

**The University of Toronto  
Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures**

**German 332HS L0101: Deviance, Madness, Outsiders in Literature**

**Winter 2018, time M 2-4 PM, place CR 405**

**Instructor's Contact Information**

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**Course Description**

Throughout history, literary texts have tested the limits of normal human experience by casting their protagonists into the depths of madness, by casting them out of society, and following them through their trials, their elation, their despair. In this course we will examine a number of texts that see the world through the eyes of outsiders, and that see the outsiders through the eyes of the world. Our aim will be to analyze literary descriptions of the limit experiences that separate “normal” life from its other. Our focus will be on short forms of prose in which the mysterious, miraculous and outlandish takes center stage.

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 discussions of deviance, madness, and outsiders as they are reflected in German prose texts, to enhance students' ability to analyze and interpret texts, and to improve students' facility with written and spoken German.

*Please check Blackboard regularly for the most current course information!*

**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 two (2) unexcused absences of 50 minutes each. Each unexcused absence after the second 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/s.** 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.

As mentioned above, the class will be conducted in German. However, don't be shy because you think your German is not perfect. It's much better to make mistakes than to say nothing. We will help each other to find the right words and structures!

**Blackboard contributions** (5%): 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: <https://portal.utoronto.ca>. You are expected to read your classmates' contributions. Your work on Blackboard will help you to participate in class and contribute to a lively discussion. Blackboard contributions will be marked with 0 or 1. As long as your contribution is directly related to the assigned text/task, 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 **Friday, 5 PM**. No late work will be accepted.

**Outline** (15%): Students will write an outline to prepare them for their creative project (detailed criteria will follow). See due date in the course program.

**Creative Project** (40%): The creative project assignment will ask students to write their own fairy tale (detailed criteria will follow). See due date in the course program.

**In-Class Essay** (25%): Students will write one in-class essay (detailed criteria will follow). See due date 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:	5%
Outline:	15%
Creative Project:	40%
In-Class Essay:	25%

### **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

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.i. of the University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters

(<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) which all students are expected to know and respect, it is an offence for students knowingly: "(a) to forge or in any other way alter or falsify any document or evidence required by the University, or to utter, circulate or make use of any such forged, altered or falsified document, whether the record be in print or electronic form; (b) to use or possess an unauthorized aid or aids or obtain unauthorized assistance in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work; (c) to personate another person, or to have another person personate, at any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work; (d) to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e. to commit plagiarism [...]; (e) to submit, without knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere; (f) to submit any academic work containing a purported statement of fact or reference to a source which has been concocted" (page 3). 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 an accessibility need, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible:  
[accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as>.

## Kursprogramm

*Im Folgenden finden Sie das geplante Kursprogramm, Änderungen vorbehalten.  
Bitte konsultieren Sie regelmäßig Blackboard für die aktuesten Informationen.*

WOCHE I (Montag, 8. Januar):

- Syllabus Besprechung und Einleitung

WOCHE II (Montag, 15. Januar): Von Außenseitern und Helden

- *Von einem, der auszog, das Fürchten zu lernen* (KHM 4)
- *Der treue Johannes* (KHM 6)
- *Die zwölf Brüder* (KHM 9)

WOCHE III (Montag, 22. Januar): Von Stiefmüttern und Hexen

- *Brüderchen und Schwesternchen* (KHM 11)
- *Hänsel und Gretel* (KHM 15)
- *Aschenputtel* (KHM 21)

- *Frau Holle* (KHM 24)
- *Rapunzel* (KHM 12)

WOCHE IV (Montag, 29. Januar): Von klugen Einfältigen

- *Das tapfere Schneiderlein* (KHM 20)
- *Die drei Federn* (KHM 63)
- *Die Bienenkönigin* (KHM 2)
- *Die goldene Gans* (KHM 64)

WOCHE V (Montag, 5. Februar): Von Menschen und Melusinen

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Die neue Melusine*
- **Montag, 5. Februar: Outline due**

WOCHE VI (Montag, 12. Februar): Von Menschen und Melusinen (continued)

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Die neue Melusine*

READING WEEK (Montag, 19. Februar): keine Klasse!

WOCHE VII (Montag, 26. Februar): Von Märchen und Medien

- Visualisierung und Adaptation
- **Montag, 26. Februar: Creative Project due**

WOCHE VIII (Montag, 5. März): Von fremden Freunden

- Ludwig Tieck, *Der blonde Eckbert*

WOCHE IX (Montag, 12. März): Von Wundern und Wunderlichem

- Heinrich von Kleist, *Die heilige Cäcilie*

**Note:** March 14<sup>th</sup>, last day to cancel (drop) courses with S section codes

WOCHE X (Montag, 19. März): Vom nächtlichen Grauen

- Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau, *Nosferatu – Eine Symphonie des Grauens*

WOCHE XI (Montag, 26. März):

- Review

WOCHE XII (Montag, 2. April):

- **Montag, 2. April: In-Class Essay**

→ There will be NO final exam.