

The University of Toronto

WRITING MEMORY: POST 1945

GER326 Winter 2019

Instructor: **HANG-SUN KIM** Dept: German
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Hours: Tuesdays 2-4pm Tel.: 416-926-2301
(or by appt.)

Class meets on **Fridays 2-4 at Northrop Frye, Room 007**

DESCRIPTION

Germany's relationship to its past is complex, multi-layered and has undergone various shifts since the end of Nazism in Germany in 1945. Confronted with the atrocities committed in the name of Germany, German authors, filmmakers, and artists have meditated on their repercussions for German identity in the present – whether this present was the immediate present of a postwar society in ruins and the Cold War, the present of the student movement and struggles for various forms of social justice on a national and global scale, or the present of a reunified Germany after the end of the East German dictatorship. The course is concerned with such contexts of negotiating forms of collective remembering in Germany. We will consider how films and literary texts turn the memory of the past into stories and how they thus become a way of mediating the past in the present.

MATERIALS

Readings will be posted on Quercus and select texts can be purchased at the University of Toronto Bookstore.

REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION

Attendance and Active Participation	15%
Close Reading	20%
Online contributions	10%
Presentation	25%
Final Paper	30%

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 1 unexcused absence. Each subsequent unexcused absence 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 texts. You are responsible for contributing to a meaningful exchange of ideas. You will be graded according to quality and frequency of your participation.

Online Contributions (10%): You will need to read the assigned texts to contribute comments on Quercus. Unless otherwise indicated, you can write on any aspect of the readings which seem interesting to you. You are also expected to read your classmates' contributions and respond to at least one other student's posting on a weekly basis. Online contributions are due Thursdays at 7pm. No late postings will be accepted.

Close Reading (20%): You will select a literary text from the course readings and interpret it (500-750 words in length). The goal of this assignment is to practice the art of close reading – examining the author's use of language to produce both the explicit and implicit meanings of the text. You must support your interpretation with textual evidence. Do not merely speculate. Write clearly and simply.

Presentation (25%): You will present a 'memory artifact' of your choosing (in consultation with me). Artifacts may be drawn from a range of media and may include literature, monuments, painting, sculpture, architecture, film, exhibits, music, performance, etc. The artifact must intersect with the Germanophone context. You will be evaluated based on the content of your presentation and your ability to communicate your ideas clearly in German.

Final Paper (30%): You will write a final essay of 1250-1500 words, which engages with the course texts and reflects critically on the course themes. Topics for papers will be suggested, but you can also develop your own topic in consultation with me. Please see due dates in the course program. For each day that a paper is late, I will deduct 5% of the overall essay mark.

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 late assignments must be discussed with me before the assignment due date. Except for emergencies, I will NOT accept excuses given after due date. An unexcused late assignment will result in a zero.

Inappropriate Use of Mobile Devices/Computers

Phones or similar mobile devices should be off during class time! No texting is allowed. Mobile devices and laptops can be used during class only with the explicit permission of the instructor. In case of repeated texting despite warnings from the instructor, the student's participation grade will be automatically lowered.

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 of the [University of Toronto's](#)

[Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#) which all students are expected to know and respect, it is an offence for students knowingly: 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; 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; 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; 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; 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; to submit any academic work containing a purported statement of fact or reference to a source which has been concocted. 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 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 or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

CALENDAR

NB: The course instructor reserves the right to make changes to this schedule. Please consult the online syllabus regularly.

Weeks	Readings	Important Dates
1) Jan. 11	Introduction Die Mörder sind unter uns (Film – Teil 1)	
2) Jan. 18	Die Mörder sind unter uns (Film – Teil 2)	
3) Jan. 25	Heinrich Böll - Wanderer kommst du nach Spa Wolfgang Borchert - Nachts schlafen die Ratten doch	
4) Feb. 1	Paul Celan - Todesfuge Ingeborg Bachmann - Die gestundete Zeit / Herbstmanöver	
5) Feb. 8	Jennifer Teege – Amon: Mein Großvater hätte mich erschossen	
6) Feb. 15	Peter Schneider – Der Mauerspringer (Auszug)	Close Reading due
Feb. 22 – Reading Week – No class		
7) Mar. 1	Barbara Honigmann - Eine Liebe aus nichts	
8) Mar. 8	Barbara Honigmann - Eine Liebe aus nichts	
9) Mar. 15	Barbara Honigmann - Eine Liebe aus nichts	
10) Mar. 22	W.G. Sebald – Die Ausgewanderten (Auszug)	
11) Mar. 29	<i>Er ist wieder da</i> (Film)	
12) Apr. 5	Erinnerungskultur	Final Papers due