

Department: Modern and Classical Languages

Course No: 140 W

Credits: 3

Title: German Literature in English

Contact: Roger Travis

Content Area: CA1-Arts and Humanities

WQ: Writing

Catalog Copy: GERM 140W. German Literature in English. Either semester. Three credits. Representative works of German literature in English, especially from the 20th and the 21st centuries. Development of close reading and critical thinking skills, improvement of student composition, and development of a conceptual framework for understanding the literature and history of another culture. Does not satisfy foreign language requirements towards the undergraduate minor or major in German literature or German studies.

Course Information: a. This course will introduce you to representative works of German literature in English. Apart from developing your close reading and critical thinking skills, the course focus is on improving your writing and on beginning to understand the literature and history of another culture. German Literature in English is intended to broaden your education in the Liberal Arts. Special emphasis will be placed upon working with perspectives, formulations, histories, and mentalities different from the North American cultural context and on learning about another country's canonical literature.

CLASS PARTICIPATION Class sessions are largely discussion based with occasional group work. Your participation grade (see below) is dependent upon your regular and active participation in class, which in turn requires your regular preparation (homework assignments). While attendance is an important aspect of this, it is no less important that you engage in discussions as active, productive, mature members of the class. Counter-productive participation will not be tolerated. Each student will be required to give a brief (5-minute) presentation to the class on topics related to the readings and discussions. This presentation will be factored into your participation grade.

READING As a literature class, there will be a considerable amount of reading required. While every attempt will be made to keep reading assignments manageable, you in turn are responsible for reading what is assigned, when it is assigned. Furthermore, you will be expected to read in an active manner; class discussions will always be based on the expectation that you have read the assignment for the day and thought about it. You will frequently be given discussion questions to consider while reading the text as part of your preparation for discussion.

WRITING As you are aware, this is a "W" course. As such, it is designed to help you develop your writing

skills through practice and feedback. University regulations require that W courses assign a minimum of 15 typescript pages and that students receive comments and suggestions from the instructor on their work. Regulations also stipulate that it is impossible for students to pass a W course if their writing is of failing quality. While comments made by the instructor are intended to provide some guidance in improving your work, they should by no means be considered the only improvements necessary. In the end, your work is your own and your own responsibility. All students are required to make at least one visit to the Writing Center (CLAS 159) during the semester for help on their assignments. You will be given 3 major writing assignments of 5-pages each. In addition, you will also have smaller writing assignments, not all of which will be graded but all of which will factor into your grade. All written assignments (including ones that are not 'papers') must be typewritten and double-spaced using a font no bigger than 12-pitch (Times or New Times Roman are recommended) and using margins no bigger than 1" on each side. Hand-written assignment will be returned and considered late.

REWRITES All students will be required to submit a second draft of their first major assignment of the semester. After this, all papers receiving a C- or less require a 2nd draft; all others are optional. The final grade on an assignment will be the average of the two drafts. The most a grade can be raised is a full letter grade; more commonly it will be less than that. If a second draft shows little or no improvement over the first draft it is possible that the grade will not be changed at all.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS Papers are to be submitted in hardcopy (paper) form at the beginning of class the day they are due. Any paper submitted late will be reduced by 1/3 of a grade for each day late. After 6 days, an assignment will not be accepted as a first draft and will receive an F. At the discretion of the instructor, the assignment might be accepted as a rewrite and the final grade will be the average of "F" and the letter grade it earns. No late rewrites will be accepted.

EMAIL POLICY Email addresses will be collected from all students on the first day of class. Please provide the email address you most frequently use and check regularly. On occasion, the instructor might request assignments submitted by email. Papers submitted by email must be received before the start of class on the day they are due. Any emailed submission received after the class period will be considered 1 day late.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY Work assigned for this class must be your own original work. Any and all outside sources must be cited according to either the conventions of the MLA or Chicago Style. Anyone caught plagiarizing an assignment or suspected of submitting work they have not done themselves will receive a failing grade for the class. The student will be notified of this in writing and a copy of this notification will be sent to the office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences as called for in the student code of conduct. Ignorance is not considered a defense and you are encouraged to review the details of this code yourself (<http://www.dosa.uconn.edu/code2.html>).

EXAMS There will be two exams in the semester: a midterm and a final exam during the scheduled examination period. The tests will be a combination of short identifications and essays; the latter will require you to perform such tasks as the following: discuss themes, imagery, or historical context in

relation to a specific work; compare and contrast several works that you have read.

GRADING Class participation 30% Writing assignments 50% Exams 20%

c. critical analysis of German culture through literary expression; improvement of discussion and writing skills

Meets Goals of Gen Ed: GERM 140W will include the following basic purposes: 1. become articulate As an intensive writing course with a focus on critical understanding of international literary expression, GERM 140W significantly contributes to students' increased sophistication in the English language. 2. acquire intellectual breadth and versatility GERM 140W focuses entirely on German literary and cultural expression in English, giving students direct access to the human experiences in another culture and, therefore, honing their breadth and versatility. 3. acquire consciousness of the diversity of human culture and experience GERM 140W not only provides students with a glimpse into the complexities of a foreign culture, but into the diversity of literary expression and experience, including texts by women and minorities.

CA1 Criteria: GERM 140W focuses on the investigation and especially on the critical analysis of human experiences as they are related in literary texts from a foreign culture. The comprehension and appreciation of the written art form are equally important, as they advance the students' own skill of expression in discussion and in writing.

W Criteria: This course will introduce students to representative works of German literature in English. Apart from developing close reading and critical thinking skills, the course focus is on improving writing and on beginning to understand the literature and history of another culture. German Literature in English is intended to broaden your education in the Liberal Arts. Special emphasis will be placed upon working with perspectives, formulations, histories, and mentalities different from the North American cultural context and on learning about another country's canonical literature. These aspects will be explored in the writing components through critical analysis and comparison.