Course title: Intensive Intercultural German Language Course
Course led by: German speakers with experience in language teaching
Language of instruction: German
Course dates: 07.08.2018 – 31.08.2018
Contact time: 28 hours per week in combination with either a Specialised Course or a Language and Communication Course in the afternoon

Course Overview
The morning intercultural language courses give you the opportunity to rapidly improve both your linguistic skills, and your more general background knowledge of today’s Germany. Our staff recognise the value of this connection between the development of a foreign language, and an understanding of the culture within which that language is spoken. Participants will become familiar with the inner-workings of German as a foreign language, as well as use it to explore the geographical, socio-political and historical landscape that has shaped the country we see today. Courses incorporate the pre-existing knowledge of their own cultures that each student brings to the table, creating a rich atmosphere in which all participants can begin to develop their own “intercultural competence”.

Target Group
These courses are suitable for participants of all levels of language proficiency

Requirements for Participation
None

Course Leadership
All of our teaching staff are academically educated, each with many years of experience in teaching German as a foreign language. In addition, all Summer University course leaders have been specifically trained in intercultural teaching methods at the University of Bayreuth, ensuring the best possible standards of instruction in each of the courses.
**Course Structure**
Although the degree of difficulty will vary, as is appropriate for the language proficiency of the respective participants, the structure of every course will include the following basic themes:

| **Germany through foreign eyes** | As 230 students from over 40 different countries come together in Bayreuth, each brings his or her own unique view of Germany to the table; different expectations, different prejudices, different images of what they might find. We aim to gather these first impressions, exchange perspectives, and spark interesting discussions such as: what does it mean for something to be “unusual”, “foreign” or “different”? What constitutes “German” or “Germany”? Where is the fine line between stereotypes and internalised prejudices? |
| **Everyday life in Germany** | These sections focus on the day-to-day lives of Germans, and what could be considered “unusual” or “different”. When do people in Germany get up or go to bed? How do they do their shopping? When are the shops closed and when are the bank holidays? How do the everyday lives of students, pensioners, housewives and professionals differ from each other? |
| **Regional Variety** | Why are Franconians not Bavarians? Which state is which? What differences exist between those that live in the highlands and those that live in the lowlands? What are “Ossis” and “Wessis”? These are all questions that get asked this week. |
| **Cultural Variety** | The German cultural landscape has much to offer, whether it be student culture, Jazz or classical music, environmental activism or volunteer-culture. |
| **Germany’s place in the wider world** | Towards the end of the course, students will find they have gathered a wealth of knowledge on Germany, its culture and its regions. Now comes the time to reflect on the way this newly-discovered Germany fits into its international and historical context: its role in the 2nd World War, as one of the founding members of the European Union, the venue of the Football World Cup, and as a centre of academic excellence. |

**Methods of Delivery**
Discussions, listening comprehension, text comprehension, creative writing, language games, songs, intercultural exercises, project work, role play
Learning Resources
Our teaching materials are under constant review by the teaching staff, who work hard to make sure they remain both up-to-date and appropriate to the needs of the participants, as well as to adapt them to the requirements of an intercultural syllabus. In order to ensure maximum learning outcome from every hour of every course, course leaders make use of the extensive Summer University Library, which, alongside the core publications on German language teaching, also includes materials on intercultural study, listening comprehension, culture, phonetics and text comprehension.

The necessary materials for each section of the course are always provided at the appropriate juncture.

Award of ECTS Credits
Successful completion of the course requires that the student be regularly present at both the morning language course and the communication or specialised course in the afternoons, as well as pass an end-of course test in the morning language course.

To take a look at the ECTS credit points you can achieve during the summer university, please click here for information about our Language and Communication Courses. For information (in German) about credit points for Specialized Courses, please click here.