

The University of Toronto

## **FILM AND HISTORY (VISUAL CULTURE)**

German 450H / Spring 2016

Instructor:	<b>STEFAN SOLDOVIERI</b>	Dept:	German
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Hours:	TBA	Tel.:	416/926-2341

Class meets on **Tuesday 2-6, Location TBA**

### **DESCRIPTION**



What do the movies tell us about history? What does history tell us about the movies? Whether in the form of epic, farce, or costume drama, history has been a preferred subject since the beginnings of narrative film. The course explores the various 'uses' of history in the cinema, with a focus on German-language productions. We will examine the different modes in which German cinemas have engaged and continue to engage German history and how they shape the public memory of historical events. The course films will draw on all eras of German Cinema.

### **REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION**

PARTICIPATION/PREPARATION	15%
4 SHORT ASSIGNMENTS	20%
PRESENTATION	25%
FINAL PAPER	40%

## **ATTENDANCE**

Participating in class discussions, exercise, and lectures is crucial for the successful completion of the course. If a student misses more than 25% of one or any semester (i.e. more than 6 hours = 3 class meetings) unexcused, the entire course will count as failed with a final grade of 0%. An excused absence is defined as one that has been validated in writing by a physician, clinic, or a person of authority, e.g. college registrar. Absenteeism inherently has indirect bearing upon all other aspects of the grade weighting. Examined material and homework assignments are based on tasks, activities and information integrated into class time instruction. Language practice also happens during course discussions.

## **A NOTE ON COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR PROFESSOR**

Even in a class with a manageable size like ours, it is sometimes difficult for a professor to anticipate and recognize all of the issues that can arise regarding classroom environment, expectations, teaching style, assignments, and marking. It is important that you see your professor during office hours (or schedule a special appointment) to discuss any matters related to the class as soon as they arise. Please don't wait until the end of the term; it is generally more productive for professors and students to meet during the term while there is still opportunity to address any concerns.

Email can be a very efficient means of communicating with your professor. I will make every effort to respond promptly to questions posed in emails. However, please do not expect me to respond instantaneously to emails sent shortly before class, during evening hours, or on weekends. In addition, you may be required to submit some writing assignments in electronic form for correction. This will be most efficient using an email attachment. You are required to use your 'utoronto' email for course correspondence and to check the BlackBoard site frequently for updates and assignments.

Brain scientists tell us that multi-tasking is a myth for us humans. This means that if you are checking your phone, you are not 100% engaged with the class activity. Cellphones must be put away and silenced during class time.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT**

Academic integrity is defined as the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. All students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and their efforts. Dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated in this course. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, using online translation machines, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

## **DISABILITY ACCESS**

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](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>.