

M 4:30-7:10 p.m., AB #4150
Fall 2019
Professor Martha Helfer
Office: AB 4125
Office hours, M 2:30-3:30 p.m. and by appointment
mhelfer@rutgers.edu

01:470:388:01 (index #19430)
01:195:480:01 (index #21506)
16: 470: 671:01 (index #12360)
16:195:516:01 (index #21507)

Wild Women

Course description: Wild women, crazy women, sexy women, women on the edge! This course examines woman as the site of cultural and aesthetic critique in mainstream German literature and film from the Enlightenment to the 20th century, in conjunction with feminist theory. Examples will be taken from fairy tales, history, literature, mythology, and film. The course will begin with an overview of Enlightenment and post-Enlightenment gender theory in a broad European context (Rousseau, Wollstonecraft, de Gouges, von Hippel). We then will analyze constructions of "woman" in German literature, film, and theory, focusing on the emergence of (and resistance to) modern gender theory. Readings and films include selections from Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Friedrich Schiller, Sophia von La Roche, Friedrich Schlegel, Dorothea Schlegel, Karoline von Günderode, Heinrich von Kleist, Annette von Droste-Hülshoff, Friedrich Hebbel, Franz Grillparzer, Christa Wolf, Michael Verhoeven, and Tom Twyker.

Taught in English. No prerequisites.

Titles available at the university bookstore:

Goethe, *The Collected Works vol. 8: Verse Plays and Epics* (Princeton UP 978-0691043432)*

Goethe, *The Collected Works vol. 9: Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship* (Princeton UP 978-0691043449)

Lessing, *Nathan the Wise, Minna von Barnhelm, and Other Plays* (Continuum 13-978-0826407078)

Kleist, *Penthesilea* (Harper Perennial 978-0060956325)*

Gotthelf, *The Black Spider* (One World Classics 978-1847491084)
(or NY Review of Books edition: 9781590176689)

Wolf, *Cassandra* (Noonday Press) 0374-51904-8

Novalis, *Henry von Ofterdingen* (Waveland Press 0-881335746)

*These titles were unavailable for stocking at the bookstore but may be purchased through Amazon or other sources

Other readings available online and/or through the course Sakai site.

IMPORTANT NOTE about German titles: Graduate students in German are **required** to read German texts in the original. Texts are available at the library, online, or can be ordered inexpensively from IBIS (<http://www.ibiservice.com/>): Reclam editions are fine!

Course requirements:

undergraduate: Attendance, careful preparation of assigned readings, active class participation (5%); one 10-minute oral presentation (10%); one response to oral presentation (5%); two short essays (5-8 pp., 25% each); one final essay (8-10 pp., 30%). **Students must complete ALL assignments to receive credit for this course!**

graduate: Attendance, careful preparation of assigned readings, active class participation (5%); one 15-minute oral presentation (10%); one response to oral presentation (5%); two short essays (5-8 pp., 20% each); one final essay (15-20 pp., 40%).

Notes: Students are required to complete all assignments to pass this course!

Final grades will be calculated in conformance with the standard scale approved by the University Faculty Senate:

- A= Outstanding
- B+
- B=Good
- C+
- C=Satisfactory
- D=Poor
- F=Failing
- W=ASSIGNED BY REGISTRAR to students who officially withdraw from a course

Attendance: All students must attend regularly and arrive prepared; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. **Those who miss more than two class sessions without a compelling excuse should expect a one-step reduction in the course grade (i.e. an A becomes a B+, a B+ becomes a B). Every additional three absences may entail a further one-step grade-reduction.**

Electronic devices in class: Use of electronic devices in class other than for study of the class topic (e.g. taking notes or consulting an assigned text in pdf form) is strictly forbidden. Those seen using such devices for other purposes will be asked to leave immediately. Their dismissal will count as an absence and may result in a lowering of their overall grade.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus, including assignment due dates, when unforeseen circumstances occur (e.g., snow days). These changes will be announced as early as possible so that students can adjust their schedules. **Students are required to check their RU email on a regular basis for course-related announcements.**

Schedule of course meetings:

9/9 Introduction
Goethe, "Heath Rose"

9/16 Lessing, *Emilia Galotti*

9/23 Goethe, *Iphigenia in Tauris*

9/30 **no class (reschedule)**
Goethe, *The Natural Daughter*

10/7 Schiller, *The Maid of Orleans*

10/14 Kleist, *Penthesilea*

10/21 Goethe, *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship* (Books 1-4)

10/28 Goethe, *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship* (Books 5-8)

11/4 Novalis, *Heinrich von Ofterdingen*

11/11 Friedrich Schlegel, *Lucinde*
Dorothea Veit-Schlegel, *Florentin*

11/18 Annette von Droste-Hülshoff, *Ledwina*, select poems

11/25 Jeremias Gotthelf, *The Black Spider*

12/2 Christa Wolf, *Cassandra*

12/9 Tom Twyker, *Run Lola Run*
Michael Verhoeven, *The Nasty Girl*

12/18 Final essays due 2 p.m.

Disability Support Services: Students who may be requesting accommodations due to disabilities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with procedures and policies regarding disability support services at the following website: <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/>. It is recommended that students seeking accommodations begin filing paperwork as soon as possible as the documentation review process may take up to 30 business days. Students are encouraged to speak with instructors about these issues at the beginning of the term. All such conversations will be kept strictly confidential.

Academic Integrity: Violations of academic integrity are an extremely serious matter, and can lead to a student's failing the course and being referred to the University's Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action. When referring to ideas other than your own, always acknowledge your sources clearly and completely, whether you are quoting or paraphrasing. Note also that use of online translation services is not permitted as a tool for generating work that you submit for course credit. Please see the University's policies on academic integrity at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/>, and discuss with your instructor any questions you may have about this and related issues.

Student-Wellness Services:

Just In Case Web App

<http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.