

Please note: this is a preliminary version of the syllabus, changes might occur.

The University of Toronto
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

German 305H Fall: Introduction to German Literature II

Fall 2011, Monday 1 - 3 pm and Wednesday 1 - 2 pm, place TBA



Image source: <http://i21.photobucket.com/albums/b267/gruvna/collageescritores3.jpg>

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to German literature and culture from the eighteenth to the twentieth century. Within a chronological framework, we will read and analyze excerpts from representative works of major German writers. Some of the literary texts will be complemented with examples selected from the visual arts and film. Throughout the course, our focus will be on three sets of questions:

1. What is the leading question of the text?
2. What are the formal means that the authors employ in order to express their concerns and to conceptualize the topic under discussion?
3. What is the historical and cultural context of the text?

By asking these questions, we will not only strive to come to a better understanding of individual works, but also of German literature, its developments and themes. However, although the structure of this course is governed by literary periods, it will be also our aim to question their validity and definition. Among the authors we will discuss are J. W. Goethe, E.T.A. Hoffmann, Georg Büchner and Franz Kafka.

The methodology in this course will be a combination of close readings and broad historical and cultural perspectives. Our work in class will be shaped by class discussions, group work, and occasional lectures.

Assignments will be in German; discussions too, except for clarification purposes.

Course Objectives

The primary objectives of this course are to introduce students to major developments in the history of German literature, to make students familiar with selected works of German literature, to enhance students' ability to analyze and interpret texts, and to improve students' written and spoken German.

Instructor's Contact Information

Instructor: Christine Lehleiter
Office: Odette Hall 312
Office hours: TBA
E-mail: christine.lehleiter@utoronto.ca
Phone: 416-926-2319

Evaluation of Course Work (Final Grade)

Attendance and Participation:	15%
Blackboard contributions:	10%
Presentation:	20%
In-class essay:	25%
Final paper:	30%

Required texts

Texts will be provided in paper or electronic format. Students are expected to have a copy of the assigned text available in class.

Avoidance of Academic Offenses

From the Academic Integrity Handbook: "Academic integrity is one of the cornerstones of the University of Toronto. It is critically important both to maintain our community which honours the values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness and responsibility and to protect you, the students within this community, and the value of the degree towards which you are all working so diligently. According to Section B of the University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/pap/policies/behaveac.html>) which all students are expected to know and respect, it is an offence for students to: To use someone else's ideas or words in their own work without acknowledging that those ideas/words are not their own with a citation and quotation marks, i.e. to commit plagiarism. To include false, misleading or concocted citations in their work. To obtain unauthorized assistance on any assignment. To provide unauthorized assistance to another student. This includes showing another student completed work. To submit their own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructor. To falsify or alter any documentation required by the University. This includes, but is not limited to, doctor's notes. To use or possess an unauthorized aid in any test or exam. There are other offences covered under the Code, but these are by far the most common. Please respect these rules and the values which they protect."

Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.