

## Teaching Philosophy

- My goal as an educator is to teach students German language and culture while cultivating their intercultural competence skills and awareness of their roles as global citizens.
- Debates, discussions of historical and present-day consequential topics, and hands-on projects contribute to achieving this goal.
- Study abroad is a further, crucial component.
- My research into German culture informs my teaching, my teaching influences my approach to research, and my students motivate me as partners to delve into new research queries.

## Outreach and Community Engagement

ECU German Students complete “outreach and community engagement” projects each semester. Sample projects include:

- Researching, marketing, introducing, and showing a German film, then leading a discussion of it.
- Giving a PowerPoint presentation on German culture in local schools.
- Organizing an International Poetry Reading in downtown Greenville.

## Research-to-Publication Assignment

- In my class “The German-Speaking World from 1900-1945,” students researched and wrote 5-7 page articles on lesser-known German authors.
- I assisted them with revisions and additional content after the class ended.
- Our co-authored articles were then published in *The Literary Encyclopedia* ([www.litencyc.com](http://www.litencyc.com)).
- My German Studies editor position at *The Literary Encyclopedia* and desire to give students publication experience culminated in this class assignment.



Students Participating in my Study Abroad Program in Strasbourg, France and Heidelberg, Germany, Summer 2022 (photo at Heidelberg Castle)

## Students visit Natzweiler-Struthof Concentration Camp with me in July 2022



## Undergraduate Learning Assistants as Apprentice Teachers

In Fall 2015, I piloted a Directed Reading Apprenticeship-Teaching Course for two undergraduates, who co-taught Beginning German with me for a semester. Since then, my colleagues and I continue to incorporate what are now called “Learning Assistants” in our German and GLST 1000: Global Studies courses.

- Student is mentored closely in learning to teach.
- Faculty instructor and student collaborate to plan or redesign lessons and deliver instruction in German.
- Students gain an awareness that acquiring and teaching critical thinking and analytical skills are important for students to become thoughtful, knowledgeable, and contributing global citizens.

## Scholarly Publications on Innovative Approaches to Teaching German

- **Twark, Jill E.,** Birgit Jensen, Susanne Jones, and David L. Smith. “Learning German in and for the 21st Century.” *Outreach Strategies and Innovative Teaching Approaches for German Programs*. Ed. Melissa Etzler and Gabriele Maier. Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2021. 45-63.
- **Twark, Jill E.,** Daniel Franch (student), and Paige Vaughan (student). “The Benefits of Apprentice Teaching with Undergraduates in German Language Classes.” *Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German* 51.1 (Spring 2018): 1-14. (AATG Best Article Award for the Journal in 2018)
- **Twark, Jill E.,** Birgit Jensen, and Susanne Lenné Jones. “Erfolgsstrategien zur Wiederbelebung eines universitären Germanistikstudienganges in den Vereinigten Staaten [Successful Strategies for Revitalizing a University German Program in the United States].” *Aussiger Beiträge* 5 (2011): 23-34.

## Scholarly Publications with Students on German Culture Topics

- **Twark, Jill E.** and Harriet Carlton (student). “Joachim von der Goltz’s *Deutsche Sonette* [German Sonnets].” *The Literary Encyclopedia*. Web. 27 August 2021. <https://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=40575>. (German Poet of the First World War)
- **Twark, Jill E.** and S. Elisha Brooker (student). Ernst Ludwig Hiemer’s *Der Giftpilz* [The Poisonous Mushroom].” *The Literary Encyclopedia*. Web. 9 April 2020. <https://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=39079>. (National Socialist [Nazi] Children’s Literature Propaganda Author)
- **Twark, Jill E.** and Noah MacKay (student). “Erich Mühsam.” *The Literary Encyclopedia*. Web. 6 March 2020. <https://www.litencyc.com/php/speople.php?rec=true&UID=14521>. (Anarchist German-Jewish Poet Murdered by National Socialists [Nazis])

## Graphic Novel Project

In my “German Graphic Novel” course, students collaborate with a partner to author and illustrate an original graphic novel. Students learn:

- how to construct a storyline with exposition, rising action, conflict/climax, falling action, and resolution.
- how to conceptualize on a micro- and macro-level in creating individual panels that must fit into the overarching graphic novel narrative.
- and they do this all in German!

