Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Term 2 2022-2023

Course Code & Title:	**GERM2100** **Exploring German Literature**	
Language of Instruction: English	**Units**: 3	

Course Description
This course is designed to introduce students to some most representative figures in German literature. Emphasis is placed on the critical and analytical reading of their major works in English. All readings and discussions are in English. <u>No knowledge of German is required.</u>

Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the course, the student should demonstrate the ability to • classify the important periods, writers and works of German literature. • understand and analyze literary works as reflections of the social and political context of their time. • distinguish various literary forms, such as dramas, novels, poetry and short stories. • discuss and compare the portrayal of basic human issues (love, hate, friendship, loyalty, betrayal, family, coming of age, struggle for freedom, the supernatural) in important works of German literature in different periods. • approach literature from a creative perspective through hands-on practice.

Course Content		
	Topics	Content/Concepts
0	Periods of German Literature	Overview of the development from the beginning to present
1	Medieval Times 600-1600	Das Nibelungenlied (*Song of the Nibelungs*) - ~1200
2	Enlightenment 1720-1800	Lessing (1729-1781): Nathan der Weise, *(Nathan the Wise, 1779)*
3	Storm and Stress 1770-1800	Schiller (1759-1805): An die Freude, Die Bürgschaft *(Ode to Joy, 1785, The Pledge, 1798)*
4	Weimar Classicism 1786-1805	Goethe (1749-1832): Goethe: Faust (*Faust, 1806-1831*)
5	Romanticism 1795-1840	Eichendorff (1788-1857): Mondnacht (*Moonlit night, 1835*) Poetry, Music and Art
6	Vormärz 1830-1848	Heine (1797-1856) Deutschland. Ein Wintermärchen (*Germany, A Winter's tale. 1844*)
7	Realism	Ebner-Eschenbach (1830-1916) Krambambuli, *1883*
8	Expressionism 1910-1925	Kafka (1883-1924), Die Verwandlung (*Metamorphosis, 1915*)
9	WWII 1939-45 and beyond	Celan (1920-1970), Todesfuge (*Death fugue, 1945*) Borchert (1921-1947): Nachts schlafen die Ratten doch (*Rats Sleep at Night, 1947*)
10	Post-war: Swiss Literature	Dürrenmatt (1921-1990), Der Besuch der alten Dame (*The Visit, 1956*)
11	Contemporary Literature	Judith Hermann (1970 -) Sommerhaus, später (*Summerhouse, later, 2001*)

Learning Activities			
Interactive classwork[1] (hr/day) in / out class	Extra-curricular activities (hr/course) in / out class	Web-based teaching (hr/day) in / out class	Homework / Self-study (hr/day) in / out class
3	2	0.5	3
M	O	M	M

M = Mandatory / O = Optional

[1] Interactive classwork focuses on student-centered activities as pair work, group work, role-playing and student-teacher interaction.

Assessment Scheme		
Task nature	Description	Weight
Participation and Homework	Active participation in class and doing the assigned readings and prepare answers on handout	15%
Online Quizzes	Quizzes regarding the readings of the course	15%
Presentation	Introducing an author and his/her works	25%
Written assignment	Assignment on a work discussed in class	25%
Final Exam	Exam about the works discussed in this course	20%

Notes: You are required to arrive on time.

You are required to attend at least 75% of the class. Treat 75% attendance as the minimum, not the maximum.

The success of your own learning will highly depend on your attendance.

Should you miss more than 25% of the class, you will automatically fail the course.

If you are unable to attend, get informed about what content and homework you missed and make it up yourself.

Learning Resources
Course Materials
Excerpts and handouts will be provided by the teacher Youtube Channel (German CUHK, Literatur): https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2e0DtFeEEi1j_-AONLzVu2JugO5gRAvT
Recommended reading
Watanabe-O'Kelly, Helen (ed) (1997) The Cambridge history of German literature. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.   **Kim, Vivian** (1992) A concise history of German literature to 1900. Columbia: Camden House.   **Stoehr, Ingo Roland** (2001) German literature of the twentieth century: from aestheticism to postmodernism. Rochester, N.Y.: Camden House.

Schedule (Subject to change):

Week	Date	Content/Remark	Presentation (on Tue)	
1	Jan 09 – 15	Introduction / Medieval epic		
2	Jan 16 – 22	Enlightenment	Sample Presentation	Online add drop
3	*Jan 23 – 29*	*Lunar New Year Vacation*		*NO CLASS*
4	Jan 30 – Feb 05	Storm and Stress	1. Storm & Stress	Department add-drop (-3.2., exceptional cases)
5	Feb 06 – Feb 12	Weimar Classicism	2. Weimar Class.	
6	Feb 13 – Feb 19	Romanticism	3. Romanticism	
7	Feb 20 – Feb 26	Vormärz	4. Vormärz	
8	Feb 27 – Mar 5	Realism	5. Realism	**Reflection paper**
9	*Mar 6 – Mar 12*	*Reading Week*		*NO CLASS*
10	Mar 13 – Mar 19	Expressionism	6. Expressionism	
11	Mar 20 – Mar 26	Expressionism		
12	Mar 27 – Apr 2	WWII	7. WWII	
13	Apr 3 – Apr 9	Swiss Literature	8. Swiss Lit	5. 4. (Wed) Ching Ming, 7.4. Good Friday
14	Apr 10 – 16	Contemporary Lit	9. Contemporary Lit	10.4. Easter Monday
15	Apr 17 – 23	Wrap-up		**Final Exam**

Class section and Teacher's contact details:

Class	Time	Classroom	Weeks	Teacher	Email
GERM2100	Th 10:30AM - 12:15PM	LHC G01	13	Ms. Annette Frömel	annettefromel@cuhk.edu.hk
	Tu 01:30PM - 02:15PM	ERB 306	13		

For further information and inquiries you are welcome to contact the teacher
or the General Office :

Contact	Telephone	Email	Office
General Office	3943 7110	lin@cuhk.edu.hk	Rm G17, KKL Building **Office Hours:** Monday to Thursday: 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:30pm Friday: 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:45pm

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/. With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures. For group projects, all students of the same group should be asked to sign the declaration. For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment. Assignments without the receipt will not be graded by teachers. Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.
Feedback for Evaluation
Our language programme highly values students' feedback and comments and is happy to use them for reflection on our teaching and improvement. Students are very welcome to provide comments and feedback on the course any time to their course teacher or the course level coordinator through email or in personal conversation. In addition, students' feedbacks will be collected in the middle of the term through an open-end questionnaire and the teacher will discuss the feedbacks in class and make improvements if necessary. The course will also follow the university's course evaluation exercise at the end of the term, and students' feedbacks will be used for future course planning and teaching.