HUMN* 3470: Holocaust and WWII in German Literature and Film

Objective: This course focuses on texts and films pertaining to World War II and the Holocaust, the development of the thoughts and the language of genocide, and the representation of the Holocaust in literature and films. The objective is to gain an understanding of the ideas and emotions underlying ethnocentrism and anti-Semitism, and to consider artistic responses to the experience of persecution and mass-murder.

Prerequisite: GERM*2560, GERM*2590 for German Minors; 5.0 University credits for non-German minors.

Method: Seminar style with in-class presentations: GERM/HUMN*3470 students for 3 h/wk in MCKN 115.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, a student should be able to

- contextualize the texts of this course historically and aesthetically so as to assess their significance;
- evaluate, interpret and criticize complex texts of a wide variety (e.g., literary, film, scholarly);
- formulate and present arguments in written and verbal form, illustrating and supporting a position (thesis) using appropriate evidence;
- criticize and debate with others by employing appropriate language and arguments in order to defend and prove the validity of a position;
- identify, assemble, assess and organize appropriate research sources;
- judge and contextualize German cultural products of this time period historically and aesthetically so as to explain and assess their significance.

Books & Films, GERM*3470 and HUMN*3470:

*The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui*, Bertolt Brecht (Bloomsbury Methuen) [*Der aufhaltsame Aufstieg des Arturo Ui*, 1941]

*The Man Outside*, Wolfgang Borchert (New Directions) [*Draußen vor der Tür*, 1949]

*Andorra*, Max Frisch, 1961 (Bloomsbury Methuen) [1946-1961].

*Bronstein's Children*, Jurek Becker (University of Chicago Press) [*Bronsteins Kinder*, 1986]

“Jacob the Liar,” dir. Frank Beyer. [“Jakob der Lügner”, 1976]


*The Reader*, Bernhard Schlink (Vintage, 1999). [*Der Vorleser*, 1995]

*Crabwalk*, Günter Grass (Harcourt). [*Im Krebsgang*, 2002]
Texts (recommended):

**Method of Evaluation:**
Preparation and participation in discussions* 15%
Group Research Presentation, incl. handout, or Research Paper (7-8 pp.) 30%
Midterm Exam 20%
Comprehensive Final Exam (Date: Apr. 18, 2016; 11:30 a.m.) 35%

*The success of this course depends on all of us! That means, we **MUST** prepare for the seminars, i.e., have read the texts, seen the films, and be ready and able to and then actively contribute to discussions with comments, questions, responses etc. Let’s try our ideas and see where the take us.*
College of Arts Standard Statement of Expectations

E-mail Communication
As per University regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the university and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement
When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:
http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml

Drop Date
The last date to drop one-semester Winter 2016, without academic penalty, is Friday, March 11th. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar: http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

Copies of out-of-class assignments
Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Student Rights and Responsibilities
Each student at the University of Guelph has rights which carry commensurate responsibilities that involve, broadly, being a civil and respectful member of the University community. The Rights and Responsibilities are detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar: http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c14/c14-strightsrespon.shtml

Academic Misconduct
The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and enjoins all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:
http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml

Recording of Materials
Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

Resources
The Undergraduate Calendar is the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate programs. It can be found at:
http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/
If you find yourself in difficulty, contact the undergraduate advisor in your program, or the BA Counselling Office: http://www.uoguelph.ca/baco/contact.shtml