I. **TITLE:** Contemporary German Culture (3 credit hours)

II. **TEXT AND REFERENCES:**
   Andreas Lixl-Purcell. *Rückblick. Texte und Bilder nach 1945*
   A German dictionary, such as Cassell's, Langenscheidt, Harper-Collins

III. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
   A survey of the present-day culture of the German-speaking countries, including Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Switzerland. Course includes the study of German geography, social and political systems, and religious orientation. Classes conducted in German. Prerequisite: Ger 301 or consent of the instructor based on the student’s results on the Placement Exam.

IV. & V. **PURPOSE and COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
   To develop an understanding of the contemporary culture and people of the German-speaking countries while improving the students’ command of the German language.

VI. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**
   The course will use the textbook as the basis for discussion and as a point of departure for other activities, e.g., oral presentations, reading, videos, realia, and the Internet.

VII. **INSTRUCTIONAL AND REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**
   Students are expected to read all assigned reading materials, to prepare homework assignments on time, and to participate in class discussions. Homework needs to be done before class. You will receive credit for your homework if it is complete and on time. Late assignments cannot be accepted except by prior arrangement.

   Since class participation is critical, students whose language ability is perhaps not yet as advanced as that of other students must make a special effort to contribute. Through practice you will learn to speak well; by remaining silent you will accomplish very little.

   Essays: I will mark (not correct) errors and problems and return the first draft for you to revise your essay. Please write legibly or use a word-processor. Please write double-spaced.

VIII. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:**
   Students will be assigned at least one interview with a native speaker.

IX. **RESOURCES:**
   Students will use the Language and Culture Lab (FH 403) and other student computer labs for videos and Internet access. Students will also attend German cultural events such as the Cinema International film “Der Krieger und die Kaiserin” (Aug. 29, 30, 31) and the Foreign Language Club Oktoberfest, after which they will write a critique in German to about the event.
X. **GRADING PROCEDURES:** In German 304, the course grade will be comprised of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 exams</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 quizzes</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework exercises</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Report on 2 cultural events</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral presentations, discussions, participation; improvement in oral German</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essays and written work, improvement in written German</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total: 1000 pts

There will be no make-up of exams or quizzes except in most extreme cases and only at the instructor’s discretion; if consent is given, the make-up must be arranged in advance of the regularly scheduled exam.

XI. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Attendance is expect for every student at every class period. Absences and tardiness will affect your grade after a maximum of two absences (excused or unexcused). If you miss one-fourth of the class meetings for any reason you will automatically receive a failing grade for this course. An absence is not an excuse for being unprepared! If you must be absent, it is your responsibility to find out the assignment and to come to the next class with your homework prepared.

Note: I urge you to meet and confer with some times to determine just how you are doing. I am here to help you as much as I can, and I want to see you succeed.

XII. **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:**

1. It is the responsibility of every student to be informed about the collegiate Academic Integrity Policy. Cheating in whatever form constitutes academic dishonesty.
2. Copies of the policy are available in: CIV Student Guide, Classroom bulletin boards, Department of Modern Language Office, Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts Office, and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts Home Page.
3. Your signature on every assignment, composition, and exam represents a pledge that you have adhered to this policy.
4. I expect students to abide by the highest ethical standards.

XIII. **PREREQUISITES:**

German 202 or Placement Test equivalent. Challenge Credit: If you plan to use your completion of this course with and "A" or a "B" to challenge credit, you need to take the Placement exam, place beyond German 202, and, at the end of this course, should apply for the credit before leaving campus for the semester. It must be done while you are registered at MSU.
German Newspapers online:
www.faz.de     German (= Aktuelle) and English edition     = good national paper
www.google.com search: “vorarlberger nachrichten”     = Zeitung aus Bregenz
www.donau.de/mz     = “mittelbayrische Zeitung”     = Zeitung aus Regensburg

German TV news online:
www.tagesschau.de
www.deutschewelle.de

Error correction: Here are the letters I use to show an error in the following areas:

A Artikel        T Tempus/ tense
Am Amerikanismus V. Verb
E Endung         WS Wortstellung/ word order
K Kasus/ case    WW Wortwahl/ wrong word
P Pronomen/ pronoun  /
Pl Plural        ? unklar/ unclear
Präp Präposition
sp spelling