Spring 2-1-2016

GRMN 491.01: Twentieth Century German Literature to 1945

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Recommended Citation
Arens, Hiltrud, "GRMN 491.01: Twentieth Century German Literature to 1945" (2016). Syllabi. 7316.
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Twentieth Century German Literature to 1945

GRMN 491   MWF 1:10-2:00pm   Spring 2016

Contact Professor:
Dr. Hiltrud Arens
Office: LA 436
Office hours: Mon/Wed/Fri: 11:10-12:00 pm; Wed 4:10-5:00 pm; or/and by appointment
Telefon: 243-5634 (office)
Email: hiltrud.aren@mso.umt.edu
Language of instruction is English

Goals:
1. To give an introduction and a survey of turn of the century German-language literary works (in translation) up to 1945.
2. To examine a variety of genres, including novel, novella, short story, essay, letter, poetry, drama, and film; and to connect those to other medial forms like painting, graphic arts, music, and photography, as well as to other societal/scientific developments, such as psycho-analysis.
3. To obtain formal knowledge through studying the texts (primary and secondary texts) in terms of language usage, style, and structure.
4. To learn about the historical, social, political, and artistic context of that period and to gain critical insight into the literary production of those selected works, and of the times discussed, since it was a time of rapid social, political and scientific changes, two World Wars, Fin de siècle life, the Weimar Republic, and the Holocaust, and massive migration and exile.

Required Texts:
- Frank Wedekind: *Spring Awakening* [Frühlingserwachen, 1891]
- Hedwig Dohm: *Become who you are* [Werde, die du bist, 1894]
- Rainer Maria Rilke: *Letters to a Young Poet* [Briefe an einen jungen Dichter, 1903-1908]
- Georg Kaiser *From Morning to Midnight* [Von Morgens bis Mitternacht, 1912]
- Herman Hesse: *Siddhartha* [Siddhartha, 1922]
- Arthur Schnitzler: *Dream Story* [Traumnovelle, 1926]
- Bertolt Brecht: *The Threepenny Opera* [Die Dreigroschenoper, 1928]
- Irmgard Keun: *The Artificial Silk Girl* [Das kunstseidene Mädchen, 1932]
- Anna Seghers: *The Excursion of the Dead Girls* [Der Ausflug der toten Mädchen, 1943] scanned copy
- Hannah Arendt *We Refugees* [Wir Flüchtlinge, 1944] scanned copy
- Jean Améry *How much home does a person need?* [Wieviel Heimat braucht der Mensch? 1966] scanned copy
Formats:
The class consists of short introductions and lectures about materials and contexts, and whole class and/or smaller group discussions of primary and secondary sources. Students are also asked to present certain themes/writers and give an individual presentation towards the end of class. The language of this course will be primarily in English, but knowledge of German might be helpful.

Expectations:
It is expected that all students will be in attendance daily. Regular class participation is the essence of this course. Therefore, in addition to any subsidiary detrimental effect of absences, absences in excess of 3 during the semester will lower your course grade one full grade: A- to B-, B to C, etc.
It is also expected that all students will complete assigned work (both oral and written) as requested and be prepared for each class session.

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Grade Breakdown</th>
<th>Points of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance (41x2)</td>
<td>82 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral class participation</td>
<td>98 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 small essays (2 pages typed) (4 x 80)</td>
<td>320 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm (100)</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final essay presentation</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Essay (10 pages/ English)</td>
<td>300 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>1000 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Electronic Devices (Cell Phones, Laptops, Music Players, etc.)
If you bring a cell phone to class, please set it either on vibrate or mute. Unless specified for a class activity, personal computers, music players, and messaging devices are not to be used in class.

