

GER 241: Introduction to the Study of German Literature Spring 2015

**School of Languages and Cultures
Department of German and Russian**

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Office Hours: Monday and Friday 10:30-11:30am, and by appointment

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the study of German literature. The course will provide an overview of the formal elements of poetry, fiction, and drama as well as literary periods and basic concepts of literary theory. Through careful reading, class discussions, and assignments, we will practice the application of these tools by analyzing and interpreting a selection of German, Austrian, and Swiss literary texts. The language of the course is German and all texts will be read in German. You have to have passed GER 202 or the equivalent in order to take 241.

Course Objective

This course is designed to familiarize you with the study of German literature and to help you improve your language skills. You will learn to read German literature carefully and analytically and respond to German literary texts both orally and in writing in the target language. You will also become familiar with certain intellectual and artistic concepts and with the different cultural and historical contexts of the texts on the syllabus. Like any activity, reading, writing and talking about German literature are habits. The more you do it, the more likely it is your abilities will improve. This course will provide you with practice, methods, and ideas for improving your reading, discussion, oral presentation, and writing skills in German.

Course Schedule

Stanley Coulter Hall G002 MWF 08:30 - 09:30am

Required Texts and Materials

- Books (available at Von's Book Shop):

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Grundkurs Literaturwissenschaft</i>. Becker Sabina; Christine Hummel; Gabriele Sander. Reclam. ISBN 978-3150176627 ○ <i>Der blonde Eckbert. Der Runenberg: Märchen</i>. Ludwig Tieck. Reclam. ISBN 315007732X ○ <i>Bahnwärter Thiel</i>. Gerhart Hauptmann. Reclam. ISBN 978-3-15-006617-1 ○ <i>Die Dreigroschenoper</i>. Bertolt Brecht. Suhrkamp BasisBibliothek. ISBN 978-3518188484 ○ <i>Die Verwandlung</i>. Franz Kafka. Suhrkamp Basis Bibliothek. ISBN 3518188135 ○ <i>Homo faber: Ein Bericht</i>. Max Frisch. Suhrkamp Basis Bibliothek. ISBN 978-3518188033 |
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- **3x5-inch notecards** to turn in at the end of each session with a question or comment in German counting towards Attendance and Participation
- Supplementary materials on **Blackboard Learn** to be printed for class (see schedule)

Please allow at least six hours per week for class reading and homework, plus extra time for writing papers, preparing a presentation, and studying for exams.

Semester Grade Breakdown:

20%	Attendance and Participation
20%	Homework and Quizzes
20%	Two Essays (10% each)
10%	Take-Home Midterm
10%	Take-Home Final Exam
5%	Presentation of Final Paper
15%	Final Paper

%	- 98	- 93	- 90	- 88	- 83	- 80	- 78	- 73	- 70	- 68	- 63	- 60
Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-

Exams and Quizzes

You will have a take-home midterm and a take-home final exam as well as periodic unannounced in-class quizzes. **Barring extenuating circumstances, you may not make up exams or quizzes.**

Essays

You will have to write **two essays** with a length of 3-4 pages each. The essays will be due one week after I announce the respective topic. I will provide you with more detailed information about your essays and final paper during the course of the semester.

Final Paper

The final paper will give you the chance to develop your own research project and to spend more time on a specific work. The required length of your final paper is 5-7 pages.

Presentation of Final Paper

You will give a 5 minute presentation on your final paper before it is due. This will provide you with the opportunity to present your research project with its approach and thesis to your classmates so that you can get their feedback before you have to hand in your final paper. You will sign up for a date for your final paper presentation after the midterm.

I am more than happy to help you with your writing and to read a draft of your work if you make an appointment to see me. Make sure to format your essays and your final paper according to the MLA guidelines. If you have questions about MLA style, please let me know and/or refer to the OWL, the Purdue Online Writing Lab (<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/>).

To be successful in your writing assignments, please plan ahead! **Late papers will only be accepted with a 10% grade deduction for each day they are late!**

Participation

Discussion is an integral part of this course. You are expected to attend all classes fully prepared to actively engage with the assigned reading(s). Active participation means raising your hand to ask or answer questions, volunteering to give examples or share your work, offering additional information or reflections when answering a question, etc. You must also bring the correct text(s), writing implements, and paper to class each day. Please see the "Participation Grading Criteria" on page 5 of this syllabus for a detailed participation grading rubric.

Lateness

It is your responsibility to make sure that you come to class on time. Students will be marked late if they arrive up to 15 minutes after class begins. After 15 minutes, the student may be marked absent. Arriving less than 15 minutes late twice may also equal one absence. Please note that the quizzes will take place during the beginning of class, and you will not be allowed to make up a quiz that you miss due to lateness.

