



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

German 357
100+ Years of German Film
Winter 2020

MoTuWeThFr 8:00-11:50 and 13:00-16:50 MFH 160

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR’S NAME: Dr. Conny Burian

OFFICE LOCATION: CHC 108

OFFICE HOURS: BW 12:00-12:50 (MFH 160); term Fr 12:00-13:50 and by appointment

CLASSROOM: MFH 160

E-MAIL : cburian@ucalgary.ca

DESCRIPTION This class surveys a broad range of filmic responses to the most turbulent times of the Twentieth Century, including the First and Second World War, the Holocaust, German separation and unification, and Germany’s place within a complexly interconnected Twenty-First-Century world. We will apply a variety of theoretical approaches to determine how German films, as art form and media, represent the past and critique, reflect or incorporate the present circumstances in which they are created. We will explore how totalitarian terror, for example, affects men, women and children, and how the family, ruptured by war and its aftermath, becomes a site of crisis and trauma, but also of potential healing. Students will have the opportunity to critically engage with the material and—using D2L—each other, and they will be given the chance to creatively respond to films by making their own brief movie clips (the Taylor Family Digital Library will make resources available and can assist with editing), *if they choose to*, in the weeks following block week.

OBJECTIVES This course will help students to

- recognize and describe facts concerning 100+ years of German history and film-making in order to place German films into their broader cultural and historical context;
- watch – or “read” – films critically by treating them as works of art that can be interpreted in various ways;
- integrate existing research on German films into students’ own, original approaches.

OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to critically and creatively engage with German film through research, discussion, writing, and projects.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Participation.....	5%
Reflective Writing Assignment.....	25%
3 Quizzes @ 5%.....	15%
Group Discussions.....	15%
Take-Home Final Exam.....	40%



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GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100–97%	A = 96–91%	A - = 90–86%
B+ = 85–81%	B = 80–76%	B- = 75–71%
C+ = 70–67%	C = 66–62%	C- = 61–58%
D+ = 57–54%	D = 53–50%	F = 49% and below

REQUIRED TEXTS

All Readings will be made available through D2L.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

NONE

COURSE NOTES

Attendance:

You **must** attend all classes and all film screenings. We will take attendance every morning and afternoon. Please place your student ID in front of you on your desk as you would during a final exam.

Explanation of Assignments:

Homework: Students will have to complete readings (available in the “assignment” section on D2L) every night. The readings will be crucial preparation for the group discussion, the reflective writing paper, and the take-home final.

Quizzes: There will be three short, mostly multiple-choice quizzes that assess your understanding of the assigned readings and major concepts and topics discussed in class.

Group Discussion: In the D2L Discussion forum, each student will have to post a brief introduction on day one and respond a total of **three times** (for instance on day two, three, and four, but not five, or day three, four, and five, but not two—you get the idea) to ONE of the so-called “Questions of the Day.” The questions focus on issues covered during lecture, the readings, and the films. Posts may include follow-up questions to engage the class. In addition to these three posts, each student must **respond at least once to another student’s post** (excluding the intro one—you can certainly greet and get to know your classmates, but you will not be graded for that). In your posts and responses, be professional and courteous. Abusive language or behavior constitute misconduct and will be dealt with as such.

Reflective Writing Assignment: Reflective writing helps you turn surface learning into deeper understanding by connecting what was said in class with the films you watched and the readings you studied. The reflection should be 500 words (2 pages) and connect your thinking about the afternoon screenings, the assigned readings, the lectures, and class discussions. On D2L, go to Course Information/Reflections to see details. **Please adhere to the following formatting requirements: Your reflections must be typed, have a title page containing your name, course, and student number. The reflection will be assigned on day one (Monday, January 6). Bring your reflection to class on Wednesday, January 8. We will have an in-class writing workshop. Following the writing guidelines and reflection checklist posted on D2L, students will peer-edit their reflective papers. At home, consider your peers’ feedback, edit your paper, and submit the final version to the drop box on the last day of block week, Friday, January 10. Our teaching assistant will return the reflections before you have to hand in the final exam.**



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Take-home Exam: The final exam consists of short answer questions and a choice between EITHER a creative project, OR an essay, OR a research & summary assignment. The exam will give you the opportunity to draw connections between different films, to synthesize what you have learned, and to critically and creatively explore topics.

Please adhere to the following formatting requirements:

- Title page containing your name, course, and student number.
- One-inch margins all around, double-spaced.

Make sure to include a references list and choose a bibliographical style that you follow consistently (such as APA or MLA). You have three weeks to complete the final exam. Please submit your final exam to the D2L dropbox by midnight, January 31.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.



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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>).

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

A link to required information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources, can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.