



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE

UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

German

**Second Year Arts
Course Booklet**

2023-2024

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Entry requirements: First Arts students having attained a total mark of 40% or more will be admitted to Second Arts German courses.

Essay Guidelines: All essays which form part of the assessment of any module within the BA German programme must adhere to the format and the referencing system laid out in the discipline's essay guidelines, available on the Discipline of German website (Section: Undergraduate Programmes).

Discipline of German website: <https://www.universityofgalway.ie/german/>

Academic Year 2023-2024

2023 (Semester 1)

Start of teaching all years, except First Years	Monday 4th September
End of teaching all years	Friday 24th November
Study Week	Monday 27th November - Friday 1st December
Semester 1 Exams	Monday 4th – Friday 15th December
Christmas Holiday	Saturday 16th December

2024 (Semester 2)

Start of Teaching	Monday 8th January
End of Teaching	Thursday 28th March
Easter	Good Friday 29th March to Easter Monday 1st April
Field Trips	Tuesday 2nd April to Friday 5th April
Study Week	Monday 8th April to Friday 12th April
Semester 2 Exams	Monday 15th April – Wednesday 1 st May
Autumn Repeat Exams	Tuesday, 6th August to Friday 16th August
Holidays	St. Brigid's Day: Monday 5th February 2024
	Easter: Good Friday 29th March to Easter Monday 1st April 2024
	Bank Holidays: Monday 30th October 2023 / Monday, 18th March 2024
	Monday 6th May 2024 / Monday 3rd June 2024 / Monday 5th August 2024

SEMESTER 1 All modules have the value of 5 ECTS.	
Module	Component(s)
GR236 German Language I	
GR238 German Studies I	Law in Literature 50% AND Ruth Klüger: A Childhood under Nazi Control 50%
GR239 History of German Literature and Culture I	Literature and Culture of the Wiener Moderne 100%
SEMESTER 2 All modules have the value of 5 ECTS.	
Module	Component(s)
GR237 German Language II	
GR240 German Studies II <i>Students must choose Landeskunde plus <u>one</u> of the optional components.</i>	Landeskunde (obligatory) 50% Making invisibilities visible: GDR and German reunification retold 50% OR The Power of Song: Literary Texts on Orpheus and on the Sirens 50%
GR235 History of German Literature and Culture II	German Romanticism 100%

SEMESTER 1

GR236	German Language I
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Lecturer: Antonia Musolff

Course description:

This course will further develop your language skills acquired in first year and refine your understanding of German vocabulary, communication, and sentence structures. The aim is to advance your ability to speak and write correctly, fluently, and accurately in typical communication situations, while also enhancing your reading and listening skills. Core aims for this course are to ensure that all participants are engaging in high-level language learning activities, such as conversation and group discussions, grammar exercises, reading and listening comprehension, as well as accurate vocabulary and memory work and writing to the norms of different text types (commentaries, summaries, informal emails). The main course material will be accompanied by current aspects of German culture like songs, videos, and literature to cover a broad range of topics.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of First Arts German, or equivalent

Teaching and learning methods: Individual, partner and group work, team presentation

Assessment:

Written examination: 30%

Oral examination: 30%

Continuous assessment: 40% (written assignments, grammar and vocabulary tests)

Core texts: *Weitblick - Das große Panorama – B1 +. Deutsch als Fremdsprache Kurs- und Übungsbuch.* Cornelsen 2019.

Additional course material (articles, video links, handouts etc.) will be provided in class.

***Please note that students who took GR1001 in their first year will have one extra hour per week. Time and venue will be confirmed at the start of term.**

**** As well as the scheduled hours for GR236 on the Semester 1 timetable, Second Arts students will have a German conversation class each week. Time and venue will be confirmed at the start of term.**

GR238	German Studies I (2 hours per week)	
	Law in Literature	50%
	AND	
	Ruth Klüger: A Childhood under Nazi Control	50%

GR238 Law in Literature (1 hour per week)

Lecturer: Deirdre Byrnes

Course description:

This seminar develops close reading skills as we consider the portrayal of the Law and of the legal system in selected works of literature. In the first unit, we will analyse Paul Celan's poem "Todesfuge" – a text which depicts the horrors of the concentration camps and illustrates in devastating fashion what happens when people are deprived of their basic rights.

The second unit of the course focuses on Ferdinand von Schirach's play *Terror*, which was published in 2015 and quickly became a global theatre phenomenon. In this courtroom drama, the spectators assume the role of jurors and must arrive at a verdict, which is delivered at the end of each live performance. Von Schirach's thought-provoking play challenges audience and readers alike to grapple with complex ethical questions and to consider issues of guilt and responsibility.

