HU 475
Advanced Modern Language Seminar
Technology in Literature
Spring 2000

Instructors: Dr. Sandra Boschetto-Sandoval (Spanish), Dr. Diane Shoos (French), Dr. Sigrid Weinmann (German)

Time/Room: Tuesdays from 11 to 12:20
Wednesdays (films) from 7 to 9:30
Thursdays from 11 to 12:20
Walker 108/144/109
Walker 109
Walker 108

Please refer to individual syllabi for instructor's office hours, meeting rooms, and additional readings in the target languages

Required primary texts for all sections:
March 16  "On the Use of the Railway" by Friedrich List
          "Railway Accident" by Thomas Mann
          "Lightning Train" by Detlev von Liliencron
          "The Tunnel" by Friedrich Dürenmatt
March 30  Clandestine in Chile by Gabriel García Márquez, Chapters 1-5
April 13  Clandestine in Chile by Gabriel García Márquez, Chapters 6-10
April 20  Mother Comes of Age by Driss Chra'ibi, pp. 1-59
April 27  Mother Comes of Age by Driss Chra'ibi, pp. 60-121
May 4    "Anecdote Concerning the Lowering of Productivity" by Heinrich Böll
          "The European" by Hermann Hesse
          "Stories from a First Reader" by Wolfgang Borchert
May 9    "In the Penal Colony" by Franz Kafka
          "Doctor Fun" by Siegfried Lenz

Required films for all sections:
March 8  The Truman Show (Peter Weir, 1998)
March 22 Diva (Jean-Jacques Beineix, 1982)
April 5  One Hundred Children waiting for a Train (Ignacio Agüero, 1988)
         Chile: Obstinate Memory (Patricio Guzman, 1997)
May 3    Das Boot (Wolfgang Petersen, 1981)

Goals and Objectives:
The primary goals for this course are:
1. To deepen our understanding of cultural phenomena through literature, film, and other arts selected from French, German, and Hispanic language communities
2. To develop analytical skills
3. To develop an understanding of relationships between literature, film and other selected arts.

HU 475: "Technology in Literature" will focus specifically on the relationship between modern technology and literature, film, and other arts selected from French, German, and Hispanic language communities. Within the broad, integrative theme of the course --an investigation of how literature and film reflect, depict and often critique
industrialization, mechanization, and other aspects of technology in modern society--students will study several subthemes such as machine as metaphor, technology and utopia/dystopia, and time and space.

Participants in the seminar will read texts in their respective modern languages as well as texts from the other languages in English translation. To further develop language skills and at the same time facilitate an intercultural perspective, the seminar will include weekly small group meetings on Tuesdays in the individual modern languages in addition to weekly large meetings on Thursdays in English.

**Student Responsibilities:**
**Attendance and Participation:**
This class has been designed not as a lecture class but rather as a seminar whose primary format is small and large group discussion. For this reason a minimum requirement of the course is that you attend all classes and participate actively during each meeting. Any unexcused absence will seriously affect the course grade.

**Readings and Screenings:**
Because we will be taking an intercultural perspective on the topic of technology, you will be completing not only all the reading in your target language but also the required reading in English translation. Each individual instructor may also assign translated excerpts for small group comparison and discussion. In addition, all students will view four required films (subtitled in English). Each individual instructor may require additional film screenings for the small groups at his or her discretion. These readings and films will be spread throughout the quarter.

**Writing Assignments:**
As part of the course you will be completing short, informal writing assignments in the target language assigned by individual instructors. There will be two formal writing assignments in the form of two papers. The first paper (3-5 typewritten pages) should be written in the target language and should be an analysis of a reading or film in the target language. The second paper (5-8 typewritten pages) should be written in English and should be a comparative analysis of a reading or film in the target language and a reading or film from one of the other cultures. The individual instructor will specify due dates for both papers.

**Final Group Report:**
During the last class period, each language group will give a final group report. This report is designed to be a discussion of what the group believes are the most important issues, questions, problems and insights raised by the class. All language groups will convene Wednesday evening of the 10th week to finalize their preparations for this report. The report can be as formal or informal as the group desires, but each individual should participate. Please note that, because this report is worth 10% of the course grade, attendance for the planning session and this final class is mandatory.

**Evaluation:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation in all sections</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>93-100  A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>88-92  AB</td>
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<tr>
<td>First paper</td>
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<td>83-87  B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second paper</td>
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<td>78-82  BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final group report</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>70-77  C</td>
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