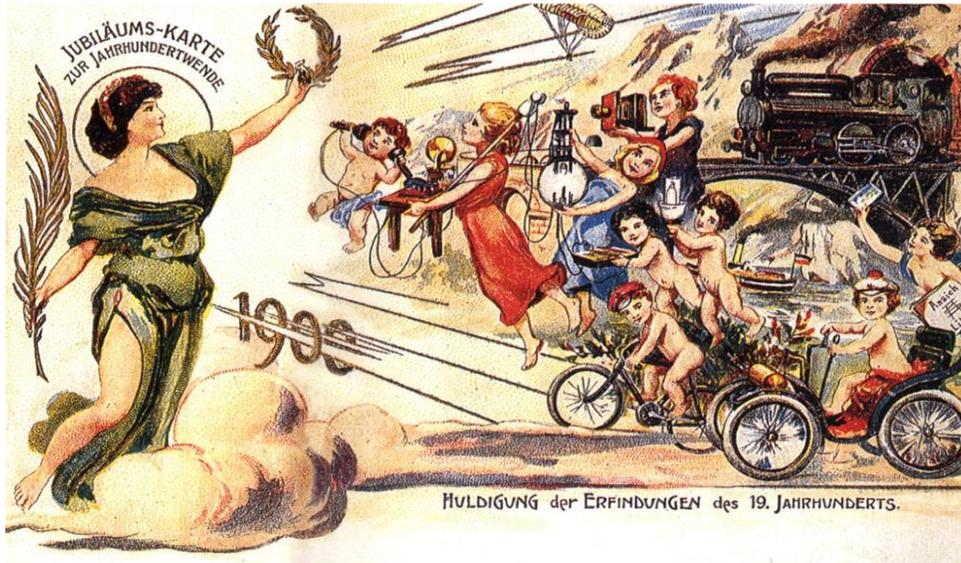


Please note: this is a preliminary version of the syllabus, changes might occur.

The University of Toronto  
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

**German 321H Fall: 19<sup>th</sup> Century German Literature**  
**Zwischen Volk und Nation, Philister und Prolet, Kutsche und Eisenbahn**

Fall 2010, Tuesday 2-4 pm, place TBA



Postkarte, versandt Ende Dezember 1899

Image source:

<http://www.hamburg.de/image/5712/Die+Zeiten+aendern+sich+...+Hamburg+1899%253A+Auf+dem+Weg+ins+naechste+Jahrhundert+08.jpg>

### Course Description

When in 1899 an anonymous writer sent the New Year's card displayed above, he could look back at a century that had brought enormous changes for the territory that today is Germany. Fighting against Napoleon, Germany's national feelings had been strengthened and a German state had emerged from a conglomerate of small duchies governed by absolutist rulers. Political revolts had challenged these absolutistic forms of government and had started to replace it with a democratic state of classes. The composition of German society had changed dramatically as a result of the industrial revolution which had replaced traditional manufacturing with mass production by machines and with private capital. The human suffering and social challenges triggered by the industrial revolution had led to new political movements like communism and socialism. Despite these challenges, however, the century had been shaped by the belief in progress and the optimism that new scientific discoveries would lead to a better life for Germany and mankind. The railway was only one of the many technical inventions which were about to change the relationship between man and the environment.

In this course, we will study how German authors reflected on these changes in literary, political and philosophical texts. Our work in class will be shaped by class discussions, group work, and occasional lectures. Reading assignments and discussions will be (mostly) in German.

## **Course Objectives**

The primary objectives of this course are to introduce students to major developments in nineteenth-century Germany as they are reflected in German literary, political and philosophical texts, to enhance students' ability to analyze and interpret texts, and to improve students' written and spoken German.

## **Instructor's Contact Information**

Dr. Christine Lehleiter

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

## **Course Requirements**

Attendance and participation (15%): Regular attendance is mandatory. Absences will only be excused according to University regulations: for example, religious holidays, serious accidents or illness (medical note required), and serious family circumstances (written documentation required). Please notify me at least a week in advance in case you know you need to miss class. In addition to excused absences each student may have one (1) unexcused absence. Each unexcused absence after the first will result in a reduction of the final grade. Besides regular attendance, your participation represents a substantial part of your final grade. I expect you to come to class in time, having completed all the readings and assignments. You must bring to class a copy of the assigned text. You are responsible for contributing to and stimulating a meaningful exchange of ideas. You will be graded according to quality and frequency of your participation.

