



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

**GERMAN PROGRAMME
GERM 314 TOPICS IN GERMAN CULTURE 3
20 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 11 July to 13 November 2016

Teaching dates: 11 July to 16 October 2016

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2016

Study period: 17–20 October 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures

Monday	4.10pm - 5.00pm	MY (Murphy) 401
Tuesday	4.10pm - 5.00pm	MY (Murphy) 401
Thursday	4.10pm - 5.00pm	MY (Murphy) 401

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator
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School office hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

Contact Person for Māori and Pasifika Students: Dr Nicola Gilmour
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Contact Person for Students with Disabilities: Dr Andrea Hepworth
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School Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/slc

Staff are happy to discuss students' concerns with them at any time, or to provide additional information about the course. Such information is regularly given in class announcements. Staff members are available for student consultation at times indicated on the doors of their offices.

Communication of additional information

Additional information will be provided in class and/or posted on Blackboard.

Prescription

This course expands and deepens students' familiarity with German culture by examining themes of importance for understanding the German-speaking world and how these are represented and/or evoked in a selection of literary texts and films. Course material is studied in German.

Course content

This course, taught in German, is designed for students who wish to extend their knowledge of key themes that have shaped German culture such as "Schein und Sein", "Menschen und Tiere" and "Autorität und Autoritarismus". Ideas developed by German-language thinkers and artists are assessed through analysis of relevant literary texts, films, and visual representations; primary texts chosen by students for seminar discussions may also be used as a testing-ground for critical approaches in cultural studies learned in previous courses, lectures and class discussions.

Course programme

Weeks 1 – 6: "Menschen und Tiere" and "Autorität und Autoritarismus" (Richard Millington)

Weeks 7 – 12: "Schein und Sein" (Margaret Sutherland)

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

At the end of the course students should be able to:

1. conduct advanced critical analysis of narrative conventions and rhetorical strategies of literary texts and films from the German-speaking world;
2. contextualise these works in relation to cultural, historical, social and political circumstances;
3. compare and contrast varying representations and evocations of particular themes across different literary and film works;
4. apply upper intermediate-level German-language skills to develop arguments about the texts studied in oral and/or written form;

5. apply critical and theoretical perspectives relevant to German culture studies, and evaluate scholarly works.

Teaching format

Classes will consist of lectures and seminars, supplemented by reading materials and films. Students are expected to take an active part in class and to contribute their own background knowledge and views on the topic under discussion. Active use of German is encouraged throughout the course.

Mandatory course requirements (MCRs)

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. Obtain at least 40% in each piece of assessment in order to demonstrate the achievement of all CLOs in the course.
2. Submit at least 8 of the 10 preparation worksheets in order to contribute to the development of both textual analysis skills and communication skills.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

The University Assessment Handbook has laid down guidelines as to the number of hours per week which students are expected to devote to a course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Students enrolling in a one-trimester 20-point course should work on average 13 hours per week including contact hours, and 200 hours overall - i.e., in the case of GERM 314, **10 hours of private study outside class time**. This private study time will involve reading and understanding the texts, preparing any worksheets required, researching and writing the essay and the seminar presentation and reading secondary literature.

Assessment requirements

GERM 314 is assessed by:

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 One essay on a set topic, to be written in English or German as the student prefers (approx. 1,500 words). Essay topics will be provided within the first few weeks of the trimester.	20%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	16 September
2 One tutorial presentation, either on a set topic or on a topic chosen by the student. Presentations are done by individual students and are to be 20 minutes in length, plus time for discussion.	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	These will take place in the Thursday classes from the second week of the course onwards.

3	10 weekly preparation worksheets (2000 words in total). The worksheets are submitted in written form. The purpose of the worksheets is to give students an incentive to do the set readings, familiarise themselves with key-vocabulary of the German primary text, and to ensure that class time will be used productively for informed discussion to which they can all contribute. The 10 worksheets will thus contribute to the development of both textual analysis skills and communication skills in the target language (written and oral).	25%	1, 3, 4, 5	Worksheets for the first half of the course, counting 12.5% towards the final grade, will be completed by Thursday, 18 August. Worksheets for the second half of the course, counting 12.5% towards the final grade, will be completed by Thursday, 13 October.
4	Final 2-hour examination	40%	1, 2, 3, 5	Within the examination 21 October to 12 November 2016

The essay and the seminar are on aspects and themes covered in class and their wider context. The examination relates to all topics studied over the trimester, but students will have a choice of questions to be answered.

Submission and return of work

The essay is due on Friday 16 September at 4 pm.

The essays **must be submitted** as a **print-out** to the German assignment slot located to the left of the SLC Office on Level 6 of von Zedlitz. The print-out must include a cover sheet available from the SLC Office or Blackboard. **Essays will not be considered complete until submitted in both forms.**

The **seminar dates** will be agreed upon in consultation with the lecturers.

The **worksheets** are to be submitted on Thursday of each week (4pm), preferably in electronic form. These worksheets pertain to class discussions in the following week.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions need to be discussed with the Course Coordinator and require supporting evidence. Essays submitted late without prior notification of the course coordinator will have penalty marks deducted at the rate of two marks a day; in the case of extreme lateness, the essay will not be marked.

Set texts

Arthur Schnitzler, *Lieutenant Gustl*

Franz Kafka, *Die Verwandlung*

Gottfried Keller, *Kleider machen Leute*

Carl Zuckmayer, *Der Hauptmann von Köpenick*

These books can be purchased from Vic Books, Ground Floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Parade. It can also be ordered online at www.vicbooks.co.nz. Orders and enquiries can be emailed to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

Further texts will be made available to students via Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how the course is going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the VUWSA website: www.vuwsa.org.nz.

Student feedback

Feedback from the previous cohort of students was enthusiastic. Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is the University's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting language learning.

At the LLC you can practise and extend your language learning. You can:

- Find materials to support your language studies, including dictionaries, textbooks and graded readers.
- Study independently using language learning software, audio material and DVDs.
- Find a welcoming environment with services and events, and onsite assistance and support for languages
- Become a Language Buddy or find a conversation group.

Visit the LLC on Level 0, von Zedlitz Building and take a look at our website www.victoria.ac.nz/llc

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz