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Office Hours: Monday 1-2, Thursday 1:30-2:30 and gladly by appointment

GRMN 6350: Bildungsroman

We will investigate the theory, practice, and reception of the *Bildungsroman* during the Classical and Romantic periods. We will read all the literary works in German, but the language of discussion may float between German and English (mostly determined by the students and the material). Some of the secondary material is in German, some in English.

Required Books and Materials: You should use the books I ordered. If you already own a copy, check with me. DO NOT print from the Gutenberg site.

J. W. von Goethe: *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*, DTV 1997 ISBN: 3423124040

Friedrich Schlegel: *Lucinde, Studienausgabe*, Reclam, 1999 ISBN: 3150003202

Dorothea Schlegel: *Florentin*. Reclam, 1993 ISBN: 3150087074

Novalis [Friedrich von Hardenberg]: *Heinrich von Ofterdingen*, DTV 1997 ISBN: 3423026030

Unger, *Bekenntnisse einer schönen Seele*. I will make copies of this for the class.

Fr. Schlegel, Essays and Fragments on *Wilhelm Meister* and the novel. (Copies)

T. Kontje, *The German Bildungsroman: History of a National Genre* (on reserve in the library, check out for 1 day and copy—do this as a group)

Requirements:

1. Attend class with the required readings done and ready to discuss the readings.
2. Do all of the reading.
3. Engage in an informed discussion with your fellow classmates.
4. Write a weekly WEBCT posting where you critically reflect upon an aspect of the assigned reading (150-250 words). Two will not count towards your grade, but still must be done.
5. Read and report on one article of secondary literature for *Lucinde*, *Florentin*, *Heinrich von Ofterdingen*, 2 articles for *Wilhelm Meister*. Half will present on the Schlegel essays, etc. and half on Unger's *Bekenntnisse*. That makes 6 articles each.
6. Submit an annotated bibliography and outline of your final research paper.
7. Complete the final research paper.

WEBCT: You must post your response **NO LATER THAN 11 AM** on the day of class. 150-250 words in length. This will give time for everyone to read your posting before class (also required). These will form the basis of our discussions. The smaller the item you choose to discuss, the easier and more rewarding and analytical your contribution will be. You are encouraged to respond to the postings of your classmates in your own posts. You may write in English or German, but should follow good rules of grammar, punctuation, etc. Non-natives in English or German are encouraged to take this opportunity to write in the “other” language. Please provide page references, if needed.

Reports: I have selected a number of essays to read from books and journals. You will select among these, but there may be opportunities to choose your own item on which to report. Think how Kontje does it in his book. In your report you must SUMMARIZE the author's main argument:

What is the main point?

Which aspects of the work/author are emphasized?

From which theoretical perspective does the author derive his/her argument?

Do you think this essay is useful? How? How not?

You will have 5-7 minutes to present this, after everyone has presented for the day, we will ask questions and discuss. You may not exceed this time limit and this means that you must prepare. No later than 1 week following your report, you are to type up a precis of what you reported and turn it in for a grade. The grade will reflect both your oral and written presentation.

Annotated bibliography/outline: After discussing your idea with me, you should begin compiling a bibliography and outline for your final paper. In your bibliography, you should indicate where you found each item (the essays we will read for each book will be a great start!)—MLA, *Germanistik*, etc. You should also comment on a goodly number, indicating that you have already read them. A brief outline indicating the breadth, scope, and structure of your paper will also be necessary. (I will take into consideration those whose topics were taken from and include works read late in the semester.)

Final Research Paper:

After discussing your paper with me, you will write a 15-20 page (12 pt. font, standard margins, double-spaced) research paper, using MLA, Chicago, or "German" style. A List of Works Cited must be included at the end; footnotes/endnotes (preferred) are to be used for explanation and discussion only, not for page references; they go in the body of the text in parenthesis). A research paper includes the following:

1. Your own thesis regarding a specific topic.
2. A survey of what others' have concluded about this work. Have they discussed your topic? What do they say? Do you agree? Disagree? How?
3. A detailed and analytical presentation of your thesis in conversation with the critics.
4. This presentation will contain specific quotations from the text that you will discuss and analyze (your paper should not just be a list of quotes from either primary or secondary sources; if it is important enough to include, it deserves some discussion, even if you think you might be a bit repetitive.
5. The paper may be in English or German. Spelling, grammar, style "count." If you wish to write in your non-native language, you must demonstrate your ability through a few WebCT postings and get my permission in advance.

Grades: There are 1000 points to be earned and they are distributed as follows:

Class Participation:	100
WebCt Postings	250
Article Reports	250
Bibliog./Outline	100
Final Paper	300
930-1000=A	
929-895=A-	
894-870=B+	
869-830=B, etc.	

Opinions:

You will never be graded on the basis of my agreement or disagreement with your reasoned opinions. You will be graded on the quality of your argument. You will always treat the opinions of others with consideration. Class discussions and differences of opinion are welcomed and encouraged; however, criticism is to be limited to the other person's ideas and not to devolve into a personal insult: it is good to say, "This idea is flawed,"; but it is not permitted to say, "This idea is idiotic and you are an idiot."

Details:

All assignments are due on the day indicated at the beginning of class. All assignments prepared outside of class and to be turned in must be typed or printed on a computer. Standard fonts and margins. Late written assignments will be penalized one-half grade per day late, including weekends. Deadlines apply to WebCt assignments as well. Attendance is expected. All additional unexcused absences will be deducted from your grade. An excused absence is: bona fide illness, a personal obligation of which you inform me in advance, anything you discuss with me and I acknowledge as excused.

Honesty: All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty." Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The link to more detailed information about academic honesty can be found at: <http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/honesty/acadhon.htm>

Problems: If you encounter any difficulties during the semester, personal or academic, please see me right away. Do not just disappear for weeks on end. Most difficulties can be handled best when addressed promptly.

Plan:

The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

I. Aug. 21

Introduction: What is *Bildung*? What is the *Bildungsroman* anyway?

II. Aug. 28

Wilhelm Meister Buch 1 & 2
Kontje, first third

Labor Day (read WM as your “Labor”)

III. Sept. 11
Wilhelm Meister Buch 3 & 4
Kontje, second two-thirds

IV. Sept. 18
Wilhelm Meister Buch 5 & 6 (first article presentations)

V. Sept. 25
Wilhelm Meister Buch 7 & 8 (discussion and second Goethe article presentations)

VI. Oct. 2
Fr. Schlegel and the Romantics’ response to *Wilhelm Meister* (half the students will read essays & present)

VII. Oct. 9
Lucinde

VIII. Oct. 16
Lucinde critical discussions and article presentations.

IX. Oct. 23
Florentin

X. Oct. 30
Florentin critical discussions and article presentations

XI. Nov. 6
Heinrich von Ofterdingen

XII. Nov. 13
Heinrich von Ofterdingen (some article presentations)

XIII. Nov. 20
Heinrich von Ofterdingen (the rest)
Annotated Bibliography and Outline due

XIV. Nov. 27
Bekenntnisse einer schönen Seele

XV. Dec. 4

Bekenntnisse einer schönen Seele (half the students will read essays and present)
Final thoughts

Final paper due: Wed., Dec. 13, 4:00 pm.