



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

**GERMAN PROGRAMME
GERM 214 TOPICS IN GERMAN CULTURE 2**

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2014

Please read through this material very carefully in the first week of the course, and refer to it regularly.

Trimester dates

Trimester dates: 3 March to 2 July 2014

Teaching dates: 3 March to 6 June 2014

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Examination/Assessment Period: 13 June to 2 July 2014

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 or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator
and Lecturer:** Dr Margaret Sutherland
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School Office hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

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School Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/slc

Both teachers are happy to discuss students' problems with them at any time, or to provide additional information about the course. Such information is regularly given in class announcements or posted on the notice board of the German Programme (Level 6 of the von Zedlitz Building) and on Blackboard.

Class times and locations

Monday	9.00am – 9.50am	KK (Kirk) 203
Tuesday	9.00am – 9.50am	KK (Kirk) 203
Thursday	9.00am – 9.50am	KK (Kirk) 203

Communication of additional information

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

Prescription

This course expands 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 poems and short prose works. Course material is studied in German.

Course learning objectives

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Critically analyse the thematic, formal and stylistic features of short prose and poems from the German-speaking world.
2. Characterise the cultural and/or historical contexts of these works.
3. Compare and contrast varying representations and evocations of particular themes across different short prose works and poems.
4. Engage with and apply critical approaches and methodologies to the study of short prose and poetry.
5. Apply intermediate-level German language skills to the study of set texts.

Teaching format

GERM 214 is a first trimester course of three hours per week, involving lectures and seminar discussion. Students are expected to attend all classes.

Course content

Classes will consist of lectures and tutorials, supplemented by reading materials and films. Students are expected to take an active part in class and to contribute their own background knowledge on the topic under discussion.

Building on GERM 114, this course expands students' familiarity with German culture by examining topics of importance for understanding the German-speaking world and how these are represented and evoked in a selection of short prose works and poems. All texts will be read in German. The focus on shorter works will allow students to become familiar with reading primary texts in German and with discussing various cultural issues in German.

Mandatory course requirements

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

1. Attend a minimum of 80% of classes
2. Complete the essay
3. Present a seminar
4. Attend the final examination.

Unless informed to the contrary, students may assume they have satisfied the mandatory course requirements.

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 or approximately 200 hours over the trimester. In the case of GERM 214, 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

The assessment programme is designed to evaluate the extent of the student's understanding and knowledge of a topic and to assess the student's ability to research a topic, organise thoughts and insights and to express them in a lucid, well-documented way, in class seminars, in essay form, and in the final examination. To help with essay writing, students will be given the German Programme's detailed *Notes on the Presentation of Essays*.

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. Approximately 1500 words. Essay topics will be provided within the first few weeks of the trimester.	25%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	16 May, 4 pm
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 Preparation worksheets. These are submitted in written form. The purpose of the worksheets is to give students an incentive to do the set readings and to ensure that class time will be used productively for informed discussion to which they can all contribute. The worksheets will be available on Blackboard on the Monday a week prior to the class in which the worksheet topics are to be discussed.	10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Worksheets for the first half of the course, counting 5% towards the final grade, will be completed by Thursday, 17 April. Worksheets for the second half of the course, counting 5% towards the final grade, will be completed by Thursday, 5 June.
4 Final two-hour examination. This is not an open book examination.	50%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Within the examination period from 13 June to 2 July.

The essays and the seminar are on individual topics relating to 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.

Marking system

The marking system by letter grade is as follows:

A+	90-100%
A	85-89%
A-	80-84%
B+	75-79%
B	70-74%
B-	65-69%
C+	60-64%
C	55-59%
C-	50-54%
D	40-49% (fail)
E	0-39% (fail)

Submission and return of work

The essay is due on Friday, 16 May at 4 pm.

The essays **must be submitted in two forms**:

1. **Electronically** uploaded to the assignment box on the GERM 214 Blackboard website for submission to Turnitin (see below)
2. **AND** as a **print-out** to be handed in 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. Students may be asked to submit any material pertaining to their seminar on PowerPoint, after they have delivered their seminar. This will be made available to other students on the GERM 214 Blackboard site.

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

Essays *must* be handed in on time. Students prevented by uncontrollable circumstances from completing an essay on time must, *in advance of the deadline*, formally request an extension of time from the lecturer. In cases of illness, accident or bereavement this can be done by telephone. Essays submitted late without explanation 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 and the student will not satisfy the mandatory course requirements (see above, p. 3).

Students are strongly advised to complete all the worksheets. Any worksheet not submitted will be given a score of zero.

Set texts

The set texts will be made available to students via Blackboard.

1. Weeks 1 to 6: Dr Sutherland's selection of short narrative forms. The topics covered in this section of the course are:

The Outsider/Foreigner (*der Außenseiter/der Fremde*)

and

War (*der Krieg*)

- Weeks 7 to 12: Dr Tempian's selection of German poetry. The topics covered in this section of the course are:

Love (*Liebe*)

and

The World and the Individual (*Ich und die Welt*)

Class representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students. 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

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

Student feedback

Response to feedback for this course will be discussed in class or delivered via Blackboard.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Other important information

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- 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
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- 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
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>

- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Course programme

Weeks 1 – 6: Short narrative forms (Margaret Sutherland)

Weeks 7 – 12: German poetry (Monica Tempian)

Easter and mid-trimester break: 18 April to 4 May 2014

Final written examination: to be held during the Examination Period - 13 June to 2 July 2014: date to be advised