In the third part of the course, we will explore two parables by Franz Kafka: "Der Schlag ans Hoftor" and "Vor dem Gesetz". These texts raise important questions about access to the Law and about the labyrinthine apparatus often surrounding it.

Assessment: Continuous assessment: 50% (two assignments, each worth 25%)
In-house essay (week 12): 50%

Core texts: Reader containing texts by Paul Celan and Franz Kafka
Ferdinand von Schirach's play *Terror* (Random House publishers) is available for purchase in the campus bookshop.
A study guide will be distributed at the start of the semester.

GR238 Ruth Klüger: A Childhood under Nazi Control (1 hour per week)

Lecturer: Jeannine Jud

Course description:

This module will focus on an examination of Ruth Klüger's memoir *Weiter leben: Eine Jugend*. In this work, Klüger, born in 1931, explores her experiences of life in Vienna as a Jewish child under Nazi control, followed by life in the Ghetto Theresienstadt and the concentration camps Auschwitz-Birkenau and Christianstadt. Through an in-depth analysis of this memoir, we are provided with a unique insight of the experiences brought to paper by a woman who survived some of the most horrific events in history first-hand. Her literature is a mosaic of the most beautiful anecdotes illustrating that hope flickers even in the darkest of places, mixed

with harrowing tales of life inside Auschwitz-Birkenau. The aim of this course is to analyse and reflect on the personal perspectives provided by Klüger of this complex historical period.

Assessment: In-class test: 70%, active participation and continuous assessment: 30%

Core text: Ruth Klüger, *Weiter leben: Eine Jugend*

GR239 History of German Literature and Culture I (2 hours per week)

Literature and Culture of the Wiener Moderne

Literature and Culture of the Wiener Moderne (2 hours per week)

Lecturer: Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa

Course description:

The module introduces students to the literature and culture of Vienna in the period 1890-1930. It provides a portrait of the Hapsburgian Capital including aspects such as the economic and political situation, urban sociology, and architecture. The major thematic focus of the module will be the representation of women in contemporary literature, art, and theory. It introduces major representatives of contemporary art (Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele), and music (Gustav Mahler, Arnold Schönberg). The module analyses major texts of various genres (narration, poetry, drama) by various authors (Arthur Schnitzler, Hugo von Hofmannsthal, Peter Altenberg). These texts will be discussed in the context of relevant contemporary theories such as psychoanalysis, and the criticism of language.

Assessment: Written exam

Core texts: Arthur Schnitzler, *Fräulein Else*; Hugo von Hofmannsthal, *Poems*

All texts will be available on Canvas.

SEMESTER 2

GR237 German Language II

Lecturer: Antonia Musolff

Course description:

Continuing from GR236, this course builds up fluency and accuracy in the German language. It will help you become more comfortable in the practical use of German language, while deepening your understanding of German vocabularies and their correct use. The course will involve language exercises and text production, including aural, oral, and written work. Text types practised in the course will be debates, complaint letters, graph descriptions, creative

writing, CVs, and discussion papers. Conversation and pronunciation exercises as well as oral presentations and listening comprehension will also be a vital part of the course.

Teaching and learning methods: Individual, partner and group work, team presentation

Assessment:

Written examination: 30%

Oral examination: 30%

Continuous assessment: 40%

Core texts: *Weitblick - Das große Panorama – B1 +. Deutsch als Fremdsprache Kurs- und Übungsbuch.* Cornelsen 2019.

Additional course material (video links, handouts etc.) will be provided in class.

***Please note that students who took GR1001 in their first year will have one extra hour per week. Time and venue will be confirmed at the start of Semester 2.**

**** As well as the scheduled hours for GR237 on the Semester 2 timetable, Second Arts students will have a German conversation class each week. Time and venue will be confirmed at the start of Semester 2.**

GR240	German Studies II	
Landeskunde (obligatory)		50%
AND		
Making invisibilities visible: GDR and German reunification retold		50%
OR		
The Power of Song: Literary Texts on Orpheus and on the Sirens		50%

GR240 Landeskunde (1 hour per week)

Lecturer: Antonia Musolff

Course description:

This course will focus on cultural topics which will be of benefit to you for your Erasmus year abroad. The word “Landeskunde” translates loosely as “regional studies” or “culture and society” and, as such, can encompass a broad range of topics from history, geography, education, politics, festivals, music, art, media, sport, dialects and others. Apart from learning facts about German-speaking countries, students will also tackle the problem of generalizations and stereotypes that can arise in this context. The aim of this course is for you to familiarise yourself with elements of German culture related to the life of a student, so that the transition to living in Germany or Austria may be easier.

