

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES  
BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MESRA, RANCHI, JHARKHAND

**COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

**Course code: HS413**  
**Course title: An Introductory Exploration of German History, Culture, and Literature**  
**Pre-requisite(s): NIL**  
**Co- requisite(s): NIL**  
**Credits: L: 04 T: 00 P: 00**

**Contact Hours: 40-45**  
**Class schedule per week: 04**  
**Class: Pre-PhD**  
**Semester: I**  
**Branch: Humanity & Social Sciences**

**Course Objective**

<b>Objective-1</b>	Get a good overview of the key historical and cultural forces that have shaped Germany.
<b>Objective-2</b>	Examine the social, political, and economic factors that have influenced the evolution of German society and culture.
<b>Objective-3</b>	Analyze the significant artistic, literary, and intellectual movements that define German cultural heritage.
<b>Objective-4</b>	Explore the regional and linguistic diversity within Germany and its impact on national culture.
<b>Objective-5</b>	Cultivate critical thinking and analytical skills to interpret and engage with German cultural expressions.

**Course Outcomes**

	<b>Modules</b>
<b>CO-1</b>	Demonstrate broad knowledge of the major historical events, figures, and eras that have shaped German identity.
<b>CO-2</b>	Analyze the social, political, and economic factors reflected in German cultural expressions.
<b>CO-3</b>	Critically evaluate the impact of artistic, literary, and intellectual movements on German and global culture.
<b>CO-4</b>	Appreciate the rich regional and linguistic diversity that contributes to the cultural tapestry of Germany.
<b>CO-5</b>	Effectively interpret and engage with various forms of German cultural expression using critical thinking skills.

**SYLLABUS**

<b>Module</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>BL</b>
<b>1</b>	Introduction to German Landeskunde and Cultural Foundations (7 contact hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to German Landeskunde</li> <li>• Geography and Regions of Germany</li> <li>• German History and Cultural Traditions</li> </ul>	2
<b>2</b>	German Society, Language, and Institutions (7 contact hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• German Political System and Institutions</li> <li>• German Society and Everyday Life</li> <li>• German Language and Dialects</li> </ul>	3&4
<b>3</b>	German Arts and Performing Arts (8 contact hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• German Art and Architecture</li> <li>• German Music and Performing Arts</li> </ul>	3
<b>4</b>	German Literature: Historical Perspectives (8 contact hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• German Literature: Early and Medieval Periods</li> <li>• German Literature: Reformation and Enlightenment</li> <li>• German Literature: Romanticism and Realism</li> </ul>	3
<b>5</b>	German Literature: Modern and Contemporary Trends (10 contact hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• German Literature: Modernism and Expressionism</li> <li>• German Literature: Post-War and Contemporary</li> <li>• Comparative Analysis of German and World Literature</li> <li>• Cultural Immersion</li> </ul>	4&5

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**Textbooks**

1	Taberner, S. (2017). Transnationalism and German-Language Literature in the Twenty-First Century. Germany: Springer International Publishing.
2	Federal Foreign Office (Germany). (2020). Facts about Germany. <a href="https://www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/en">https://www.tatsachen-ueber-deutschland.de/en</a>
3	Lodermeyer, P. (Ed.). (2006). German Art Now. Hatje Cantz Verlag.
4	Beutin, W. (1993). A History of German Literature: From the Beginnings to the Present Day. Routledge.
5	Midgley, D. (2006). German Literature of the Twentieth Century: From Aestheticism to Postmodernism. Camden House.

**Reference Books**

1	Buse, D. K. (Ed.). (2004). The regions of Germany: A reference guide to history and culture. ABC-CLIO.
2	Modern Germany: An Encyclopaedia of History, People, and Culture 1871-1990. (n.d.). Retrieved from Encyclopedia.com
3	Weitz, E. D. (2007). Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy. United Kingdom: Princeton University Press.
4	Steinberg, J. (2011). Bismarck: A Life. United Kingdom: Oxford University Press.

**Direct Assessment**

Tools	% Contribution of Assessment
Quiz-01	10
Quiz-02	10
Quiz-03	10
Assignment	10
Presentation	10
End-semester	50

**Mapping**

Course Objective	Course Outcome				
	Module-1	Module-2	Module-3	Module-4	Module-5
1	H	M	M	M	H
2	M	H	M	M	M
3	M	M	H	H	M
4	M	M	M	H	L
5	M	L	M	L	H

H=3, M=2, L=1