

**Course information**  
**TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**  
**Department of Foreign Languages**

Intro to German Literature - 84194 - GERM 3150 - 001

Class 1.30 pm - 2:50pm

MW Evins Hall 109

Aug 26, 2019 - Dec 12, 2019

3 credit hours

Fall Semester 2019

Instructor: Dr. Julia K. Gruber

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Office Hours: M/W 10.00 - 11.00 am in Evin 116

## Course Outline

This class will introduce students to important figures and their literary works in German literature from pre-modern times to the time after the First World War. Students will learn about major periods, traditions and developments and define themes and characteristics that are distinctive of German literature. We will read selected prose, poetry and drama and discuss music, visual arts, philosophy and film. Students will read many shorter pieces and works of broader German culture. Students will learn how to approach and interpret literary works. Students will develop the ability to read a literary work closely and with attention to details. They will encounter many writers and focus on a few in more detail. Students will read Lessing's Enlightenment drama *Nathan der Weise* in its entirety. We will also read a shortened version of Goethe's *Faust*.

**Prerequisites:** Germ3010

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

Manfred Mai. *Geschichte der deutschen Literatur*. Mit Bildern von Rotraut Susanne Berner. Weinheim: Gulliver & Gelberg, 2006.

G. E. Lessing. *Nathan der Weise*. Reclam XL. Text und Kontext. Ed. Thorsten Krause. Stuttgart: Reclam, 2015. 978-3150191569.

J. W. v. Goethe. *Faust*. Einfach Klassisch. Ed. Diethard Lübke. Berlin: Cornelsen Verlag, 2014. 978-3-464-60946-0.

**COMPUTER ACCESS:** Students are required to have high-speed Internet access for at least two hours/day. Several labs on campus are available for student use.

## Grading

In-class participation	20%
Writing Component	20%
Written assignments	30%
Oral Presentations	10%
Final Exam	20%

## Course objectives

- \* Students will be able to discuss and analyze a selection of great works along with basic literary concepts and relevant historical context.
- \* Students will become familiar with a selection of important and influential literary and cultural texts from the German tradition, thus increasing their exposure to the kinds of works that have been part of most well-educated Germans' repertoire across the ages.
- \* Students will advance in their ability to read, write, speak, and understand German.
- \* Students will improve their skills in interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating literary and cultural works.
- \* Students will improve their capacities to process difficult materials, recognize complex patterns, ferret out contradictions, gain unexpected insights, formulate clear questions, listen carefully and attentively, explore ideas through dialogue, and express their thoughts eloquently and persuasively.

## What is expected of the student?

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**In-Class participation: (20%)** Students will be expected to contribute regularly to discussions. Class contribution is not equivalent with the quantity of class participation. A student prepares well and contributes regularly and meaningfully to discussions. After the review of the syllabus, the language for this class will be German.

Off topic discussions in English will hurt your daily participation grade. Speaking any foreign language can be frustrating. Nevertheless, like any skill, the more you practice, the better you become. Therefore, avoid translating into English. Try your best to work only in the foreign language. Enjoy the limitation. To show that you have read this syllabus, please email me a picture of Goethe.

□ **Attendance** at all class sessions is integral to the course and therefore mandatory. The maximum number of absences allowed in this course is THREE. If, because of illness or other unavoidable circumstances, you must miss more than the maximum, you must see your instructor to arrange for making up the absence. Don't wait until the last minute to talk to your instructor about excessive

absences! **Your final grade will be reduced by one letter grade for each absence beyond three.**

**Writing component: (20%)** For each class, students will prepare three sentences with observations or questions to start a class discussion. Your three sentences may be about a thought you had while reading the literary work, an idea you found interesting, an aspect/detail that appeared important to you, a comparison to something we read or discussed earlier etc. These exercises will be in German, typed and double-spaced, and brought to each class.

**Other written assignments: (30%)** Students will write three essays. The first essay will be at least 500 words, the second at least 750 words, and the third at least 1000 words. You will choose your own topics by focusing on one or more works we have read and discussed together in class. Your essay must have a title and page numbers. You will use MLA style . I will read and comment on each of your essays and you will rewrite it for a final grade. If your submission is late, it will be downgraded by half a grade.

