

GERMAN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - YEAR 2

GM2009 German Language II

Course Description: GM2009 is a compulsory Year 2 Language Course. The course will be taught with 2 hours / week. In the session taught by Anja Peters in term 1 and Dan Wilson in term 2 you will concentrate on the consolidation of German grammar and "Business German". In Frank Engelmann-del Mestre's lesson you will work with topical texts, working on your comprehension, writing and oral skills.

Bibliography:

Martin Durrell, Katrin Kohl, Gudrun Loftus, *Essential German Grammar*, London: Arnold 2002.

GM2122 Death, Desire, Decline: Thomas Mann and Franz Kafka (Term 2 only)

Course description: This course will introduce students of German and CLC to two key figures in twentieth-century German literature, Thomas Mann and Franz Kafka. Through an examination of the work of these writers, it will explore such issues as the individual v. society, the role of the artist, and the nature of desire. Mann's work evinces a fascination with disorder and decadence even as it remains bound to bourgeois ideals of respectability and sobriety. In Kafka's work, the everyday world of bureaucracy and officialdom is invaded by fantastical and bizarre elements. The course will focus on the unsettling and disruptive elements of these writers' works, asking what they tell us about life in the twentieth century.

Key bibliography: CLC students will need to purchase:

Thomas Mann, *'Death in Venice' and Other Stories*, trans. David Luke (London: Vintage, 1998)

Franz Kafka, *'Metamorphosis' and Other Stories*, trans. Michael Hofmann (London: Penguin, 2007)

Franz Kafka, *The Trial*, trans. Idris Parry (London: Penguin, 1994)

Students of **German** will need to purchase:

Thomas Mann, *Tristan* (Reclam edition cheapest via amazon.de)

Thomas Mann, *Tonio Kröger/Mario und der Zauberer* (Fischer)

Thomas Mann, *Der Tod in Venedig* (Fischer)

Franz Kafka, *Die Erzählungen* (Fischer)

Franz Kafka, *Der Process* (Reclam cheapest)

GM2123 Love and Marriage in Novels of Fontane

Course Description: The course will be dedicated to the detailed analyses of 3 major novels by Theodor Fontane: *Irrungen, Wirrungen / On Tangled Paths* (1888), *Effi Briest* (1896) and *Unwiederbringlich / Irretrievable* (1891). The literary analyses of these works will focus on themes around love, marriage, adultery and divorce, assessing these in their cultural, social and psycho-logical contexts. Whereas in *Irrungen, Wirrungen* Fontane explores the impact of class boundaries on the relationship between two young lovers, in *Effi Briest* he focuses on the potentially disastrous outcomes of the marriage of convenience. In *Unwiederbringlich*, Fontane examines the break-up of a once happy, but eventually disintegrating middle-age marriage.

Bibliography:

Students of German in the post A-level and native-speaker pathways need to purchase the following editions:

German editions:

Theodor Fontane: *Irrungen, Wirrungen* (Reclam, 2005)

Theodor Fontane: *Effi Briest* (Reclam, 2008)

Theodor Fontane: *Unwiederbringlich* (Reclam, 1986)

CLC students and *ab initio* students of German need to purchase the following editions:

English editions:

Theodor Fontane: *On Tangled Paths* (Angel Books, 2010)

Theodor Fontane: *Effi Briest* (Penguin Classics, 2000)

Theodor Fontane: *Irretrievable* (NYRB Classics, 2011)