

**Andere Welten entdecken:  
Einführung in der deutschen Literatur  
vom Anfang bis zum Jahr 1781 (GERM 3600)**

**Instructor and Class Information**

Brian McInnis, brian.mcinnis@usu.edu, 797-8567

Office Hours: Old Main 002G Tues. 4:30-5:30, Wed. 2:30-3:30 and by appointment

Classroom and Time: Engineering 206 TTh 3:00-4:15

**Course Objectives**

This course provides an introduction to German literature from its beginnings through the *Sturm und Drang* intensification of the Enlightenment. The theme “discovering other worlds” plays out in multiple ways: through the confrontation with an “other,” often in the Near East; through projection of one’s own culture into that of another people; in the psychological discovery of oneself; in the conflict between different social classes; and in the reader’s exploration of varied historical literary and linguistic worlds. As twenty-first century readers, we can engage literature as a mirror to imagine, discover, and analyze the world in which we live.

Our course “Andere Welten entdecken” also provides an introduction to the literary and cultural history of the period from the middle of the eighth century to the last quarter of the eighteenth century. The Medieval, Renaissance/Reformation, and Enlightenment texts selected for this course share an engagement with the feudal system, which authors and characters in the later texts challenge. By looking at the development of literary monuments over the course of the semester, it will also be possible to trace the evolution of the lyric, epic, and dramatic forms in German literature. The course will encourage your critical engagement of readings and each other’s ideas through in-class discussion and a series of short papers. Participating in this course provides an introduction to diverse humanistic contexts and methods applicable in other courses for the German major. The language of instruction is German. By participating in discussions and submitting assignments regularly, you will advance your oral and written proficiency in German. This course is the first half of a planned two-course introductory survey of German literature that will be continued in Spring 2008.

## **Requirements**

1. Careful reading/viewing of assigned materials and active participation in seminar discussions. Daily readings include ca. 30-40 pages of literary or theoretical texts in German.
2. Completion of daily writing assignments that help you to focus on particular aspects of a text. For each new topic, submit a question for class discussion online. Briefly explain why your question might be important.
3. Complete and revise four writing assignments (ca. 2-7 pp. each in German, ca. 15pp. total for the semester. Please use Times 12 pt. font, 1" margins, and double-space). Students will have the opportunity to practice their German, textual analysis, and argumentation.
4. Mid-term exam composed of identification questions and short essays (in German).
5. Final exam (portfolio of German writing). Choose two of your German-language essays with the strongest ideas and revise them for a final time in coordination with the instructor. One of the essays should be at least four pages long. Also write a third, new essay ca. 2-3 pages that synthesizes knowledge developed over the semester. Please save all versions of the German papers you submit for a grade during the semester.

## **Attendance Policy**

Daily attendance is essential to achieve success in this course. If you miss class, please contact another student to determine assignments given and topics discussed. More than 2 excused or unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade. No excused absences will be allowed without verification from the Dean.

## **Honor Code**

All course work submitted in this class (i.e. homework, quizzes, tests, etc.) falls under the Utah State University Honor Code. Please ask me if you have any questions.

## **Grading**

The distribution of evaluations for the semester grade includes:

Class performance (quality and quantity) and daily writing assignments	25
Papers and revisions in German	50
Midterm Exam	10
Final Exam (portfolio of German essays)	15
 Final Grade	 100%

## Student Responsibilities

You will play an important part in the success of this course! To make our time together as valuable as possible, we both have to work hard at it. The following basic principles may give us some guidelines:

**1. Every student has the right to learn as well as the responsibility not to deprive others of their right to learn.**

**2. Every student is accountable for his or her actions.**

In order for you to get the most out of this class, please consider the following:

- a. Attend all scheduled classes and arrive on time. Late arrivals and early departures are very disruptive and violate the first basic principle listed above.
- b. Please do not schedule other engagements during this class time. You probably wouldn't appreciate it if I did! I will try to make class as interesting and informative as possible, but I also rely on your regular class preparation.
- c. If you have difficulty hearing/understanding because of distractions around you, quietly ask those responsible for the distraction to stop. If the distraction continues, please let me know. It may be impossible for me to hear such things from my position in the classroom.
- d. Please let me know immediately if you have a problem that is preventing you from performing satisfactorily in class.
- e. Please turn off cell phones, beepers, etc. during class.

(adapted from Lasorsa, 1990)

## Course Gateway and Library Reserve

By the second week of class, our online course site is scheduled to be functional. We will use the website regularly to exchange questions for class discussion, post assignments, distribute class readings, and view supplementary materials. Additionally, the films and some supplementary books for this course will be placed on reserve and available from the reserve desk on the library's first floor.

## Required Texts

Materials required for this course are available primarily from me. Because the dollar is so weak right now and we are using all German materials, I have ordered the books privately and will sell them by the set at cost from the distributor. Required texts include:

- Von Aue. *Der arme Heinrich*. Reclam  
 Wolfram von Eschenbach. *Parzival. Eine Auswahl*. Reclam.  
 Sowinski. *Das Nibelungenlied. Eine Auswahl*. Reclam.  
 Neumann. *Deutscher Minnesang*. Reclam.  
 Gryphius. *Cardenio und Celinde*. Reclam.  
 Lessing. *Miss Sara Sampson*. Suhrkamp.

