

**University of Alaska Fairbanks
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures**

**German 302: Introduction to German Literature
Spring 2012– Gruening 308
TTH 9:45-11:15 PM**

Instructor: Dr. Josef K. Glowa, Gruening 609 A, tel. 474-5462,
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Office hours: MF 2:00-3:00 pm ; TTH 1-2 pm or by appointment
Prerequisite: German 301 or equivalent

You can also reach me at any time in my virtual office: I will respond to your e-mails as promptly as possible.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to introduce you to the history of German–language literature and to improve your writing skills. We will not be able to do justice to all outstanding authors and texts, but you will study a wide variety of selections as possible in order to capture the essence of individual periods or movements. A thorough textual analysis and discussion of selected texts will enable you to familiarize yourself with representative authors, works, genres, and develop your critical reading and writing skills. Although the works will be generally discussed chronologically, the focus is not on a comprehensive overview, but the course’s goal is rather to help you acquire methods, terminology, and practice of literary analysis, and to wet your appetite for a further study of German literature. In order to support and deepen study and research, you will be required to check out relevant primary and secondary works from the university library. These “tools” will help you to broaden your understanding of German literary history and introduce you to the scholarship that contributed to it.

This is also an advanced writing course whose goal is to familiarize you with various categories of writing in German. What to say and how to say it generally dictate stylistic elements such as vocabulary, sentence structure, the use of metaphor, and other rhetorical devices. Your writing assignments will encompass a wide variety of topics, with literary analysis being just one of them.

You will be reading poetry, novellas, essays, dramas, and fairy tales. Videos, as well as traditional and on-line scholarly resources will complement your coursework. The lectures, discussions, oral and written assignments will help you become more confident and more proficient in written and spoken German. Course is conducted in German.

Grammar, though not the focus of this course, will be reviewed and expanded throughout the semester.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- recognize key fictional and non-fictional texts from various genres and periods, from the Middle Ages to the modern period.
- name the principal authors of German-language literature representing the most important literary periods.
- define the chief literary movement in German-language literature.
- discuss fictional and non-fictional texts appropriately in the target language.
- analyze fictional and non-fictional texts from various genres and periods and situate them in their cultural and historical contexts.
- apply methods of literary analysis in the target language.

- write essays of literary criticism with supporting arguments and appropriate quotations from the primary and secondary sources.
- write in a style (formal, informal, objective, rhetorical, argumentative, casual, etc.) befitting the topic or writing style.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Larry D. Wells. *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*. 4th edition. Publisher: Houghton Mifflin. ISBN 0-618-33812-8.
- Dürrenmatt, Friedrich. *Der Richter und sein Henker*
- I suggest strongly that you also purchase a good German-English, English-German dictionary--larger than pocket size!

The above listed books will be complemented by online texts, handouts, videos, DVDs, and course materials available on Ereserve

Instructional Methods

- discussions
- lectures
- Partner and group work
- student reports on readings, authors, and background information
- use of videos and musical works

Grading

- Participation and oral presentations 15%
- Short response essays every second week 20 %
- Two formal papers: I. 3 pages (15) II. 5 pages (20). Each in German, including bibliography.
- Midterm 10 %
- Final Exam 20 %

Grading scale for exams:

97-100%	A+
93-96%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67- 69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
less than 60	F

Attendance

Your participation is of utmost necessity to make this course a success. Attendance will be noted in each class. You are allowed TWO absences without punishment. Some form of documentation will be required for excused absences such as illness, family emergencies, and academic obligations, or any College-sponsored extra-curricular events such as any varsity sports team. It is your responsibility to inform me in advance of any scheduled events. If you must be absent, notify me ahead of time. Obtain the assignment from me or from a classmate, so that you can hand it in on time. Regardless of your reason for missing class, you will want to keep up with your work. **NOTE:** Each unexcused absence will reduce your participation grade at the end of the semester. However, four unexcused absences will

reduce your final participation grade to F. If you are absent from class for three consecutive weeks without excuse, you will be dropped from the class roll or given the grade F.

