

The University of Toronto

MEDIEVAL GERMAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

German 426H / Winter 2015

Instructor:	Prof. Markus STOCK	Dept:	German
Office	Odette Hall #323	Email:	markus.stock@utoronto.ca
Hours:	M 2-4 (& by app.)	Tel.:	416-926-2323

Class meets on **Fri 2-4pm** at **tbd**



DESCRIPTION

The course is an introduction to the German language and literature of the Middle Ages. The reading and translation of exemplary medieval German texts will provide an insight into epochal cultural concepts like courtly love and chivalry. The course will also provide some introduction to German language history. We will learn to read the original medieval German language. In addition, part of the course will be devoted to all aspects of medieval German culture, including its rich manuscript culture. We will tackle foundational texts such as the first German love songs and some shorter narrative texts by a fascinating 13th-century author named Konrad von Würzburg. No previous exposure to medieval culture or language required! The course language will be German.

REQUIREMENTS

Class participation (10%); one “word of the week”* presentation (15%); one take-home translation assignment (20%); one in-class translation exam (20%); one research paper proposal (10%); one research paper of at least 1,800 words (25%).

*WORD OF THE WEEK: Pick one modern German or medieval German word and explain its history, its development of meaning(s), but also, if you want and can, the changes in sound and spelling.

MATERIALS

Will be available from Blackboard.

In addition: Konrad von Würzburg: *Das Herzmære und andere Verserzählungen. Mittelhochdeutsch/Neuhochdeutsch*, ed. Lydia Miklautsch, Stuttgart: Reclam 2016.

CALENDAR

Sep 8, 2017

Introduction: What is Middle High German and why studying it?

Translation training: Der Kürenberger: ‚Ich zôch mir einen falcken‘; Dietmar von Eist (5) (photocopies provided).

Sep 15

Middle High German and New High German. MHG pronunciation and standard spelling

Konrad von Würzburg: *Der Welt Lohn*

Minnesang: Anonymous (8), Dietmar von Eist (9) [**numbers referring to poem numbers in course reader**]

Sep 22

Strong verbs and Ablaut

Minnesang: Der Kürenberger (10-20)

Sep 29

Weak verbs and i-mutation; MHG syntax

Der Welt Lohn

Oct 6

TRANSLATION ASSIGNMENT DUE

Der Welt Lohn

Oct 13

MHG nouns: some special cases; i-mutation (review)

Konrad von Würzburg: *Das Herzmäre*

Walther von der Vogelweide (**39**)

Oct 20

Manuscript Culture

Field Trip, Thomas Fisher Rare Books Library: Facsimiles of Medieval German Manuscripts

Konrad von Würzburg: *Das Herzmäre*

Oct 27 **TERM PAPER PROPOSAL DUE**

PEER-GROUP CONSULTATION ON TERM PAPER PROPOSAL

Minnesang: Heinrich von Morungen (**71; 72**)

Nov 3 **IN-CLASS TRANSLATION EXAM**

Minnesang. Pastourelle and Dawn Song: Walther von der Vogelweide (**103, 104**), Wolfram von Eschenbach (**115, 116**)

Nov 10 **NO CLASS, READING WEEK**

Nov 17

1,800-word **RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

Konrad von Würzburg: *Heinrich von Kempten*

Nov 24

Konrad von Würzburg: *Heinrich von Kempten*

Dec 1

Counter-Song (Gegensang): Neidhart (**128**), Steinmar (**140**)

Medieval German Christmas Carol Singing!