

The University of Toronto

## **DREAMS – DESIRE - DELUSION**

German 425S / Spring 2014

Instructor:	<b>JOHN NOYES</b>	Dept:	German
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Class meets on Wednesdays **from 2:00 to 4:00**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Why did the generation of poets born in the two decades preceding the French Revolution begin to demand a completely new kind of literature? What were their hopes for novels and poems, and how did literature relate to philosophy? The closing years of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth century saw some of the most innovative, radical and influential writing in the history of German literature and philosophy. In the stories, novels and poems of the Romantic period, but also in their theoretical writings, a generation gave expression to the sense of giddiness, awe and inspiration caused by a rapidly changing world. Modern life required a modern form of expression, and the Romantics wanted to do everything they could to find this form. In this seminar we will be following them on their encounters with modernity – we will read their writings in search of their innovations, disappointments, visions and hopes.

### **REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION**

Attendance and Participation	10%
Summary of theory reading from Romantik I	20%
Short assignments	30%
Term paper	40%

### **GOALS OF COURSE**

- Gain insight into the writings of Romanticism as an engagement with the possibilities and limitations of literature.
- Read the literature of Romanticism as a pathway into the structures of feeling that dominated the beginnings of modernism in Germany.
- Improve German language skills.
  1. Reading will be foregrounded, both in preparation for class and textual analysis in the seminars.
  2. Writing skills will be developed through assignments.

3. German is the language we will use in class, giving students the opportunity to improve their oral skills.

## **MATERIALS**

Students are required to purchase the following books, available at U of T Bookstore:

- Die deutsche Literatur in Text und Darstellung. Romantik I. Reclam Universalbibliothek 9629.
- Die deutsche Literatur in Text und Darstellung. Romantik II. Reclam Universalbibliothek 9633.
- E. T. A. Hoffmann, Der goldene Topf. Reclam Universalbibliothek 101.
- Kleist: Penthesilea. Reclam Universalbibliothek 1305.
- Chamisso, Peter Schlemihls wundersame Geschichte. Reclam Universalbibliothek 93.
- Tieck, Der blonde Eckbert. Reclam Universalbibliothek 7732.
- Eichendorff, Das Marmorbild. Reclam Universalbibliothek 18539.