



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

GERM 369  
Topics in German Literature  
Fall 2017

MWF 1:00-1:50 p.m., room: SS 115

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Jan Süselbeck, PhD, PD Dr.

**OFFICE LOCATION:** CHC 118

**OFFICE HOURS:** by appointment

**TELEPHONE NUMBER :** 403-220-7316

**E-Mail :** [jan.suselbeck@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jan.suselbeck@ucalgary.ca)

**DESCRIPTION**

Let's go for a journey through the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century in German literature, getting introduced to Expressionism, the theatre of the Weimar Republic, lyrical reflections of the Holocaust, prose about World War II, and contemporary literature.

In this seminar, students will explore different literary genres by major German-speaking authors, such as Franz Kafka, Bertolt Brecht, Ilse Aichinger and Heinrich Böll, as well as current bestselling and highly acclaimed writers just as Judith Hermann, Feridun Zaimoglu, and Florian Illies.

**OBJECTIVES**

Activities and assignments in this course will focus on the development of reading competency in different literary genres, the expansion of students' German vocabulary, and the development of German written and oral expression. Conducted in German.

**DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES**

- 25 % essay (5-6 pages in German, 2 versions)
- 15 % short assignments (2 response papers)
- 15 % seminar presentation
- 5 % „Wortschatzmeister / Wortschatzmeisterin“ (providing a vocabulary list, see below)
- 20 % class discussion



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**REQUIRED TEXTS**

You will read one novel, along with a selection of poetry, short prose and drama. Readings are posted on D2L with the exception of the novel (to be purchased at the UofC bookstore):

**Illies, Florian. 1913. *Der Sommer des Jahrhunderts*. Frankfurt am Main: S. Fischer 2014.  
€ 10,99, ISBN: 978-3-596-19324-0**

Readings on D2L

- Adorno, Theodor. „Cultural Criticism and Society.“ *Can One Live After Auschwitz? A Philosophical Reader*. Ed. R. Tiedemann, Trans. R. Livingstone et al. Stanford: Stanford UP, 2003.
- Aichinger, Ilse. „Spiegelgeschichte.“ *Deutsche Erzähler*. vol. 2. Frankfurt a/M: Insel, 1971. 494-504.
- Anz, Thomas. „Jakob van Hoddis (1887–1942): Weltende“. *Deutsche Lyrik in 30 Beispielen*. Eds. Andrea Geier and Jochen Strobel. Paderborn: Wilhelm Fink 2011. 227-236.
- Binder, Hartmut. „Vor dem Gesetz“. *Einführung in Kafkas Welt*. Stuttgart / Weimar: Verlag J. B. Metzler 1993. 3-9.
- Böll, Heinrich. „Als der Krieg ausbrach.“ *Werke*. Ed. Bernd Balzer. Köln: Kiepenheuer & Witsch, 1987. Band 3. 13-30.
- Brecht, Bertolt. „Das epische Theater.“ *Die Stücke von Bertolt Brecht in einem Band*. Frankfurt a/M: Suhrkamp, 1978. 249-55.
- Brecht, Bertolt. „Der Jasager“; „Der Neinsager“. *Die Stücke von Bertolt Brecht in einem Band*. Frankfurt a/M: Suhrkamp, 1978. 983-989.
- Celan, Paul. „Todesfuge.“ [www.celan-projekt.de](http://www.celan-projekt.de)
- Hermann, Judith. „Diesseits der Oder.“ *Sommerhaus, später. Erzählungen*. Frankfurt a/M: Fischer, 2003. 167-188.
- Hesse, Hermann. „Wenn der Krieg noch zwei Jahre dauert.“ *Sämtliche Werke*. Frankfurt a/M: Suhrkamp, 2001. Band 8. 158-165.
- Kafka, Franz. „Das Urteil.“ *Das Urteil und andere Erzählungen*. Frankfurt a/M: Fischer, 1935. 7-18.
- Neumann, Gerhard. *Franz Kafka. „Das Urteil“*. Text, Materialien, Kommentar. München, Wien: Carl Hanser Verlag 1981. 32-66; 222-225.
- Schlesinger, Klaus. „Am Ende der Jugend.“ *Berliner Traum. Fünf Geschichten*. Frankfurt a/M: Fischer, 1977. 155-171.
- Vogt, Jochen. *Einladung zur Literaturwissenschaft*. Mit einem Vertiefungsprogramm im Internet. 6., erweiterte und aktualisierte Auflage. Paderborn: Wilhelm Fink 2008. 139-60, and 176-182.
- Zaimoglu, Feridun. „Kanak Sprak“; „Pop is ne fatale Orgie“; „Der direkte Draht zum schwarzen Mann.“ *Kanak Sprak. 24 Mißtöne vom Rande der Gesellschaft*. Hamburg: Rotbuch, 2004. 9-33.



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**COURSE NOTES**

Seminar participants will be expected to be prepared and to participate actively in class discussion. Each student will make one presentation in class, write two responses to particular texts (1.5 pages each) and write one short seminar paper. The paper must be written in German and be approximately 5-6 pages in length. The paper will be submitted in two drafts; only the final version will receive a grade. There will be a two-hour examination at the end of the semester.

**Accommodation**

If you are a student with a disability, who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to:

- register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237), and
- discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

**Assignments and Expectations (all assignments are in German)**

- Since it is a literature class, writing will be assessed according to content, form, analysis, originality. These will be weighted more heavily than language components, but the class has still a strong focus on improving your German. The better your German is, the easier it is to express more complex ideas in your assignments.
- 25% 1 essay in German (5-6 pages of text, double-spaced, in German) to be handed in two drafts; only the final draft will be graded. The paper should have a title page containing your name, course, student number. One-inch margins all around, double-spaced. Include a bibliography with at least three sources, in MLA Style.
- 15% two response papers (1.5 pages of text, double-spaced, in German); the first response paper is compulsory; then you will be given options for the second. Assignment questions for your responses will be communicated via D2L.
- 15% presentation (15 minutes), critically introducing and discussing the reading material; list of ideas for discussion and a written handout / power point presentation for class required
- 5% *Wortschatzmeister / Wortschatzmeisterin* (providing a vocabulary list, see below) Once during the semester you will read an assignment ahead and type a vocabulary list 40-60 words from the text that the rest of the class will use when they do their reading. Remember to include the gender (der/die/das) and the plural form of nouns, the infinitives of verbs.
- 20% one final exam on contents of readings and films, on the vocabulary of the *Wortschatzlisten*, on concepts discussed in the class in short answer and essay questions
- 20% class discussions; tell the instructor as early as possible if you must miss a class; participation means active engagement in the activities of the class (with your ideas you



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improve the discussions for everyone); it is based on thorough readings of the assigned texts, films, and other homework assignments

- Missed presentations, missed tests, missed deadlines: Expected to contact the instructor *prior* to the missed class / deadline in order to reschedule the presentation or test (phone / email) or in order to ask for an extension

**Updated reading and homework assignments, as well as schedule changes can be found on D2L.**

#### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

#### **DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services office at 403-210-6019 or [access@ucalgary.ca](mailto:access@ucalgary.ca); SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)

Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.

The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at [http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy\\_0.pdf](http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy_0.pdf)



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**EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS**

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding.

Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

**INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

**SAFEWALK**

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

**STUDENT UNION INFORMATION**

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

**WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.