



MW 2:50-4:10 pm, Scott Hall 204
 Fall 2018
 Professor Martha Helfer
 Office: AB 4125 (West Wing)
 Office hours, MW 1:30-2:30 p.m. and by appointment
mhelfer@rutgers.edu
 01:470:275:01 (index #13819)

Introduction to German Studies

Course description: This course is an interdisciplinary inquiry into seminal literary, artistic, social, political, and intellectual developments in the history of German-language cultures and thought from around 1750 to 1900. The course is open to first-year students and to all who might not necessarily



wish to become a German major or minor but who seek, as part of a well-rounded liberal arts education, basic familiarity with the rich and often vexed history of things German and their impact on Europe and the world.

No prerequisites. All readings and discussions in English.
 Fulfills SAS Core Curriculum Learning Goals AHp, WCd.

Arts and Humanities Goal p: Student is able to analyze arts and/or literature in themselves and in relation to specific histories, values, languages, cultures, and/or technologies.

Writing and Communication Goal d: Student is able to communicate effectively in modes appropriate to a discipline or area of inquiry; evaluate and critically assess sources and use the conventions of attribution and citation correctly; and analyze and synthesize information and ideas from multiple sources to generate new insights.

Required readings:

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Faust, Part One* (Bantam 0553213482)

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

Course requirements:

attendance, careful preparation of assigned readings, active class participation: 10%

Attendance is required. Students are expected to be attentive in class. Students are expected to contribute regularly to class discussion by asking questions and responding to queries in a thoughtful manner that demonstrates awareness of both the assigned readings and the course material.

blog responses (1 per week or as assigned): 10%

Students will post weekly short responses to assigned readings. These responses may involve formulating questions about the assigned readings or answering questions posed by the instructor.

three short essays (5-8 pp., double-spaced): 55%

essay 1-15%; essay 2-20%; essay 3-20%

Students will write well-structured, well-argued essays that analyze assigned readings and conform to good writing practices in the discipline. Prompts will be formulated by the instructor. The instructor will provide “Guidelines for Writing a Good Essay,” and will conduct Writing Workshops that prepare students for the assignments.

one final essay (8-10 pp., double-spaced) 25%

In lieu of a final exam, students will write a well-structured, well-argued essay that analyzes assigned readings, conforms to good writing practices in the discipline, and demonstrates mastery of the course material. Prompt will be formulated by the student, and must be pre-approved by the instructor.

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

IMPORTANT: Students must complete ALL assignments to receive credit for this course

Departmental policies

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. Three late arrivals count as one absence. Note: It is the responsibility of students who have been absent (for any reason) to find out what they have missed and obtain materials that may have been handed out.

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.

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/academic-integrity-at-rutgers>, and discuss with your instructor any questions you may have about this and related issues.

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to [Turnitin.com](https://turnitin.com) (directly or via learning management system, i.e. Sakai, Blackboard, Canvas, Moodle) for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the [Turnitin.com](https://turnitin.com) reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the [Turnitin.com](https://turnitin.com) service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the [Turnitin.com](https://turnitin.com) site.

Students who do not agree should contact the course instructor immediately.

Schedule of course meetings:

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 in class as early as possible and posted on the Sakai course site. Students are required to check their RU email on a regular basis for all course-related announcements.

9/5 Introduction
Goethe: "Dedication"

9/10 **no class** (reschedule)
9/12 Kant: "Answer to the Question: What is Enlightenment?"

9/17 Writing Workshop
9/19 **no class** (reschedule)

9/21 Essay 1 due 11:59 pm

9/24 Lessing: *Nathan the Wise*
9/26 Lessing: *Nathan the Wise*

10/1 Goethe: "Prometheus"
"Heath Rose"
"Erl-King"

10/3 Schiller: *Aesthetic Letters* (1-9)

10/8 Goethe: *Faust, Part I*
10/10 Goethe: *Faust, Part I*

10/15 Goethe: *Faust, Part I*
10/17 Goethe: *Faust, Part I*
Writing Workshop

10/21 Essay 2 due 11:59 pm

10/22 Kant: "Analytic of the Sublime"
Caspar David Friedrich

10/22 Friedrich Schlegel: *Athenäum Fragments* (selection)

10/29 Kleist: *Earthquake in Chili*

10/31 Kleist: *The Foundling*

11/5 E.T.A. Hoffmann: *The Sandman*

11/7 E.T.A. Hoffmann: *The Sandman*

11/12 Eichendorff: "The Marble Statue"

11/14 Eichendorff: "The Marble Statue"

Writing Workshop

11/19 Hegel: "master-slave dialectic"

Büchner: *Woyzeck*

11/20 Essay 3 due, 11:59 pm.

11/21 **no class**

11/26 Droste-Hülshoff: *The Jews' Beech Tree*

11/28 Droste-Hülshoff: *The Jews' Beech Tree*

12/3 **no class**

12/5 Nietzsche: "On Truth and Lie in an Extra-Moral Sense"

12/10 Writing workshop; student presentations

12/14 Final essay due, 11:59 pm

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.