Language of instruction: Predominantly German. Language of assessment is German.

Teaching and learning methods: Individual and partner/group work

Assessment: Continuous assessment: 40%, In-house test: 60%

GR 240 Making invisibilities visible: GDR and German reunification retold (1 hour per week)

Lecturer: Antonia Musolff

Course description:

In this course we will take a close look at Germany before and after its reunification. From 1949 until 1990 Germany was split into two states: the German Democratic Republic (GDR) in the East and the Federal German Republic (FGR) in the West. Since German reunification in 1990, GDR literature as well as the life in the GDR have been an important part of German remembrance culture. However former GDR citizens often do not feel seen in the dominating remembrance politics as it tends to reduce life in the GDR to victims and perpetrators of a socialist, totalitarian system. The aim of this course is thus to paint a more diverse picture of life in the GDR and shed light on aspects that are not at the centre of discussion. The focus will be on everyday life in the GDR, Queer movements in the GDR, immigration into the GDR, reunification from a Black German or migrant viewpoint, lasting discrimination against people that grew up or live in former East Germany, and the relationship between Ireland and the GDR.

Teaching and learning methods: In-class discussions, partner, and group work

Language of instruction: German and English

Methods of assessment and examination: In-house test

Core texts: All texts will be made available on Canvas.

Holfter, Gisela (Hg.): *Perceptions and Perspectives: Exploring Connections between Ireland and the GDR* (2019)

Massimo Lierke: *Erinnern stören: Der Mauerfall aus migrantischer und jüdischer Perspektive* (2020)

Silige, Ursula: *Queere Bewegungen in der DDR* (2007)

GR240 The Power of Song: Literary Texts on Orpheus and on the Sirens (1 hour per week)

Lecturer: Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa

Course description:

Hearing music can have an enormous impact on listeners. It can be used as a therapy but also as a form of torture: Music can be both heaven and hell. In ancient Greek mythology this ambivalence is reflected in the duality of two types of singers, representing the positive and the destructive impact of music. While the songs of Orpheus bring peace and harmony, soothe wild beasts and cause gods to be merciful, the Sirens lure listeners to perdition with their magical voices.

This course will explore the psychological, anthropological, and aesthetic significance of the myths associated with the aforementioned singers. It will go back to ancient sources (Ovid, *Metamorphoses*; Homer, *Odyssey*) and introduce students to selected representations of the myth in European art and music (Claude Debussy, *Siren*; Claudio Monteverdi, *Orfeo* – the first opera in the history of music!) The main focus of the course is on variations of both myths in German literature, which allow the old stories to appear in a new light. We will discuss texts by Clemens Brentano, Heinrich Heine, Franz Kafka, Rainer Maria Rilke, and others.

Assessment: In-class test

Core texts: Franz Kafka, *Das Schweigen der Sirenen*; Rainer Maria Rilke, *Die Insel der Sirenen*; *Sonette an Orpheus*; Bertold Brecht, *Odysseus und die Sirenen*. All texts will be available online.

<p>GR235 History of German Literature and Culture II (2 hours per week)</p>
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<p>German Romanticism</p>

German Romanticism (2 hours per week)

Lecturer: Hans-Walter Schmidt-Hannisa

Course description:

The time between 1795 and 1830 was one of the most productive periods in Germany's cultural history. In the aftermath of the French Revolution and overshadowed by the Napoleonic Wars, the movement of German Romanticism began as an eruption of original and often provoking philosophical and literary ideas. Its aim was nothing less than the re-enchantment of the world that had been radically transformed by the rationalism of the Enlightenment during the 18th century. However, Romanticism is not simply a corrective of Enlightenment, but in many respects also its continuation.

The course will introduce students to literature, painting, music, and philosophy of the epoch; it will also touch upon some of its medical, psychiatric, and economic dimensions. We will read and analyse aphorisms, poems, letters, and novellas by authors such as Novalis, Friedrich Schlegel, Ludwig Tieck, Clemens Brentano, E.T.A. Hoffmann, Joseph von Eichendorff, and Bettine von Arnim. We will also look at paintings by Caspar David Friedrich, Philipp Otto Runge, and Friedrich Schinkel, and listen to music by Franz Schubert and Robert Schumann.

Assessment: Written exam

Core texts: E.T.A. Hoffmann: *Rat Krespel*; poems by Novalis, Brentano, and Eichendorff; all texts will be uploaded to Canvas.