Attendance

Class meets three times a week (MWF) and **attendance is required because your participation is crucial!** Attendance is calculated as a strict percentage of the number of times you were in class – in other words, every unexcused absence counts against your overall semester grade. **If you miss a session unexcused, you will receive a zero for both attendance and participation that day.** If you miss class, it is your responsibility (not your instructor's) to find out what was done in class. It is recommended that you find another student in the class whom you can contact to find out this information – your instructor is under no obligation to respond to your email inquiries concerning missed materials because of an unexcused absence.

Absences due to personal, family, or medical emergencies may be excused at the discretion of your instructor. Students must document and sign this request to their instructor in a written note including the date of absence(s) and a brief explanation. Please contact your instructor as soon as possible regarding absences from class. The Course Coordinator reserves the right to limit the number of excused absences granted to any student in a semester. Note that it is possible to fail this course on attendance alone. **If you have more than 6 unexcused absences, the instructor may fail you!** See <http://www.purdue.edu/odos/services/classabsence.php> for Purdue's complete Class Attendance and Absence Reporting Policy.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty or plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstances! If found guilty, possible penalties include suspension or expulsion. Purdue prohibits "dishonesty in connection with any University activity. Cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty." Plagiarism is a special kind of academic dishonesty in which one person steals another person's ideas or words and falsely presents them as the plagiarist's own product. This may be done by not giving credit for a quote or a passage of information, or by deliberately copying a written work, or downloading a paper or presentation from the internet without giving credit to the source. To avoid plagiarism, cite references and sources! See <http://www.purdue.edu/odos/aboutodos/academicintegrity.php> for Purdue's complete Academic Integrity policy.

Special Needs

If you have any special disability-related needs that may affect your performance in this course, please speak privately with your instructor as soon as possible.

College of Liberal Arts Classroom Civility Statement

Purdue University is committed to fostering diversity and inclusion and welcomes individuals of all ages, religions, sex, sexual orientations, races, nationalities, languages, military experience, disabilities, family statuses, gender identities and expressions, political views, and

socioeconomic statuses. Please respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by everyone in this course. Behaviors that threaten, harass, discriminate or that are disrespectful of others will not be tolerated. Inappropriate behaviors will be addressed with disciplinary action, which may include being referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. Please bring any relevant problems to my attention immediately! Visit Purdue's Nondiscrimination policy for more information: http://www.purdue.edu/purdue/ea_eou_statement.html

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices, such as cell phones, pagers, tablet PCs, digital recorders, beepers, palms, MP3 players, digital cameras or laptops, are not to be used during class unless the instructor authorizes their usage for a class-related purpose.

Emergencies

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Information about changes to the course can be obtained by contacting the instructor via e-mail or phone. **You are responsible for checking your Purdue e-mail frequently!**

Communicating with Your Instructor

Please feel free to contact me anytime via email at weilerc@purdue.edu. In case of an emergency, you can also text or call me at 352-871-3378. In addition, I encourage you to come by my office in SC G054 during my office hours. If you want to meet with me outside my office hours, please do not hesitate to email me to arrange an appointment. If you are having any kind of difficulties, it is best that you let me know as soon as possible! Please remember that I am here to help!



Es gibt dreierlei Arten Leser; eine, die ohne Urteile genießt, eine dritte, die ohne zu genießen urteilt, die mittlere, die genießend urteilt und urteilend genießt; diese reproduziert eigentlich ein Kunstwerk aufs neue.

– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Participation Grading Criteria

An A student:

- ◆ is on time and has all their materials with them
- ◆ is attentive to what is going on in class
- ◆ always prepared for class
- ◆ displays a positive attitude and enthusiasm for the subject
- ◆ works well with other students in groups
- ◆ stays on-task when working in groups or alone
- ◆ asks questions when they do not understand something
- ◆ almost always volunteers to answer open questions
- ◆ almost always volunteers/answers when going over assigned work

A B student:

- ◆ is almost always on-time and has their materials with them
- ◆ is attentive to what is going on in class
- ◆ mostly prepared for class
- ◆ displays a positive attitude and shows interest in the subject
- ◆ works well with other students in groups
- ◆ stays on-task when working in groups or alone
- ◆ asks questions when they do not understand something
- ◆ sometimes volunteers to answer open questions
- ◆ sometimes volunteers/answers when going over assigned work

A C student:

