

Southeast Missouri State University

Department of Foreign Languages

Course No. GN424

Revised

Title of Course: Twentieth-Century German Literature

New X

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

A study of German literature during the Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, the Post War Period and the late twentieth century. 3 credit hours

II. Prerequisites:

German 220 (German Literature) or equivalent or consent of the instructor.

III. Course Objectives:

- A. To introduce the students to the major German writers and writings of the twentieth century.
- B. To develop an approach to interpret these works in their own right and as an outgrowth of their cultural, political, and socio-economic milieu.
- C. To gain an understanding of Germany and appreciation of the German-speaking world based on their literary works and cultural heritage.

IV. Expectations of Students:

- A. Assignments: Students are expected to read all assigned readings, familiarize themselves with the vocabulary, understand the story line, and study the authors.
- B. Research Project: Students will select one author/story for their semester project. The project must be presented in German during the last week of class. Length of the project is 6-8 pages, including foot-/endnotes and a bibliography (MLA Style Sheet).
- C. In-Class Reports: Students will be called upon to report on events in the German-speaking world, modern German authors, the assigned readings, and related assignments.
- D. Deutsche Welle Fernsehen: All students are encouraged to watch German TV on a regular basis to help them appropriately understand the German literary works through familiarization with the culture and life in the German-speaking world.

V. Course Content:

- A. Overview
The reading assigned will include the major writers of the Weimar Republic, the Third Reich, the Post War Period and the Gruppe 47, as well as contemporary developments, such as the literature of Turks living and writing in Germany and an introduction to the literature of the (former) German Democratic Republic (G.D.R.)

B. Outline

WEEK 1: Introduction to the twentieth-century literary, socio-cultural, political, and other movements in the German-speaking world; Dadaismus; Thomas Mann. <u>Anekdote</u> .	(3 hours)
WEEK 2: Robert Musil. <u>Das Fliegenpapier</u> .	(3 hours)
WEEK 3: Rainer Maria Rilke. <u>Die Turnstunde</u> , poetry of Rilke.	(3 hours)
WEEK 4: Hermann Hesse. <u>Der Dichter</u> , poetry of Hesse.	(3 hours)
WEEK 5: Franz Kafka <u>Der Schlag ans Hofter</u> , <u>Heimkehr</u> , <u>Der Kübelreiter</u> .	(3 hours)
WEEK 6: Hofmannsthal. <u>Das Erlebnis</u> , poetry of Hofmannsthal.	(3 hours)
WEEK 7: Ingeborg Bachmann <u>Jugend</u> , poetry of Bachmann.	(3 hours)
WEEK 8: Bertolt Brecht, <u>Geschichten</u> , poetry of Brecht.	(3 hours)
WEEK 9: Enzensberger, Celan, Grass, Jandl: poetry.	(3 hours)
WEEK 10: Bobrowski <u>Mäusefest</u> , poetry.	(3 hours)
WEEK 11: Franz Fühmann <u>Das Judenauto</u> .	(3 hours)
WEEK 13: Rainer Kunze <u>Die wunderbaren Jahre</u> . Poetry of the G.D.R.	(3 hours)
WEEK 14: Ozakin <u>Die dunkelhaarigen Kinder von Berlin</u> .	(3 hours)
WEEK 15: The reception of German Literature in present popular culture.	(3 hours)
WEEK 16: Student presentations. Review for final exam.	(3 hours)

VI. Textbook Required:

- A. Brigitte M. Turneaure: Im Spiegel der Literatur. (New York: Norton, 1992).
- B. Handouts (poetry)

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

Active Class Participation	10%
Bi-weekly Quizzes	30%
Term project	30%
Comprehensive Final Exam	20%
Journal	10%