This multimedia course will focus on the rich cultural life of Germany during the so-called Weimar Republic (1918-1933). The course will introduce you to the impact of radical cultural changes that redefined virtually every aspect of life, such as the advent of new media (film, radio), the influence of American culture, mass consumption, fashion, new ideas about sexuality and gender roles. You will learn about the legacy of World War I, and the political, social and economic upheavals of the period, such as the rise of Nazism, the struggles against Fascism, the emergence of the new middle class. We will discuss the role of influential thinkers, analyze examples of modern art and architecture, film, literature, theatre and cabaret. The course will address such questions as: What is the role of the intellectual in the Weimar Republic? How did ideas about American life shape German culture in the 1920’s? How is the clash between anachronistic and modern values (sexual, ethical, social) represented in German film, literature, art, etc.?

The course counts toward the IC requirement. It is taught in English.