Syllabus for HU3251
Great Works of World Literature
German Prose Fiction
Summer 2005, Track A (CRN # 51455)
Mo., Tu., We., Th., 9:35 to 10:50 a.m.

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Office: Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Room 308
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 (other times by appointment)

Course Description and Objectives
This course will be focusing on German prose fiction. Except for two novels, we will read “long short stories,” i.e., the “Novellen” or (English) novellas. The first novel is Goethe’s epistolary (i.e., written in the form of fictional letters) novel, The Sorrows of Young Werther, and our final reading is Günter Grass’ short novel, Crabwalk.

As in one of Goethe’s own short story, entitled “Novelle,” the term novella refers to a special type of short story that was cultivated as a particular artistic form throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth century in Germany. The two collections of novellas and the book by Goethe we will be using do not only include some of the most famous novellas, but they also provide us with exponents of major artistic currents: “Storm and Stress,” German Classicism, Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, and Symbolism.

During the entire term we will aim to do both: view the various novellas, Goethe’s Werther, and Grass’ Crabwalk as independent works of art, and understand them as cultural phenomena which owe their meaning to specific aesthetic, historical, political and social contexts. Every class member is strongly encouraged to voice his or her personal opinion and to actively participate in class discussions.

We will base our discussions on close reading of the assigned texts as well as oral reports on historical as well as critical information. We also will investigate artistic adaptations of our readings in a number of German movies.

Every member of this course is strongly encouraged to voice her or his personal opinion and to actively participate in small group and general discussions.

Prerequisite: UN 1002 or UN 1003
Required Books and Readings
Thomas Mann, Death in Venice, Tonio Kröger, and Other Writings, ed. Frederick A. Lubich, New York: Continuum, 1999
Günter Grass, Crabwalk (Harcourt, 2002; ISBN: 0151007640; German original: Im Krebsgang, Steidel, 2002);

Course Requirements
a) regular attendance and active participation (15 points)
b) regular reading assignments (15 points)
c) five reading responses ("log sheets;" 20 points)
d) two oral reports (20 points)
e) abstract for final paper (5 points)
f) final paper (4 to 6 pages; 25 points)

Grading Scale

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100%</td>
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<td>A/B</td>
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This course can be taken for partial fulfillment of the general education distribution requirements, and it can also count towards MTU's Modern Language and Area Study Certificate and Advanced Certificate.

Attendance
Attendance is required. Students who miss more than two classes without university-approved excuses will lower their final grade by half a grade; those who miss more than three will lower their grade by a full grade. There will be no passing grade for students who miss more than 30% of classes without university-approved excuses. Excessive tardiness will also result in a grade reduction.

Academic Integrity
MTU's Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as "knowingly copying another's work and calling it one's own or not giving proper credit or citation." The penalties for plagiarism or other forms of cheating range from receiving a failure grade on work in question to expulsion from the university. Students who have any questions about the issue, or who have questions about whether they have cited their sources properly, should consult the instructor or a coach in the Writing Center.
MTU’s Policy on Discrimination and Harassment

MTU complies with all federal and state laws regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students (487-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).

This course description and all schedules are tentative and may be changed. If any such changes are made, you will receive a printed update during our regular class meetings.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1

Monday, 9 May  
Introduction to HU3251
Introduction to Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
Film on Weimar Classicism

Tuesday, 10 May  
Discussion: Goethe’s “Novella” (in The Sorrows, pp. 169-201)

Wednesday, 11 May  
Report 1: Heyse (Life and Works)
Discussion of Heyse’s L’Arrabbiata (Novellas of Realism, pp. 11-28)

Thursday, 12 May  
Report 2: Heyse’s theory of the novella
Report 3: Goethe’s early years and the making of Werther
Discussion of Goethe’s Werther, pp. vii-xiv; 3-31

Reading/viewing responses due on Monday (16 May):
Assignment 1
a) Goethe’s “Novella”
b) Weimar Classicism (video); Goethe
c) Heyse’s L’Arrabbiata; form of the novella