- ◆ is generally on time and has their materials with them
- ◆ is attentive to what is going on in class most of the time
- ◆ often or sometimes prepared for class
- ◆ works ok with other students in groups
- ◆ sometimes gets off-task when working in groups
- ◆ does the bare minimum when working alone
- ◆ does not ask questions when they do not understand something
- ◆ rarely volunteers to answer open questions
- ◆ displays an indifferent attitude

A D/F student:

- ◆ is often late to class and often forgets to bring the necessary materials
- ◆ does not pay attention to what is going on in class
- ◆ usually does not prepare for class
- ◆ chats with other students when they are supposed to be doing group work
- ◆ does little or nothing when they are supposed to be working alone
- ◆ never volunteers to answer open questions
- ◆ never volunteers when going over assigned work
- ◆ is uncooperative in group work
- ◆ is disruptive to instructor and/or other students in the class
- ◆ displays an attitude that indicates that they would rather be anywhere else

GER 241: Tentative Schedule

WEEK	TEXTS and ASSIGNMENTS
1	M 1/12 Einführung und Kennenlernen
	W 1/14 Gottfried August Bürger "Lenore" (PDF)
	F 1/23 Gottfried August Bürger "Lenore"
2	M 1/19 No class: Martin Luther King Day
	W 1/21 Goethe "Willkommen und Abschied" + Sophie Brentano "In Tränen geh ich..."(PDF)
	F 1/23 Goethe "Erlkönig"+ Schiller "Der Handschuh" (PDF) Essay Topic 1 announced
3	M 1/26 Ludwig Tieck <i>Der blonde Eckbert</i>
	W 1/28 Ludwig Tieck <i>Der blonde Eckbert</i>
	F 1/30 Ludwig Tieck <i>Der blonde Eckbert</i> Essay 1 due
4	M 2/2 Gerhart Hauptmann <i>Bahnwärter Thiel</i>
	W 2/4 Gerhart Hauptmann <i>Bahnwärter Thiel</i>
	F 2/6 Gerhart Hauptmann <i>Bahnwärter Thiel</i> Essay Topic 2 announced
5	M 2/9 Franz Kafka <i>Die Verwandlung</i>
	W 2/11 Franz Kafka <i>Die Verwandlung</i>
	F 2/13 Franz Kafka <i>Die Verwandlung</i> Essay 2 due
6	M 2/16 Franz Kafka <i>Die Verwandlung</i>
	W 2/18 Franz Kafka <i>Die Verwandlung</i>
	F 2/20 Midterm Review Midterm Questions announced
7	M 2/23 Franz Kafka "Der Geier" + Christa Reinig "Skorpion" (PDF)
	W 2/25 Bertolt Brecht <i>Die Dreigroschenoper</i>
	F 2/27 Bertolt Brecht <i>Die Dreigroschenoper</i> Midterm due
8	M 3/2 Bertolt Brecht <i>Die Dreigroschenoper</i>
	W 3/4 Brecht <i>Die Dreigroschenoper</i>
	F 3/6 Brecht <i>Die Dreigroschenoper</i>
9	M 3/9 Wolfgang Borchert "Das Brot" + Ilse Aichinger "Das Fenstertheater" (PDF)
	W 3/11 Paul Celan "Die Todesfuge" und Günter Eich "Inventur" (PDF)
	F 3/13 (Post-)Moderne Liebeslyrik Original Topic for Final Paper due
10	M 3/16 No class: Spring Break
	W 3/18 No class: Spring Break
	F 3/20 No class: Spring Break
11	M 3/23 Dürrenmatt <i>Die Panne</i> (PDF + Audio)
	W 3/25 Dürrenmatt <i>Die Panne</i> + "Der Tunnel" (PDF)
	F 3/27 Dürrenmatt "Der Tunnel"
12	M 3/30 Max Frisch <i>Homo faber</i> Introduction Final Paper due
	W 4/1 Max Frisch <i>Homo faber</i>
	F 4/3 Max Frisch <i>Homo faber</i> Final Exam Questions announced

13	M 4/6	Max Frisch <i>Homo faber</i>	
	W 4/8	Max Frisch <i>Homo faber</i>	
	F 4/10	Max Frisch <i>Homo faber</i>	Final Exam due
14	M 4/13	Max Frisch <i>Homo faber</i>	
	W 4/15	Presentations of Final Paper	
	F 4/17	Presentations of Final Paper	
15	M 4/20	Presentations of Final Paper	
	W 4/22	<i>Homo Faber</i> Film	Final Paper due
	F 4/24	<i>Homo Faber</i> Film	
16	M 4/27	<i>Homo Faber</i> : Vergleich Film und Buch	
	W 4/29	Wiederholung	
	F 5/1	Endreflektion	