YORK

AP GER/HUMA 3989 6.0:

GERMANY AND THE GLOBAL IMAGINARY

How have Germans past and present imagined the world around them? What can German films, stories, images, and other media that represent cross-cultural encounter reveal about how German perception of the world has been shaped over time? How has this shifting 'global imaginary' helped to form German self-understanding?

This fully online course explores some of the cross-cultural and transnational exchanges (from the 18th-century to the present) that have informed German self-imagination and the imagination of spaces and peoples beyond the German-speaking world. Through the examination of select intellectual, artistic, and social interactions with various parts of the world, the course aims to challenge simple national paradigms of 'Germanness' and to highlight cross-border contacts that have helped to shape Germany's history and have influenced cultural production in a variety of media, such as literature, film, visual arts, music, architecture, and theatre. Course modules are structured around key topics that include: colonialism, orientalism, nationalism, cosmopolitanism, travel, and migration.

COURSE DATES: 8 September 2021 – 8 April 2022

COURSE FORMAT: This is a fully online course and there will be no on-campus interactions. The course is designed asynchronously, meaning that although there are weekly deadlines, students can complete each week's tasks at any time that is most convenient to them. The course will be taught in English.