This course serves as an introduction to the history, culture, and literature of German immigrants to North America, especially to the Midwest and Ohio, from the 17th into the 21st century.

More than 250 years ago, Benjamin Franklin worried that German immigrants “will shortly be so numerous as to Germanize us instead of our Anglicizing them." Although his prediction did not prove true, America has since experienced several waves of German immigration that have led German-Americans to make up the nation’s largest ethnic group.

What brought these Germans to America?
How did they establish themselves in the new country?
What influences have they exerted in American history and culture?