Blackboard contributions (10%): You will need to read the assigned texts and to contribute on Blackboard's "Discussion Board" in preparation for class. (Please make yourself familiar with Blackboard, if you do not know the portal yet.) I will provide study questions related to the reading assignments, to which you can refer in your Blackboard contribution. However, unless otherwise indicated, you can write on any aspect or question of the text which seems interesting to you. You are expected to read your classmates' contributions. Your work on Blackboard will help you to practice your written German and to participate in class. Blackboard contributions will be marked with 0 or 1. As long as your contribution is formulated in German, directly related to the assigned text, has the required length and is submitted in time, you will earn 1 point. You can miss one (1) of these assignments without penalties. Blackboard contributions are due Mondays, 10 p.m. No late work will be accepted.

Presentation (20%): You will give a presentation on a topic related to the readings. For this assignment you will work with a partner. Presentations are supposed to last not more than 14 minutes (i.e. each student will speak about 7 minutes). To make the process as fair as possible, we will decide on who will present when via lottery in the first week of class. You are committed to the assigned date and you cannot change it except for the official reasons mentioned above. The topic of your presentation should be discussed with me at least one week in advance. The presentation will be graded for content as well as presentation skills (detailed criteria will follow).

In-class essay (25%): During the first half of the semester, we will write one in-class essay. For this essay, you will choose one of three given topics. You will be allowed to use your standard paper dictionary (no electronic devices allowed). Think of this “in-class essay” less as an exam and more as a “workshop,” in which you practice your written German and argumentative skills (check the course program for exact date).

Paper (30%): Students will write an analytical paper focusing on one or several passages of a text that we have read together. The paper will be written in German and approximately 1000 words long. Topics for papers will be suggested, but you can also develop your own topic after consultation with the instructor. If you need help with any aspect of your paper, please do not hesitate to see me during my office hours. You will be graded on your thesis, the evidence with which you support your thesis, your attention to detail, and grammar and style. See due dates in the course program.

**A note on missed or late work**: you can only obtain credit for your work if the absence or delay is related to reasons for excused absences as defined above. Except for emergencies, all excuses for missing an exam or for late assignments must be discussed with me before the exam or due date. Except for emergencies, I will NOT accept excuses given after the exam or due date. An unexcused late assignment or missed exam will result in a zero.

### **Evaluation of Course Work (Final Grade)**

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Attendance and Participation: | 15% |
| Blackboard contributions:     | 10% |
| Presentation:                 | 20% |
| In-class essay:               | 25% |
| 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.”

## **Kursprogramm**

*Im Folgenden finden Sie das geplante Kursprogramm. Änderungen vorbehalten.*

WOCHE I (Dienstag, 14. September): **Friede den Hütten! Krieg den Palästen!**

- Syllabus-Besprechung und Einleitung zum Kursthema
- Georg Büchner und Friedrich Ludwig Weidig, *Der Hessische Landbote*

WOCHE II (Dienstag, 21. September): **B[e]schäme die menschlich[e] Sozietät!**

- Georg Büchner, *Woyzeck*

WOCHE III (Dienstag, 28. September): **Ein guter Mord, ein ächter Mord, ein schöner Mord!**

- Fortsetzung Georg Büchner, *Woyzeck*

WOCHE IV (Dienstag, 5. Oktober): **Ein Gespenst geht um in Europa**

- Karl Marx und Friedrich Engels, *Das Kommunistische Manifest*

WOCHE V (Dienstag, 12. Oktober): **Seit unvordenklichen Zeiten**

- Adalbert Stifter, *Das Haidedorf*

WOCHE VI (Dienstag, 19. Oktober): **In-class essay!**

WOCHE VII (Dienstag, 26. Oktober): **Eine aus der Naturkraft lebendige Sprache**

- Johann Gottlieb Fichte, *Reden an die deutsche Nation*
- Friedrich Schlegel, *Sprache und Weisheit der Indier*

WOCHE VIII (Dienstag, 2. November): **Denk ich an Deutschland in der Nacht**

- Heinrich Heine, *Deutschland. Ein Wintermärchen*

**Note:** November 3, last day to drop courses with F section codes from academic record and GPA

WOCHE IX (Dienstag, 9. November): **Herbstferien, keine Klasse**

WOCHE X (Dienstag, 16. November): **Wissen, bei dem die Tätigkeit erschlafft**

- Friedrich Nietzsche, *Vom Nutzen und Nachteil der Historie für das Leben*

WOCHE XI (Dienstag, 23. November): **Dicht neben einem Bahnübergang**

- Gerhart Hauptmann, *Bahnwärter Thiel*
- Wolfgang Schivelbusch, *Railway Journey*

WOCHE XII (Dienstag, 30. November): **Gesellschaft und Moral**

- Arthur Schnitzler, *Leutnant Gustl*

WOCHE XIII (Dienstag, 7. Dezember): **Rückblick und abschließende Diskussion**

- Otto Weininger, *Geschlecht und Charakter*
- Sigmund Freud, "Kulturelle" Sexualmoral
  
- **Abgabetermin: Aufsatz**

There will be NO final exam.