

Fruehlingssemester 2001

Dr. Delia Fabbroni-Giannotti Nisbet

Welcome to GER 303: Introduction to German Studies I:

Writing against Violence, 1938 to 1999

Literaturtexte:

Rose Auslaender : Kurzlyrik

Wolfgang Borchert: Kurzgeschichten

Volker Braun: Lyrik

Bertolt Brecht: Gedicht "Deutschland bleiche Mutter"

Helma Sanders- Brahms Deutschland bleiche Mutter (film)

Bertolt Brecht: Mutter Courage, Drama

Elias Canetti: Aphorismen 1942- 1985

Guenter Grass :Novemberland Lyrik

Guenter Grass: Die Blechtrommel (film)

Course Description and Goals:

This course is an introduction to significant intellectual and artistic works of writers/poets , whose goals were to confront German violent past. Throughout the course we will concentrate on the broad implications of changes in and challenges to artistic forms, contextualizing these changes in the intellectual, political, and cultural milieu to which they were responding. These literary texts will familiarize students with academic forms of discourse in all modalities.

The course is built around the linkage between reading, writing, and speaking. Through this integrated text-based approach, the students will gradually shift their language use from oral to more literate forms of expressions in all modalities.

Students will begin to develop the kinds of literacy skills that are at the heart of summarizing, interpreting, critiquing, presenting and substantiating an opinion or argument, orally and in writing.

Writing Assignments: As the first course required toward a major or Minor in German Studies, this course seeks to refine students' perception of literary style

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through close reading of selected literary works and analysis of different genres and linguistic aspects. **All writing assignments** will be done as process writing, i.e., outline, first version, final version.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will be required to produce:

- a) six short papers (2 to 3 pages each) in German,**
- b) an on-going informal reading journal.**
- b) active class participation.**
- c) MID-TERM the oral examination will consist of questions relating to texts and topics that we have discussed in class.**
- d) Final project: an oral presentation on one of the topics covered in class. The student will discuss his or her topic with the instructor prior to the presentation.**
- e) Final exam: The final examination will consist of an interpretation of a text never seen before.**

Class attendance: Students are allowed only 3 unexcused absences. each further unexcused absence will count as one point, which will be subtracted from the final examination. A student, who is not present during a test, quiz, or examination, or hand in material past the due date (if not otherwise specified), will receive a zero as the grade for his or her work.

Diskussionsleitung und Protokolle: Students will be required to lead one class discussion: for each of these discussions, another student will produce discussion minutes (Protokoll). Guidelines for both *Diskussionsleitung* und *Protokoll* will be provided in class.

AT ALL TIMES THE STUDENT IS BOUND INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF CLASS BY THE OXFORD COLLEGE HONOUR CODE; ANY VIOLATION OF THE HONOUR ACADEMIC CODE WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE HONOUR COUNCIL (transcriptions and translations from a web site are

considered a case of plagiarism if the student does not document fully the material.)

Grading system: the final grade will be indicated with a plus/minus grade.

MODES OF ASSESSMENT

Class participation	20%
Journal writing	20%
6 short papers (5% each)	30%
Final presentation	10%
Final examination	20%
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100%	

Important notes:

1. You will have a regularly scheduled individual meeting with me once a week to go over your essay in detail and for conversation. These meetings begin the first full week of the semester.
2. Your re-written paper, when it is submitted for the final grade, should be nearly as perfect as you can make it: there should be no typos, no accidental misspellings, and of course, no grammatical errors.
3. When our private consultations identify errors in your papers, be sure that you not only correct the errors when you re-write the paper, but that you learn to correct grammar/vocabulary, etc. **Errors that occur again and again in your work will be taken very seriously.**

I look forward with real pleasure to our semester together.

Course Curriculum

Rose Auslaender: Kurzlyrik

Jan. 17. Mitt Kurseinleitung **Auslaender: Brief aus Rosen** : 35; 11;16; 22
Jan. 19 Frei 70;91;200,224;236;
Jan. 22 Mo. 239; 72; 89; 117; 103
Jan. 24. Mitt. 156; 181;225;243; 157

Jan. 26. Frei. 131; 159; 194; 208; 212; 93 paper # 1 due on 02/2/2001

Wolfgang Borchert: Kurzgeschichten

Jan. 29 Mo. *Die Kegelbahn* (169f); *Die Katze war im Schnee erfroren* (181f.); *Lesebuchgeschichten* (315-318) **Hand in reading journal on 01/29**

Jan. 31 Mitt. *Dann gibt es nur eins!* (318-321); *Die Kuechenuhr* (201-204)

Feb. 2. Frei. *An diesem Dienstag* (191-194); *Das Brot* (304-306); *Die drei dunklen Koenige* (185-187)

Feb. 5. Mon. *Die lange lange Strasse lang* (244-254)

Feb. 7. Mitt. *Die lange lange Strasse lang* (255-264) **paper #1 due 02/19/2001**
Hand in reading journal on 02/07/2001

Volker Braun: Lyrik

Feb. 9 Frei. **Lustgarten, Preußen** *Nach dem Massaker der Illusionen* (168); *Das Magma in der Brust des Tuareg* (169); *Ende Oktober im August* (148).

Feb. 12 Mo. *Mein Bruder* (144) *Die Schlammebene* (128); *Die Zickzackbruecke* (127).

Feb. 14 Mitt. *Lustgarten, Preußen* (67); *Das gebremste Leben* (98-100)

Feb. 16 Frei. *Der Frieden* (80-83)

Feb. 19 Mon. *Hoehlengleichnis* (46f). **paper #3 due on 03/02/2001**
hand in reading journal on 02/19/2001

Bertolt Brecht: Lyrik und Drama

Feb. 21 Mitt. **Bertolt Brecht** *Deutschland bleiche Mutter* Gedicht

Feb. 23 Frei. **Helma Sanders-Brahms** *Deutschland bleiche Mutter* Film

Feb. 26 Mon. **Vorbereitung auf die Mid-Term Pruefung**

Feb. 28 Mitt. **MID-TERM muendliche Pruefung**

Maerz 2. Frei bis 30 Maerz Frei. **Bertolt Brecht** *Mutter Courage* Drama
paper # 4 due on 03/021/2001
paper # 5 due on 03/30/2001
hand in reading journal 03/30/2001

Elias Canetti: Aphorismen 1942-1985

April 2 Mo. bis April 13. Frei

hand in reading journal

Guenter Grass: Novemberland Lyrik 1956-1993

April 16 Mo. *Prophetenkost* (80); *Die große Truimmerfrau spricht* (46-54)

April 18 Mitt. *Gestillt* (98) *Wie ich mich sehe* (102-104);

April 20 Frei. *Novemberland* (140) *Abschiednehmen* (128-134)

paper # 6 due on 04/30/2001

hand in reading journal 04/20/2001

April 23 Mon. **Guenter Grass** *Die Blechtrommel* Film

April 25 Mitt. **Besprechung des Filmes**

April 27 Frei. **Class presentation**

April 30 Mon. **Class presentation**

ENDE DES SEMESTERS ABSCHLUßPRUEFUNGEN

SCHOENE SOMMERFERIEN!!!!