

***** Subject to Change *****

V51.0152 INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN LITERATURE

Spring 2009: Monday & Wednesday 11–12:15

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Prerequisite

Intermediate German II, Intensive Intermediate German or approval by the director of language program

Course Description

This course has two major goals: (1) to introduce students to a selection of representative authors and exemplary texts of literature written in German language from the 18th to the 20th century and (2) to develop close and critical reading skills while learning to express yourselves about literary texts in German, both in writing and in speaking. Covering the three major literary genres – poetry, prose, drama – some of the following issues will be discussed: the depiction of otherness; the representation of time and history; the uncanny; the relationship between form and content; the economy of human relationships on the basis of, e.g., hierarchy, love, authority.

Course Materials

There are no books to be purchased for this course, but you need to buy two readers available at *Advanced Copy Center*, 552 LaGuardia Place (betw. Bleeker & W. 3rd St., one block South of Bobst Library): the first reader contains the literary texts in German, the second provides you with a background reading in English (C.P. Magill, *German Literature*, London/Oxford/New York 1974). If necessary, additional materials will be distributed in class by the instructor.

If you have not done so already, the acquisition of a good dictionary (bilingual is fine) is necessary at this point.

Grading

Attendance, preparedness and active participation	20%
Homework and regular written reading responses	30%
Introduction of one author, text segment, or period	10%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final paper (5-7 pages)	20%

Attendance

Attendance is required and will be checked every time the class meets. Each unexcused absence will lower your attendance grade by 10 points. If you miss class without excuse seven times or more, you will be failed. You will not be penalized for legitimate absence due to illness (documented by a note from NYU health services), emergency, or religious observance; contact the instructor as soon as possible.



SEMESTERPLAN

1. Woche	21. Januar	Einführung
2. Woche	26. Januar	Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832): »Willkommen und Abschied«, »Erlkönig« <u>Background Reading:</u> 1-27 (»The Middle Ages;« »The 16 th and 17 th century«)
	28. Januar	Goethe: »Der Zauberlehrling«, »Prometheus« Friedrich Hölderlin (1770-1843): »An die Parzen«
3. Woche	2. Februar	Johann Peter Hebel (1760-1826): »Unverhofftes Wiedersehen« <u>Background Reading:</u> 28-72 (»The 18 th century«)
	4. Februar	Ludwig Tieck (1773-1853): »Der blonde Eckbert« First Reading Response due
4. Woche	9. Februar	Tieck: »Eckbert« <u>Background Reading:</u> 73-89 (»Romanticism«)
	11. Februar	Tieck: »Eckbert«
5. Woche	16. Februar	President's Day
	18. Februar	Joseph von Eichendorff (1788-1857): »Mondnacht«, »Sehnsucht« Annette von Droste-Hülshoff (1797-1848): »Im Grase« Eduard Möricke (1804-1875): »Um Mitternacht« <u>Background Reading:</u> 90-132 (»The mid-19 th century«)

6. Woche	23. Februar	Georg Büchner (1813-1837): <i>Woyzeck</i>	Second Reading Response due
	25. Februar	Büchner: <i>Woyzeck</i>	
7. Woche	2. März	Büchner: <i>Woyzeck</i> (Werner Herzog's Film)	
	4. März	Theodor Storm (1817-1888): »Hyazinthen« Gottfried Keller (1819-1890): »Abendlicht;« »Die Zeit geht nicht,« Conrad Ferdinand Meyer (1825-1898): »Der römische Brunnen«, »Zwei Segel« <u>Background Reading</u>: 133-145 ("The late 19th century")	
8. Woche	9. März	Arthur Schnitzler (1862-1931): <i>Liebelei</i> (Akt 1)	Third Reading Response due
	11. März	Schnitzler: <i>Liebelei</i> (Akt 2)	
9. Woche	16./18. März	Springbreak	
10. Woche	23. März	Schnitzler: <i>Liebelei</i> (Akt 3) Max Ophüls' Film <i>Liebelei</i> <u>Background Reading</u>: 146-171 (»The Twentieth Century«)	Fourth Reading Response due
	25. März	Midterm	
11. Woche	30. März	Stefan George (1868-1933): »Du schlank und rein wie eine flame« Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926): »Der Panther«, »Das Karussell« Christian Morgenstern (1871-1914): »Das ästhetische Wiesel«, »Der Lattenzaun«	
	1. April	Franz Kafka (1883-1924): »Die Sorge des Hausvaters« (1917) Robert Walser (1878-1956): »Die Wurst«	

12. Woche 6. April **Kafka:** »Das Urteil« (1912)

8. April **Else Lasker-Schüler:** »Komm zu mir in der Nacht«
Gottfried Benn: »Auf deine Lider senk ich Schlummer«
Kurt Schwitters: »Anna Blume,«
Erich Kästner: »Sachliche Romanze«

13. Woche 13. April **Robert Musil (1880-1942):** »Das Fliegenpapier« (1914)

Fifth Reading Response due

15. April **Bertolt Brecht (1898-1956):** Auszüge aus *Geschichten vom Herrn Keuner* (1930)

14. Woche 20. April **Brecht:** »An die Nachgeborenen«

22. April **Heinrich Böll (1917-1985):** »Mein teures Bein«

15. Woche 27. April **Ingeborg Bachmann (1926-1973):** »Besichtigung einer alten Stadt«

29. April **Ingeborg Bachmann:** »Anrufung des Großen Bären«, »Erklär mir, Liebe« **Paul Celan (1920-1970):** »Es war Erde in ihnen«, »Corona«

16. Woche 4. Mai Last class session

Final Paper