Goethe. *Die Leiden des jungen Werthers*. Suhrkamp.  
 Schiller. *Die Räuber*. Suhrkamp.  
 Rothmann. *Kleine Geschichte der deutschen Literatur*. Reclam.

Additional readings will be available on-line or through the library reserve desk.

For writing assignments, a good German grammar and a good German dictionary will be a necessity. You need to buy or have access to these resources for every German class you take. Recommended grammar texts are:

Dreyer & Schmitt. *Lehr- und Übungsbuch der deutschen Grammatik*. Ismaning: Verlag für Deutsch, 1996.  
 Rankin, J. & Wells, L. *Handbuch zur deutschen Grammatik*. Houghton Mifflin. 2004.

Recommended single-language German dictionaries include:

Pons *Großwörterbuch Deutsch als Fremdsprache*. Klett, 2006. ISBN 978-3125170445  
 Langenscheidt *Großwörterbuch Deutsch als Fremdsprache mit CD-Rom*. ISBN 978-3468490361

For your German book needs, contact International Book Import Service (IBIS) at [ibis@IBIService.com](mailto:ibis@IBIService.com) or 1-800-277-4247. Please have the ISBNs of the books you wish to order (searchable on amazon.de) and your credit card ready at the time you call.

**Lehrplan** — Änderungen vorbehalten (Subject to Change)

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<b><u>Woche</u></b>	<b><u>Datum</u></b>	<b><u>Thema</u></b>
		<b>Das frühe Mittelalter</b>
1	28.08.	Einführung, geschichtlicher Grundriß, Hildebrandslied (Heldenepik)
	30.08.	Lesen: Hildebrandslied, jüngere Hildebrandslied Muspilli Geistliche Lieder; Diskussion von Handschriften und Texten im Mittelalter
		<b>Das hohe Mittelalter</b>
2	04.09.	Heinrich von Aue, <i>Der arme Heinrich</i>
	06.09	Heinrich von Aue, <i>Der arme Heinrich</i>

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| 3  | 11.09  | Wolfram von Eschenbach, <i>Parzival</i> (Artusroman)  |
|    | 13.09  | Wolfram von Eschenbach, <i>Parzival</i> (Artusroman)  |
| 4  | 18.09  | Wolfram von Eschenbach, <i>Parzival</i> (Artusroman)  |
|    | 20.09. | Wolfram von Eschenbach, <i>Parzival</i> (Artusroman)  |
| 5  | 25.09. | <i>Das Nibelungenlied</i> (Heldenepik)  |
|    | 27.09  | <i>Das Nibelungenlied</i> (Heldenepik)  |
| 6  | 02.10  | <i>Minnesang</i><br>Zusammenfassung Mittelalter   |
|    |        | <b>Die frühe Neuzeit</b>  |
|    | 04.10. | Sebastian Brant, <i>Das Narrenschiff</i> (1494) (Auszüge)<br><i>Fortunatus</i>                                |
| 7  | 09.10. | Hans Sachs  |
|    | 11.10. | Martin Luther<br>Spieß, <i>Historia von D. Johann Fausten</i> (1587) (Auszüge)                                |
| 8  | 16.10. | Martin Opitz, <i>Buch von der deutschen Poeterey</i> (1624)<br>Gryphius, <i>Cardenio und Celine</i> (Auszüge) |
|    | 18.10. | Gryphius, <i>Cardenio und Celine</i>  |
|    |        | <b>Die Aufklärung</b>   |
| 9  | 23.10. | <b>Frühaufklärung</b><br>Gottsched, Bodmer, Breitinger<br>Brockes, Haller, Hagedorn, Klopstock                |
|    |        | <b>Die Empfindsamkeit</b><br>Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, <i>Miss Sara Sampson</i> (1755)                        |
|    | 25.10. | Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, <i>Miss Sara Sampson</i>  |
| 10 | 30.10. | Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, <i>Miss Sara Sampson</i>  |
|    | 01.11. | Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, <i>Miss Sara Sampson</i>  |

- 11      06.11.      ***Sturm und Drang***  
Johann Gottfried Herder *Journal meiner Reise im Jahr 1769*  
(Auszug)  
Der Göttinger Hain  
Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Die Leiden des jungen Werthers* (1774)
- 08.11.      Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Die Leiden des jungen Werthers*
- 12      13.11.      Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Die Leiden des jungen Werthers*
- 15.11      Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Die Leiden des jungen Werthers*
- 13      20.11.      Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Die Leiden des jungen Werthers*
- 22.11.      Erntedankfest (kein Unterricht)
- 14      27.11.      Friedrich Schiller, *Die Räuber* (1781)
- 29.11.      Friedrich Schiller, *Die Räuber*
- 15      04.12.      Friedrich Schiller, *Die Räuber*
- 06.12.      Friedrich Schiller, *Die Räuber*  
Zusammenfassung

**Schlußprüfung (Final Exam): Thursday, 3 May 11:30 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.**