

The University of Toronto  
**INTRODUCTION TO POETRY**

German 330H / Winter 2019

Instructor: **EROL BORAN**  
Office: Odette Hall #309  
Hours: M 10-12 (& by app.)  
Dept: German  
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Class meets on **M 1-3** at **NF 006**

## **DESCRIPTION**

Poetry provides an excellent way of looking at German culture through art. The basis of the course will be close reading and of poems in the German language across a variety of subgenres through different epochs. The texts we read & discuss are (mostly) short & (always) challenging and allow for ample contextualization and interpretation. The course will be taught in German, and class discussions and assignments will be in German as well.

## **CLASS GOALS**

The course is designed to continue the transition from language to topic courses (GER 205 & 305). Using a literary short form, we focus on reading, understanding and interpreting the poems before contextualizing and historicizing them. Assignments help you acquire skills necessary in German literary studies (structuring arguments in oral presentations & written assignments based on close reading & research). The class will improve your German language skills.

## **REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION**

Participation/Preparation	20%
Presentation (weeks 3-11)	30%
2 Short Essays (week 6 & 12)	50%

Like all course offerings of the German Department, this course requires thorough preparation, continuous attendance and active participation. Students are expected to engage with the texts actively and thoroughly and share their insights in class discussions and Blackboard discussions. Attendance policy: You are required to attend very class with the prepared text in hand. You may miss one session only without valid excuse; after that 10% will be taken off the final grade for each additional unexcused absence.

## **MATERIALS**

Available via Quercus and handouts.

## CALENDAR

Note: The purpose of this calendar is to provide a general idea of how this course is structured. It may be subject to change. A binding course syllabus will be provided at the first class session.

Week 1	Gedichte interpretieren I: Form & Inhalt
Week 2	Gedichte interpretieren II: Epochen & Kontexte
Week 3	Mittelalter, Barock, Aufklärung
Week 4	Sturm & Drang, Romantik
Week 5	Goethe & Schiller
Week 6	Realismus, Naturalismus / Aufsatz 1
Week 7	Expressionismus, Dadaismus
Week 8	Krieg, Nachkriegszeit
Week 9	Liedermacher, Protestlyrik
Week 10	Lyrik der Migration
Week 11	Gegenwartslyrik
Week 12	Deutsch-Rap / Aufsatz 2

## NOTE ON COLLABORATING & EXCHANGING IDEAS

An important part of the fun of reading & interpreting poetry is working with partners or in groups (i.e. in communicative exchange with others). Hence I encourage you to form reading groups to prepare poems for class sessions. I also allow (but don't enforce) partner work in presentations, as it allows you to work with a poem in more depth and perhaps also more creatively. Finally, classroom space permitting, you will be seating in changing groups of ~5 people and be assigned group tasks as part of each class session.