GERM 312.01: Introduction to German Poetry and Drama

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University of Montana - Missoula

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Objectives and Goals:

To gain some insights into the nature of poetry and drama, to become acquainted with important German-language poems and some of the major authors of German drama, to gain an appreciation of this literature, and obtain some knowledge of German literary history. Brief lectures will alternate with discussions.

Expectations:

Students are expected to attend class regularly, to be prepared for class by completing their assignments, (including the readings) on time, to take notes and study their notes conscientiously, to participate actively in the discussions, and complete their research paper on time.

Assessment:

There will be a midterm (covering the first part of the course) and a final (covering the second part of the course). In addition, each student will be required to write in German a five page interpretation of a poem from our text that we have not discussed in class and which is to be chosen in consultation with the instructor--due Apr. 26. Finally, each student will give a 5-10 minute presentation in class on a poem which we have all read. Final grade will be determined in approximately the following manner: midterm: 1/3, final: 1/3, paper, oral presentation and class participation: 1/3.

Attendance Policy:

After 6 absences your final grade will be reduced one letter grade, after 12 absences 2 letter grades, etc.

Schedule:

Part I: Echtermeyer, von Wiese, Deutsche Gedichte--Beginnings to approx. Classicism
Werfel, Jacobowsky und der Oberst
Frisch, Biedermann und die Brandstifter
Mid-term: March 15

Part II: Deutsche Gedichte, Romanticism to present, Brecht, Die Dreigroschenoper
5-10 minute oral presentations
Paper Due--Apr. 26
Final Exam: Tues., May 14, 10:10 a.m.