



Courses offered at the JYM Institute

Not all courses listed below may be offered in any one year of the program. The final course offerings will depend on the academic needs of the student cohort for that year or semester.

JYM reserves the right to require a minimum number of students to be enrolled in a JYM course before it will be offered. Visit the JYM website for any changes to course offerings.

All JYG courses are conducted in German. Courses marked “WiSe” are offered in the Wintersemester; “SoSe” in the Sommersemester. All students are required to enroll in Advanced German Language (JYG 3100/3200) unless the Resident Director agrees they may be exempt.

JYG 3100, 3200 Advanced German Language I, II

Required. Developed in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, German language proficiency-based instruction during the WiSe (JYG 3100) and SoSe (JYG 3200) focuses on increasing grammatical accuracy, expanding subject-specific vocabulary, and strengthening conversational skills. Supplementary tutoring is also provided. (3 Credits; WiSe, SoSe)

JYG 3110 Written Communication and Expression

This course focuses specifically on developing students’ writing skills. Emphasis is placed on strengthening accuracy, appropriateness and clarity of written expression in German as needed in both academic and non-academic environments. (3 Credits; offered as needed)

JYG 4100 Introduction to the Study of German Literature

An introductory course for students who have had little formal experience studying German literature. Includes an analysis of literary texts related to a specific theme, an introduction to methods of literary study and literary terminology, and practice in literary interpretation. (3 Credits; offered irregularly)

JYG 4200 Contemporary German Culture

This course explores German politics, society, culture from the standpoint of current affairs in Germany today. Drawing on examples from newspaper articles, magazines and popular culture media, topics explored may include the social, economic and political challenges facing Germany today, Germany’s place within the European Union, and how these are manifested in contemporary German cultural activity. (3 Credits; WiSe, SoSe)

JYG 4300 History of Art

Munich's world famous museums allow students to study treasures of art history up close and personal – works of art that otherwise are found only find in books or on the internet. With more than 35 museums, there's no need for PowerPoints when students study art in Munich. Just around the corner from JYM is the Lenbachhaus Museum, home to the Blaue Reiter expressionist group. Minutes away are Munich's three world renowned Pinakothek galleries: Alte Pinakothek, Neue Pinakothek, and Pinakothek der Moderne. And then there are the museums of ancient Greek and Roman sculpture am Königsplatz (also just around the corner from JYM), the Brandhorst Museum, Schack Gallerie, Villa Stuck, and many more. Methods and criteria of analysis contextualize exemplary works of German architecture, painting, sculpture, and decorative arts in relation to European artistic periods, styles and genres. Instruction takes place at JYM, in museums and on field trips. (3 Credits; SoSe)

JYG 4400 German Drama and Theater

Study of the historical roots of European theater, the unique socio-critical and aesthetic dimensions of German drama since the eighteenth century, and methods used to analyze theatrical works provide the foundation for critically examining new interpretations of masterpieces of German drama, as well as works by contemporary German playwrights being performed on stage in Munich. (3 Credits; SoSe)

JYG 4500 Munich and National Socialism

This course traces the origins of National Socialism, the establishment of Munich as the administrative and symbolic center of the Nazi movement, and explores everyday life in Munich under the Nazi dictatorship. Includes visits to sites of historical significance in and around Munich, e.g. the Dachau concentration camp memorial, and Nürnberg, site of the 1934 Nazi Party rally and stage for Leni Riefenthal's *Triumph des Willens*. (3 Credits; WiSe, SoSe)

JYG 4600 Goethe's Italian Journey

In September 1786 Johann Wolfgang Goethe embarked on what would become the most famous journey in the history of German literature. This course examines Goethe's *Italienische Reise* from the conceptual vantage point of personal self-discovery that inspired the genre of *Bildungsliteratur* and the aspirations of Weimar Classicism, and provides students with a literary-historical context for their own sojourn abroad. (3 Credits; WiSe)

JYG 4700 Munich Modernism

The social dislocations that accompanied rapid urbanization in late 19th century Germany set the stage for the emergence of numerous movements in literature and the visual arts that have become subsumed under the broad rubric of "modernism". Although Berlin and Paris are often considered the capital cities of modernism, events in Munich – from the founding of the Blaue Reiter in 1911 to the Degenerate Art Exhibition of 1937 – frame the beginning and end of "classical modernism" in Germany. This course explores the innovative ways that German writers, thinkers and artists responded to the social and cultural upheavals of modernity in an attempt to grasp what they saw as shockingly new about the modern world, and how anti-modernist forces turned against them. (3 Credits; offered irregularly)

JYG 4800 Topics in German Studies

Students may take JYG 4800 for a maximum of 12 credits. Past Topics courses have been Masterpieces of German Literature, Theory of the Avant-Garde, Aesthetics, German Intellectual History, Prague 1900-1945, Germany and its East European Neighbors.

Current Topics courses in 2019-20 are:

JYG 4800 Topics in German Studies: Mountains in German Literature and Film

Mount Olympus was the home of the Olympian gods of the ancient Greek world and humans have been captured by the spell of mountains ever since. During the age of the industrial revolution, mountains were perceived as a symbol of purity and authenticity. When Edward Whymper ultimately reached the summit of the Matterhorn in 1865, mountains were finally conquered and “brought into the middle of civilization,” and the novel *Heidi* (1880) by the Swiss author Johanna Spyri was translated into fifty languages in just a few years of its publication. In the 20th century National Socialism used the notion of Heimat and mountains as metaphors to legitimize NS ideology, and even today there are innumerable comics, tv series and films that deal with the Heidi theme. This seminar will analyze classical and philosophical references to mountains, German poetry and prose about mountains, as well as the genre of *Bergfilme* (mountain films) of the 1920s. (3 Credits; SoSe)

JYG 4800 Topics in German Studies: Comparative Eco-Politics

Climate change, mass extinction, alternative energy – we cannot understand present-day debates about the future of our planet without looking to the past. This seminar examines the relationships between nature and society in Germany over the past 250 years. Our historical journey will take us from the belching smokestacks of the Ruhr Valley in the nineteenth century, to the protests against nuclear energy in the 1970s and 1980s, to the twenty-first-century wind farms that currently dot the German landscape. We will also compare Germany’s environmental history and policy decisions with those of the former GDR, the European Union and the USA. Students will learn to work critically with a range of historical sources and genres: texts, images and films, as they explore the initiatives and challenges along the way to a Green Germany. (3 Credits; SoSe)

JYG 4900 Undergraduate Research Project

Independent research project approved by the student’s advisor, noted on the application form, and supervised by the JYM Resident Director. (1-3 Credits, Max. 6; WiSe, SoSe)

JYG 5890 Overseas Internship

Internship approved for credit in advance by the student’s advisor. Students do not receive academic credit for the internship experience, but rather for the submission of an informative and reflective Internship Portfolio. (3-6 Credits, Max. 6; WiSe, SoSe)