2 Germanies
C. Overview of the Cold War
D. The German economic “miracle”
E. Adenauer’s West Germany
F. Society in East Germany

VI. Germany Reunification and European leadership
A. Helmut Kohl’s West Germany
B. The collapse of the Cold War
C. Germany in the 1990s
D. Into the 21st century

Teaching Method
This course will employ a combination of lectures and seminar discussions.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes
a) Two quizzes testing understanding of the basic chronology and themes of German history;
b) Essay assignments that require analyzing and synthesizing primary or secondary texts (or both);
c) Regular class discussions that focus on primary and secondary sources within the context of the basic chronology and themes of modern German history.

Assessment
Continuous Assessment 65%
Examination 35%

Required/ Essential Readings
Hans Falada, Little Man, What Now, Melville (2009), ISBN 9781933633640
Various shorter readings (primary and secondary works)

Recommended/ Supplementary Readings
Burleigh, Michael, The Racial State: Germany 1933-1945 (Cambridge: Cambridge University
Press, 1993).
Sheehan, James, *German Liberalism in the Nineteenth Century* (London: Methuen, 1982).