

The University of Toronto  
**GERMAN CULTURE & CIVILIZATION**  
GER 150H / Winter 2016

Instructor:	<b>EROL M BORAN</b>	Dept:	German
Office:	Odette Hall #309	Email:	erol.boran@utoronto.ca
Hours:	M 10-12	Tel.:	416-926-2317

Class meets on **M 2-4** at **AH 400**  
-Tutorials: T 4-5, T5-6, W 5-6-



The course offers a broad exploration of “things German” (German Culture) based on film, literature, music, language, history, geography, news & social media, habits, clichés, etc. Its goal is to familiarize students with little or no knowledge of German culture with German concerns & views by highlighting various aspects of modern Germany. The course encourages critical engagement with the key topics. Materials & assignments, lectures & tutorial discussions provide the opportunity to look behind “the scenes” & transcend simplistic views you might hold of German culture. Students are put in the position of a culture detective whose task it is to explore, collect evidence & draw conclusions.

- Class includes film viewings and an excursion outside of class; attendance is obligatory!
- What this course is NOT: (a) It is not a history course. For one of those, please visit the history department website. (b) It is not a course for advanced students of German or for students quite familiar with German culture. If you are, please check out this department’s other courses. (c) And it is not a course for students looking for easy lecture courses that don’t require regular attendance, thorough preparation and active participation. This course requires attendance (see below), and lecture notes will not be published online.

**Evaluation:** Attendance is obligatory! (Students may not miss more than one session & one tutorial without valid excuse; each additional unexcused absence results in a 5%-reduction of the final grade.) / 20% Tutorial Preparation & Participation / 20% Two In-Class Tests / 30% Two Written Assignments (“Portfolio Index”) / 30% Final Exam

**Materials:** (a) Books to be purchased: Günter Grass: *Crabwalk* (2002; ISBN: 0156029707); Mary Fulbrook: *A Concise History of Germany* (2004; ISBN: 0521540712) / (b) Additional texts will be made available as pdf-files on Blackboard / (c) There will be four out-of-class movie screenings (R 6-8:30, dates t.b.a.); if you can’t make it to them, you are required to obtain / purchase the films and watch them in preparation of the class/tutorial.