Students with Disabilities
This course offers equal opportunity in education for all participants, including those with documented physical and documented learning disabilities. For information regarding documentation of disabilities, approaching your instructor with pertinent information, and establishing guidelines for potential accommodation, you may consult the Disability Services for Students (DSS) website at http://life.umt.edu/dss . The DSS Office is located in Lommasson 154; the phone number is 243-2243.
**Plagiarism and Academic Honesty**
Please refer to the Student Conduct Code of the University as it pertains to your responsibility to hand in work and/or perform activities assigned to be your own as indeed representing your own efforts and research. The [Student Conduct Code](http://www.umt.edu/SA/vpsa/index.cfm/page/2585) is available for review online at:

**Schedule during the semester:**

1. **WEEK**
   - Monday, 1/25: Introduction and Context at the turn of the century
     - Youth Awakening and Feminist Movement
   - Wednesday, 1/27: Frank Wedekind: *Spring Awakening*
   - Friday, 1/29: Frank Wedekind: *Spring Awakening*

2. **WEEK**
   - Monday, 2/1: Hedwig Dohm: *Become who you are*
   - Wednesday, 2/3: Hedwig Dohm: *Become who you are*
   - Friday, 2/5: Hedwig Dohm: *Become who you are*

3. **WEEK**
   - Monday, 2/8: 1. Essay due
     - Symbolism and the Art of Writing: Rainer Maria Rilke: *Letters to a Young Poet*
     - Wednesday, 2/10: Rainer Maria Rilke: *Letters to a Young Poet*
   - Friday, 2/12: Rainer Maria Rilke: *Letters to a Young Poet/ Rilke’s poetry*

4. **WEEK**
   - Monday, 2/15: Presidents’ Day/ UM Holiday
   - Wednesday, 2/17: *Rilke Projekt* in Germany: Contemporary Music Compositions of Rilke’s poetry
   - Friday, 2/19: *Rilke Projekt* in Germany: Contemporary Music Compositions of Rilke’s poetry

5. **WEEK**
   - Monday, 2/22: Expressionism and Drama: Georg Kaiser *From Morning to Midnight*
   - Wednesday, 2/24: Georg Kaiser *From Morning to Midnight*
   - Friday, 2/26: 2. Essay due
     - Georg Kaiser *From Morning to Midnight*

6. **WEEK**
   - Monday, 2/29: The Self, the Other, Psychoanalysis and Fin de siècle Vienna:
     - Herman Hesse: *Siddhartha*
   - Wednesday, 3/2: Herman Hesse: *Siddhartha*
   - Friday, 3/4: Herman Hesse: *Siddhartha*
7. WEEK
Monday, 3/7  Arthur Schnitzler: Dream Story
Wednesday, 3/9 Arthur Schnitzler: Dream Story
Friday, 3/11 Arthur Schnitzler: Dream Story

8. WEEK
Monday, 3/14  3. Essay due
The Golden 20s, Weimar Republic and Urban Life:
Bertolt Brecht: The Threepenny Opera
Wednesday, 3/16 Bertolt Brecht: The Threepenny Opera
Friday, 3/18 Bertolt Brecht: The Threepenny Opera

9. WEEK
Monday, 3/21 Film: The Threepenny Opera
Wednesday, 3/23 Film: The Threepenny Opera
Friday, 3/25 Irmgard Keun: The Artificial Silk Girl

10. WEEK
Monday, 3/28 Irmgard Keun: The Artificial Silk Girl
Wednesday, 3/30 Irmgard Keun: The Artificial Silk Girl
Friday, 4/1 Midterm

11. WEEK
4/4 – 4/8 Spring break

12. WEEK
Monday, 4/11 Exile and Inner Exile; Migration and Flight:
Anna Seghers: The Excursion of the Dead Girls
Wednesday, 4/13 Anna Seghers: The Excursion of the Dead Girls
Friday, 4/15 Anna Seghers: The Excursion of the Dead Girls

13. WEEK
Monday, 4/18 Anna Seghers: The Excursion of the Dead Girls
Wednesday, 4/20 Hannah Arendt We Refugees
Friday, 4/22 Hannah Arendt We Refugees

14. WEEK
Monday, 4/25  4. Essay due
Jean Améry How much home does a person need?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 4/27</td>
<td>Jean Améry <em>How much home does a person need?</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 4/29</td>
<td>Jean Améry <em>How much home does a person need?</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. WEEK
- Monday, 5/2  | Presentation of Final essay project
- Wednesday, 5/4 | Presentation of Final essay project
- Friday, 5/6   | Discussion and Conclusion

**Final Exam:**  **Tuesday, May 10:** 3:20 am – 5:20 pm in LA 336