



School of English, Journalism  
& European Languages

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## Unit Outline

### HEG310 Classical German Literature

Semester 1, 2009

<http://www.utas.edu.au/german>

<b>Convenor:</b>	Dr Eva Meidl Room: Hum 571 Phone: 6226 2019 Email: E.Meidl@utas.edu.au
<b>Consultation Hours:</b>	Monday: 10 – 10.50am Tuesday: 10 – 10.50am Thursday: 10 – 10.50am
<b>Unit Description:</b>	Covers in detail the 'golden age' of German literature, which begins with the works of 'Aufklärer' such as Lessing, continues with the works of the young Goethe, and ends with the period of German Romanticism. During the period under study, far-reaching changes took place in social, literary and intellectual life, which profoundly influenced later European as well as German thought and Literature.
<b>Unit Aims and Objectives:</b>	The aims of this unit are to enable students to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. develop the skills of close reading of German Classical Literature, critical thinking and textual analysis;</li><li>2. become familiar with a variety of critical frameworks through which literature can be read, including formal historical modes of inquiry; and</li><li>3. develop knowledge of specific historical issues and their cultural meanings within the context of 18<sup>th</sup> century Germany. Through assessment tasks and tutorial activities, which develop research techniques;</li></ol>
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	Students taking this unit will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. build <i>knowledge</i> in the areas described in the Unit's Aims and Objectives (above) by studying the representation of nation and gender ;</li><li>2. enhance skills in<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) written <i>communication</i>, with special emphasis on writing practice in the form of short essays, and</li><li>b) oral <i>communication</i>, through participation in tutorial activities;</li></ol></li></ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. enhance skills in <i>problem solving</i> through assessment tasks and tutorial activities, which develop research techniques;</li> <li>4. develop their <i>global perspective</i> through the study of German texts from a range of national, cultural and historical contexts; and</li> <li>5. explore issues of <i>social responsibility</i> by studying the representation of nation and gender in literature.</li> </ol>
<b>Required Texts:</b>	<p>Lessing: <i>Minna von Barnhelm</i>  Schiller: <i>Kabale und Liebe</i>  Goethe: <i>Faust</i>  Kleist: <i>Der Zerbrochene Krug</i>  A.v. Chamisso: <i>Peter Schlemihls wundersame Geschichte</i></p>
<b>Recommended Texts:</b>	<p>Lamport: <i>German Classical Drama</i>  Lüb: <i>From Lessing to Hauptmann</i>  Roy: <i>The German Sturm und Drang</i>  Wiese: <i>Deutsche Dichter der Romantik</i></p>
<b>When Taught:</b>	<p>Mon 1:10pm-2:00pm, SB.Socsci213  Tue 1:10pm-2:00pm, SB.Socsci309</p>
<b>Assessment:</b>	2 x 1500 word essays (40%), 2hr exam (60%)

## LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Lecturer
Week 1	a. Einführung, Historisch-politischer Hintergrund. Das Zeitalter der Aufklärung b. Aufklärung und Literatur : Video : <i>Lessing und die Deutsche Aufklärung</i>	Dr Eva Meidl
Week 2	a. Lessing: <i>Minna von Barnhelm</i> b. <i>Minna von Barnhelm</i>	
Week 3	<b>a. Monday 9 March – Public Holiday</b> b. <i>Minna von Barnhelm</i>	
Week 4	a. Video: <i>Minna von Barnhelm</i> b. Sturm und Drang. Video: <i>Porträt Friedrich von Schiller. Video: Kalkül und Leidenschaft</i>	
Week 5	a. Friedrich von Schiller: <i>Kabale und Liebe</i> b. <i>Kabale und Liebe</i>	
Week 6	a. <i>Kabale und Liebe</i> b. DVD: <i>Kabale und Liebe</i>	
Week 7	a. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Video: <i>Die Weimarer Klassik</i> b. Goethe: <i>Faust I</i> <b>First essay due.</b>	
<b>Easter Break – 9-15 April</b>		
Week 8	a. <i>Faust I</i> b. <i>Faust I</i>	
Week 9	a. <i>Faust I</i> b. Video: <i>Faust I</i>	
Week 10	a. Heinrich v. Kleist: <i>Der zerbrochene Krug</i> b. <i>Der zerbrochene Krug</i>	
Week 11	a. <i>Der zerbrochene Krug</i> b. Video: <i>Der zerbrochene Krug</i>	
Week 12	a. Adelbert von Chamisso: <i>Peter Schlemihls wundersame Geschichte</i> b. <i>Peter Schlemihls wundersame Geschichte</i>	
Week 13	a. <i>Peter Schlemihls wundersame Geschichte</i> b. <i>Peter Schlemihls wundersame Geschichte</i> , Revision <b>Second essay due.</b>	
	<b>Study Period: 1-5 June</b>	
	<b>Examination Period: 6-23 June</b>	

# ASSESSMENT

Write two essays of 1500 - 2000 words each in either German or English. **The first essay is due in week 7, the second essay is due in week 13.**

## Question 1

In seinem Aufsatz *Was ist Aufklärung?* gibt Immanuel Kant folgende Definition: "Aufklärung ist der Ausgang des Menschen aus seiner selbstverschuldeten Unmündigkeit. Unmündigkeit ist das Unvermögen, sich seines Verstandes ohne Leitung eines anderen zu bedienen. (...) Sapere Aude! Habe den Mut, dich deines eigenen Verstandes zu bedienen ist also der Wahlspruch der Aufklärung."

Discuss this statement by showing how Minna in *Minna von Barnhelm* by G.E. Lessing employs her reason to gain Tellheim.

## Question 2

Both plays, *Minna von Barnhelm* and *Kabale und Liebe* have "honour" as a central theme. Explore the understanding of "honor" by the protagonists in both plays and discuss how this understanding advances the plots.

## Question 3

*Faust I* is the tragedy of a powerful mind turned against itself, against harmony, a frustrated mind which rejects order, coherence and even the self-denying limits of civilization.

Critically evaluate the above statement.

## Question 4

Oedipus' Wille, die Wahrheit aufzudecken, wird in Kleists *Der zerbrochene Krug* umgekehrt, da Adam versucht, die Wahrheit zu verdecken.

Critically discuss the above statement.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit all assignments in this unit directly to their unit coordinator unless otherwise directed. All assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email, unless otherwise directed). Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments.

### Difficulties with your Studies

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should raise these with your lecturer and/or one of the following Student Services staff as soon as possible:

- Learning Skills Adviser
- Disability Adviser
- Careers Adviser
- Student Counsellor

### University Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

"**Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at <http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html>.

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see <http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>."

**The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.**

### Marking Scale

The following distribution of marks and grades is applied in assessing your work:

- High Distinction (HD)—80-100%
- Distinction (DN)—70-79%
- Credit (CR)—60-69%
- Pass (PP)—50-59%
- Fail (NN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

### Assessment Criteria

The following criteria apply to assessment of the essay:

- Grammatical correctness
- Syntax
- Choice of vocabulary
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading.

### IT Support

Learning online—for online learning and Vista support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>

Information Technology Services—for general IT Support (includes link to UTAS download website) <http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>

Library Services—for information literacy support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/library/>  
Help Desk (email [HelpDesk@utas.edu.au](mailto:HelpDesk@utas.edu.au) or 6226 1818, within University 1818)