GERMAN FAIRY TALES: FROM THE BROTHERS GRIMM TO WALT DISNEY  
Friday, 10:20 am - 11:15 am (Section 301, CRN 11900)  
Dr. Robert Kelz, World Languages and Literatures

Folktales and fairy tales have long fueled the imagination of both children and adults. In the past two centuries, however, they have undergone radical transformations in form and meaning. The forces underlying these changes, the reasons for certain stories’ enduring popularity, and the controversies relating to the function and value of fairy tales are explored throughout this course. We will focus on the collected tales of Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, locating them in the 18th and 19th century German culture of their origins. We will compare these popular tales with similar stories from other European traditions, as well as “literary” fairy tales (Kunstmärchen) written in the 19th and 20th centuries. The course will also examine how the Grimm stories became staples of U.S. popular culture, particularly through adaptations by Disney.

BEING A FAN OF DISNEY  
Monday, 11:30 am - 12:25 pm (Section 302, CRN 11902)  
Dr. Cody Havard, Sport & Leisure Commerce

In this forum, we will discuss what it means to be a fan of the Walt Disney brand. Discussions will focus on the history, technology, and innovation of Walt Disney and the Walt Disney Organization, and how the global brand fits into contemporary society.

SIMILARITIES IN SPORTS & RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE  
Monday, 11:30 am - 12:25 pm (Section 303, CRN 25119)  
Dr. Anthony Maranise, Religious Studies

While its overall historical reputation might be somewhat less-than-sterling, one thing can certainly be said of the American South: People are devoted. Two particular forms of devotion seem particularly obvious, both to natives and visitors alike, and each, while seemingly unique in and of themselves - at least from a surface appraisal - may possess more similarities than meets the eye. Both sports and religion seem to captivate the hearts and minds of many an American Southerner, but perhaps this unique pairing is, in fact, not confined merely to the States below the Mason-Dixon line. In this course, learners will explore ways in which sports could potentially be viewed as religious in expression as well as how religious experiences can be made manifest within sporting contexts. Moreover, the social, spiritual, psychological, theological and cultural underpinnings which have formed an ever-increasing interest in the intersections of sports, spirituality, and religion will be explored in a context spanning far beyond the American South, though that is as good a place as any to begin.