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ABSTRACT

Several brief outlines of minicourses for German classes focus on developing student awareness of the phenomenon of his own immigration, cultural contributions, and influence. Topics include: (1) phenomena of German immigration, (2) areas of settlement, (3) cultural contributions of the 18th and 19th centuries, (4) cultural contributions of the 20th century, (5) early occupations of the 18th and 19th centuries, (6) occupations of the 20th century, (7) music, (8) art and literature, (9) impact on our culture, and (10) geography. Resource materials and suggested related activities are included. (RL)

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THE IMPACT OF THE GERMAN
ON AMERICAN CULTURE

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

The mini-course guides accompanying this letter are illustrative of the increased educational options available to students under our new flexible quarter programs. Courses such as these can be developed to meet varying needs, interests, and abilities of individual students.

The mini-courses serve to enrich the student's experience by enabling him to explore a variety of different offerings or pursue intensively a specific interest or idea. We believe this heightens and dramatizes a basic purpose of education--to cultivate one's natural curiosity, self-motivation, and direction.

Educational options of the kind exemplified in these courses present exciting challenges and rewarding opportunities to teachers as they try to meet the demands of this age of acceleration and pervasive change.

Your associates who have worked so industriously to prepare these guides have twin hopes for the results of your working with them: that you and your students will find them helpful, and that you will freely offer suggestions for their improvement.

Best wishes for continued efforts to enlarge and improve educational experiences.

Joel A. Carrington
Acting Assistant Superintendent
Secondary Education

May 1972

Gratitude is hereby expressed to the following teachers of the foreign language staff of the Baltimore City Public Schools who made possible this publication:

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THE IMPACT OF THE GERMAN ON THE AMERICAN CULTURE

Introduction:

This course is designed so that each teacher may choose his or her preferences. It is to serve as a tool to broaden the student's knowledge and understanding of the German through the phenomena of his immigration, cultural contributions, and influence. It is hoped that this course will help the student to develop an interest in and awareness of the German oriented aspects of his culture. Weekly topics may be developed into ten week courses within themselves if so desired.

1st Week: Phenomena of German Immigration

- a) unfair draft laws
- b) scarcity of land
- c) no work for young men
- d) family outcasts
- e) fantasy
- f) persecution during Nazi era

2nd Week: Areas of Settlement

- a) Midwest
- b) Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio
- c) Settlements remaining today - Why?

3rd Week: Cultural Contributions - 18th and 19th Century

- a) farming
- b) schools
- c) universities (Johns Hopkins)
- d) printing
- e) religious observances
- f) holiday customs

4th Week: Cultural Contributions - 20th Century

- a) film industry (Jewish immigrants)
- b) theater
- c) scientists (physicists, mathematicians)

5th Week: Early Occupations - 18th and 19th Century

- a) tradesmen (different manual trades)
- b) beer brewing
- c) watchmakers
- d) delicatessen stores

6th Week: Occupations - 20th Century

- a) nuclear scientists
- b) film directors

7th Week: Music

- a) children's songs
- b) classical music
- c) opera

8th Week: Art and Literature

- a) folk art (furniture painting, pottery, glassware, china)
- b) painting
- c) philosophers
- d) poetry
- e) fairy tales

9th Week: Impact on Our Culture

- a) societies (Goethe Society, Schiller Society, Sports Clubs)
- b) words and phrases
- c) inventions
- d) food

10th Week: Geography

- a) political division (East and West Germany, 10 Länder)
- b) topography
- c) industrial regions (Ruhrgebiet, Saarland, Swabia with car making and its spinneries, Black Forest with clock making and TV manufacturing, Heidelberg ceramics)
- d) regional differences in languages

11th Week: Review and Testing

- References: Encyclopedia Britannica
Wittke: We Who Built America
Beard, Annie: Our Foreign Born Citizens
Maisel, Albert: They All Chose America
Kunz, Dieter: The Maryland Germans
Maryland German Historical Society
Julius Hofmann Memorial Fund (tapes)
Records
Newspaper clippings from local papers
Magazines
German Embassy in Washington (films, literature in pamphlet form)
Maps

Carl Schurz Organization in Philadelphia
Travel bureaus for posters
Schaefer's Delicatessen Store on Eutaw Street (German foods)
Baltimore Port Authority (shipping and trading)

Suggested Related Activities:

- I. Field Trips
 - A. Restaurants
 - Hausnners
 - B. Markets and Delicatessens
 - 1. Hollins Street Market
 - 2. Lexington Street Market
 - 3. Lombard Street Area - Stores and Delicatessens
 - C. Pennsylvania Dutch Country
 - D. Museums
 - 1. Baltimore Museum of Art
 - 2. Smithsonian Institute
 - E. German School - Washington

- II. Resource People
 - A. German Embassy, Consulate (Philadelphia)
 - B. Community members
 - C. German instructors in local schools
 - D. Dealers who sell German made cars

- III. Assemblies (Speaker, Musical, Artistic)

- IV. Meal-Oriented Activities (Picnics, Etc.)
 - A. Picnic
 - B. Brewery