**Oral Presentations: (20%)** Students will be asked regularly to make short presentations on authors, works, German literary movements and traditions etc. These presentations should be about five minutes long, delivered in German and include some PP slides or other visionary aids.. Try to speak as freely as possible instead of reading from the slides. Make your presentation user friendly; use your own words; look at your audience; do not copy from wikipedia or another source. Every presentation should be sent to me for correction and feedback.

**Final Exam: (20%)** A final examination will allow you to show what you have been learning throughout the semester. Send me a picture of a German author of your choice to confirm that you have read this syllabus.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Analyze significant primary texts and works of art, ancient, pre-modern, and modern, as forms of cultural and creative expression.
2. Explain the ways in which humanistic and/or artistic expression throughout the ages expresses the culture and values of its time and place.
3. Explore global/cultural diversity.
4. Frame a comparative context through which they can critically assess the ideas, forces, and values that have created the modern world.
5. Recognize the ways in which both change and continuity have affected human history.
6. Practice the critical and analytical methodologies of the Humanities and/or Fine Arts.
7. Discern and articulate connections between course material and the learners' own lives.

## **Student Academic Misconduct Policy**

Maintaining high standards of academic integrity in every class at Tennessee Tech is critical to the reputation of Tennessee Tech, its students, alumni, and the employers of Tennessee Tech graduates. The Student Academic Misconduct Policy describes the definitions of academic misconduct and

policies and procedures for addressing Academic Misconduct at Tennessee Tech. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 217 – Student Academic Misconduct at [Policy Central](#).

## Disability Accommodation

Students with a disability requiring accommodations should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). An Accommodation Request (AR) should be completed as soon as possible, preferably by the end of the first week of the course. The ODS is located in the Roaden University Center, Room 112; phone 372-6119. For details, view the Tennessee Tech's Policy 340 – Services for Students with Disabilities at [Policy Central](#).

## Other matters

□ **All students** are required to attend **at least two (2) events** offered by the German Klub each semester; this includes German film evenings, *Stammtisch* (a regular meeting where only German is spoken), Wandertag, WOW, film evenings etc. Many of these German culture events feature free refreshments. Find us on FB: <https://www.facebook.com/TTUGermanclub/>

Please sign here and return this page to me. Your signature confirms that you have read the syllabus.

I have read the syllabus: \_\_\_\_\_ (date and signature)

I agree to have my pictures posted on social media: \_\_\_\_\_ (date and signature)

WELCOME TO GERM3150: Thank you for your continued interest in learning a foreign language!  
Have a great semester!

Please note that the weekly schedule below is subject to change.

Montag, 26. August	Orientierung
Mittwoch, 28. August	Manfred Mai, 7-15 Zaubersprüche und Germanisches Heldenlied
Montag, 2. September	KEIN UNTERRICHT: Tag der Arbeit
Mittwoch, 4. September	Manfred Mai, 15-26 Eine Bibel für das Volk; Roswitha von Gandersheim; Von edlen Rittern; Der erste Literaturstar
Montag, 9. September	Manfred Mai, 27-36 Volkstümliche Weisen; Die Narren kommen; Martin Luther
Mittwoch, 11. September	Manfred Mai, 37-44 <b>Das Barock</b> . Die Welt als Jammertal; Andreas Gryphius, "Es ist alles eitel" (continued); "Menschliches Elende"; "Tränen des Vaterlandes / Anno 1636";

	“Ebenbild unseres Lebens”; “Abend”; Brockes, “Kirschblüte bei der Nacht”
Montag, der 16. September	Manfred Mai, 45-56 <b>Die Aufklärung.</b> Immanuel Kant, Gotthold Ephraim Lessing
Mittwoch, der 18. September	Lessing, <i>Nathan der Weise</i> , 5-32
Montag, der 23. September	Lessing, <i>Nathan der Weise</i> , 33-56
Mittwoch, der 25. September	Lessing, <i>Nathan der Weise</i> , 77-98
Montag, der 30. September	Lessing, <i>Nathan der Weise</i> , 98-127
Mittwoch, der 2. Oktober	Lessing, <i>Nathan der Weise</i> , 127-152
Montag, der 7. Oktober	Manfred Mai, 57-63, <b>Sturm und Drang,</b> <b>Klassik und Romantik</b> Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, “Willkommen und Abschied”; “Prometheus”; “Ganymed”; “Das Göttliche”; “Natur und Kunst”; “Eins und Alles”.
Mittwoch, der 9. Oktober	Manfred Mai, 64-75