Participation

You will be expected to have completed all the readings prior to each class meeting, and to engage in informed discussions pertaining to a text's content, its formal features, its cultural context, or other relevant aspects. Sometimes you will be given written questions to answer at home. They will facilitate your readings and help you to be better prepared. You will be asked to give two short oral presentations on literary periods, writers' biographies, or other relevant topics.

Midterm & Final Exam

Both Midterm and Final consist of short questions/answers, mainly in German. The Final is comprehensive and will include a short essay in German.

Short Response Essays

These one-page essays should be double-spaced, font 12 Times or similar. Each essay will focus on a particular theme and category of writing. Essays will be graded. Re-writes will improve the grade by one letter grade.

Papers

For your papers you will be asked to select a topic related to works and authors discussed in class. Depending on your choice, the instructor will assist you in selecting appropriate interpretative approaches. The papers should be double-spaced, font 12 Times or similar. A draft must be handed in prior to writing the final version of the paper, so I can provide critical feedback and suggestions for improving your final draft. Use MLA style sheet.

Useful Links (will be updated)

Allgemein

Mittelalter: <http://www.mediaevum.de/>

Projekt Gutenberg: <http://projekt.gutenberg.de/>

Medieval German Literature: <http://www.nd.edu/~gantho/anth1-163/frames.html>

Literaturgeschichte

<http://www.pohlw.de/literatur/index.htm>

Epochen

<http://www.xlibris.de/Autoren/Klassiker/Literaturepochen.htm>

Martin Luther

<http://www.luther.de/>

Gedichtinterpretationen

<http://www.literatur-wissen.de/Studium/Gedichtinterpretation/gedichtinterpretation.html>

Online dictionaries

- <http://www.dict.cc/>,
- <http://www.duden-suche.de/>
- <http://dict.leo.org>,
- <http://dict.tu-chemnitz.de/>,
- <http://wolfram.schneider.org/dict/>,
- <http://www.linguadict.de>.

Other important links:

Goethe Institut

- <http://www.inter-nationes.de>
- <http://www.goethe.de/ins/us/ney/deindex.htm>

Media

- <http://dw-world.de/>
- <http://www.spiegel.de/>
- <http://www.zdf.de/>

Zwiebelfisch

- <http://www.spiegel.de/kultur/zwiebelfisch/0,1518,k-4050,00.html>

Rechtschreibreform

- <http://www.ids-mannheim.de/reform/>

Grammatik im WWW

- <http://www.ids-mannheim.de/grammis/orbis/tswww/index.html>

Deutsche Sprache — Fragen und Antworten

- <http://faql.de/>

Note: The use of electronic translation programs is not allowed and will constitute a violation of the Academic Honor Code (see UAF Honor Code below).

Classroom Etiquette

- ◆ No chewing gum, food, or beverages! You will need to be able to speak clearly and loudly, free of any interference.
- ◆ No pagers and cell phones!
- ◆ **Honor Code**

Exercise high ethical standards. High ethical standards are expected in this class. The standards in this class adhere to the UAF Honor Code:

1. *Students will not collaborate on any quizzes, in-class exams, or take-home exams that will contribute to their grade in a course, unless permission is granted by the instructor of the course. Only those materials permitted by the instructor may be used to assist in quizzes and examinations.*
2. *Students will not represent the work of others as their own. A student will attribute the source of information not original with himself or herself (direct quotes or paraphrases) in compositions, theses and other reports.*
3. *No work submitted for one course may be submitted for credit in another course without the explicit approval of both instructors.*

Violations of the Honor Code will result in a failing grade for the assignment and, ordinarily, for the course in which the violation occurred. Moreover, violations of the Honor Code may result in suspension or expulsion

(p. 80, 2007-2008 UAF Catalog)

◆ Accommodation

If you have a disability and require any auxiliary aids, services or accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact me after class, see me in the my office, or call me during the first few weeks of the semester so we can talk about your particular situation. Early attention to specific accommodation needs provides enough time for any necessary planning or preparation.

Note: *I reserve the right to make appropriate changes to this syllabus whenever necessary.*

Viel Erfolg und auf gute Zusammenarbeit im neuen Semester!

