GERM 311.01: Introduction to German Prose Literature

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Objectives and Goals: To gain some insights into the nature of prose, to become acquainted with some important German-language prose writers of the 20th century and their works, to gain an appreciation of this literature, and to 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 the first part of the course each student will be required to give a mini oral interpretation in German on one of the stories from the Ryder/McCormick text. In the second part of the course each student will be required to pick one of the stories from Im Spiegel der Literatur and give a brief 5-10 minute presentation in German on it to the class. This presentation will then be expanded to form a 4-5 page term paper in German which will be due Fri., Dec. 12. Any late papers will be automatically reduced one letter grade. Final grade will be determined in approximately the following manner: midterm: 1/3, final: 1/3, paper, oral presentations and class participation: 1/3. Anyone taking the course P/NP must earn at least a C to obtain a passing grade.

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

Schedule: Part I Ryder/McCormick, eds. Lebendige Literatur (FacPac) Mini interpretations Mid-term: Oct. 17

Part II: Turneaure, ed. Im Spiegel der Literatur 5-10 minute oral presentations Paper Due--Dec. 12 Final Exam: Thurs., Dec. 18, 8:00 a.m.