Montag, der 14. Oktober	KEIN UNTERRICHT: HERBSTFERIEN
Mittwoch, 16. Oktober	Goethe, <i>Faust</i> , 1-27

Montag, der 21. Oktober	Goethe, <i>Faust</i> , 28-57
Mittwoch, der 23. Oktober	Goethe, <i>Faust</i> , 58-82 <b>First Paper Due</b>
Montag, der 28. Oktober	Goethe, <i>Faust</i> , 83-110
Mittwoch, der 30. Oktober	Watch selected scenes from <i>Faust</i> : Prolog Im Himmel Nacht (Faust-Monolog) Studierzimmer II (Mephisto und Schüler) Gretchens Stube (Meine Ruhe ist hin) Marthens Garten (Gretchenfrage) Marthens Garten (Mephistos Zynismus)

Montag, der 4. November	<p>Manfred Mai, 82-91  Schiller, “An die Freude”; Beethoven, 9. Sinfonie  Hölderlin, “Die Eichbäume”; “Hyperions Schicksalslied”; “Meiner verehrungswürdigen Großmutter. Zu ihrem 72. Geburtstag”</p>
Mittwoch, der 6. November	<p>Novalis, Christenheit oder Europa  Selected Paintings from Capar David Friedrich;  Eichendorff, “Schläft ein Lied”; “Sehnsucht”; “Mondnacht”</p>
Montag, der 11. November	<p>Manfred Mai, 92-102 <b>Vormärz und Biedermeier</b>  Heine “Traum und Leben”; “Fragen”; “Das Fräulein stand am Meere”; “Die schlesischen Weber”; “Doktrin”</p> <p><b>Second paper due</b></p>
Mittwoch, der 13. November	<p>Manfred Mai, 102-110 <b>Realismus</b>  Heine, Deutschland. Ein Winternächchen, Caput I-II; “Nachtgedanken”; “Bei des Nachtwächters Ankunft zu Paris”; “Zur Beruhigung”  Marx, “Die entfremdete Arbeit” (excerpts); “Geld”</p>
Montag, der 18. November	<p>Manfred Mai, 111-116  <b>Expressionismus, Neue Sachlichkeit, Weimarer Republik</b>  Else Lasker-Schüler, “Weltende”; Jakob van Hoddis, “Weltende”; Alfred Lichtenstein, “Die Dämmerung” and “Der Morgen”; Georg Heym, “Der Gott der Stadt” and “Die Stadt”; Gottfried Benn, “Kleine Aster” and “Mann und Frau gehen durch die Krebsbaracke”</p> <p>Käthe Kollwitz, Emil Nolde, Franz Marc, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Ludwig Meidner, Max Beckmann, Otto Dix, and George Grosz</p>
Mittwoch, der 20. November	<p>Manfred Mai, 117-124 <b>Kunst = Natur-X; Einblick ins Unbewusste</b></p>

	Hauptmann, Freud, Schnitzler, Rilke
Montag, der 25. November	Manfred Mai, 125-132 <b>Zwei ungleiche Brüder</b> Thomas und Heinrich Mann <b>Third paper due</b>
Mittwoch, der 27. November	Manfred Mai, 133-141 <b>Aufstand gegen die Väter</b> Hermann Hesse und Franz Kafka “Vor dem Gesetz”; “Der Kübelreiter”; and “Eine kaiserliche Botschaft”
Montag, der 2. Dezember	Manfred Mai, 142-155 <b>Neue Sachlichkeit</b> Erich Kästner, Alfred Döblin, Irmgard Keun
Mittwoch, der 4. Dezember	Manfred Mai, 156-163 <b>Trümmerliteratur</b> Wolfgang Borchert