Course Outline

This year, the course focuses on ominous aspects of German literature, on its monsters & murderers. An ongoing subtheme is ‘magic’ as it is often in the realm of the fantastic that monsters and murderers truly come to their own. The course covers a time period of roughly 200 years dealing with the nightmares of the Romantic psyche with its witches and vampires all the way to the evil offspring of the postmodern era. We encounter instances of the grotesque and the macabre, of the mysterious & the uncanny, all the way to the outright monstrous & the sublime. Questions that guide us through the course are: In what ways do the works discussed mirror modern life experience? How do these monsters of the imagination interrelate to German culture and society?


Requirements

Attendance / Preparation / Participation ................................................................. 15%
4 Reflection Paragraphs ....................................................................................... 20%
Midterm Test .......................................................................................................... 25%
Endterm Test ......................................................................................................... 40%

Note: In case of a very high enrolment, the evaluation percentages might be subject to change!