

Spring Semester 2000  
Utah State University  
Department of Languages and Philosophy

## COURSE OUTLINE

GERMAN 4910/LGR 4910 #16425  
German for Special Purposes: Goethe's Faust And Beyond

10:30-11:20 MW in Old Main, Room <sup>201</sup> ↓ , M 201

Professor: Dr. Renate Posthofen

Office: Computer Center 118, CC 118

Phone: 797-1336 (office, 24 hour voice mail), 797-1209 (main office),  
753-7583 (home)

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday: 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and any other time by  
appointment or just drop by my office!!!

### Required Textbooks:

GOETHE FAUST. Kommentiert von Erich Trunz. Sonderausgabe,  
15. Auflage, 1993. München: C.H. Beck'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung,  
1994.

### Optional:

GOETHE'S FAUST. Translated and with an Introduction by  
Walter Kaufmann. New York: Anchor Books Ed. /Doubleday, 1990.

Daten deutscher Dichtuna. Chronoloaischer Abriß der  
deutschen Literatuaeschichte. Band I: Von den Anfanaen bis  
zum Jungen Deutschland. by H.A. und E. Frenzel. Koln: Kiepenheuer  
& Witsch: 1990<sup>25</sup>.

**A good German/English** as well as **English/German** DICTIONARY of  
your choice.

Faust as a legendary figure within his historical and contemporary adaptations will be the central part of our investigation and analysis of the text with the same title by Goethe.

Alongside our focus on selected close textual readings and analyses of key components and structural elements in Goethe's drama FAUST, PART ONE, will be our work on character analyses of the most important figures, plot summaries and discussions of stage design, according to the chronological parts in Goethe's text.

The focus on literary and filmic adaptations of the Faust theme and the historical character in select films, stage productions and musicals will bring to the forefront the importance and timeless importance of the theme itself. Differences as well as similarities and their creative expressions will be presented, worked out and discussed in the class as our forum.

The final goal is for you to gain a solid insight and understanding in the creation and making of Goethe's Faust I, as well as its historic background, intellectual history and thoughts of

the time. Related to this and building on your expanded understanding of the text will be your analysis of thematic Faust adaptations through the last five centuries. We will view and analyze films, establish character analyses and stress the comparative, multicultural, multi literary and multi visual angles and perspectives these adaptations offer. Your critical thinking and creative imagination will provide the collaborative setting which will be used to put to work all of our knowledge and insights into the new and not so new multimedia adaptations of FAUST.

The presentation of the material will be in an interactive format, that enables students to practice their oral skills on occasion in group discussions, (such as pair and small group work), oral presentations and question and answer sessions in conjunction with selected READINGS FROM THE TRUNZ EDITION , to be prepared before the given class period.

The writing component on chosen films and themes from the circulating list will be practiced mostly outside of class in the form of an essay as a homework assignment. As this writing assignment is graded and corrected, it should be peer reviewed and checked for accuracy in form and style and usage of GERMAN EXPRESSION prior to submission to the instructor.

Course grades will be based on the following core components:

- 1.) Participation and performance in class, individually and in small groups. (200 pts.)
- 2.) 1 written research **paper/essay**: handed in on time IN PERSON: not accepted late! No exceptions, no excuses: no late work accepted!! This paper will be graded and corrected twice, and each round of corrections, suggestions for improvement will have to be implemented, and submitted to the instructor, so that the final end product is error free, and could be photocopied for all class members to be part of a final course pack, reader by student authors for student participants. 20 pages. (300 pts./ 100 points per round of review and implementation, and/ or expansion) = 500 points total. In German.
- 3.) Attendance: more than three absences will lower your grade! (Attendance taken at the beginning of each class period). Points included in part one.
- 4.) 1 formal presentation on the basis of the research topic chosen, (in conjunction with the final paper topic for the written research paper). Complete with handouts, overhead transparencies, **and/** or other demonstration materials to be disseminated. This presentation should involve the class members, and should include questions for pair and small group work. For computer, or other **AV/Media** usage, pl. check with the instructor prior to the date of the presentation. (200 points). In German.
- 5.) In groups of two, or individually: a basic introduction of the video chosen, including a content synopsis, comments on the genre, incorporating review essays, or other materials, a sort of **video/** consumers' viewing guide, including your **own/personal/subjective** recommendation of the film, a handout with the most basic facts about the film, and the producer, director should prove helpful to all. (Needs to be spell checked and written in German.) (100 points.)

**Grades will be weighted according to the following accumulating points and percentage breakdowns:**

- 1.) Class participation, oral performance, interaction and overall

**quality/PREPARATION of discussion contribution**

**in the classroom** (includes pronunciation, sentence structure, vocabulary and comprehension for all of these components), attendance, reading mastery

200 pts. = 20 %

- 2.)** A 20 page written research **paper/** essay. Handed in on date specified, to include two rounds of requested improved drafts, with suggestions for improvements, that need to be incorporated, and implemented. **300 points.**(100 points for each draft improved, expanded, and corrected, = 200 points total) 300 pts. = 30%  
200 pts. = 20%
- 3.)** One formal in class presentation of the chosen research paper, topic as expanded upon in the written research paper. 200 pts. = 20%
- 4.)** a basic introduction of the video chosen to include facts about the film (reviews, essays etc.), **its** director, producer, and participating actors. 100 pts. = 10%

Please note:

- Written and oral assignments, need to be handed in and performed **on the date indicated** in order to be considered toward your grade. **Late work will no longer be accepted!!**
- **Absolutely no individually scheduled make-up oral presentation!** Should you, for any reason miss an assignment, you may make additional efforts to focus on the other course components to demonstrate your knowledge of the material and appropriate **chapter(s)** in question. However there will not be a standardized provision to receive extra credit in case of your absence and missed assignments!

**TENTATIVE SYLLABUS** (unforeseen changes of dates and topics will be announced in class. Depending on rental availability of selected filmic versions of FAUST, the syllabus might be adjusted slightly at a later point in time.)

Bold assignments are film titles!!

**January 10:** Introduction, getting acquainted, syllabus, and first overview of the theme

**January 12:** Tracks in Time, 21 Min. (Deutsche **Welle** Mitschnitt), discussion of the historical Faust figure, legends and ideological implications, myths and facts

**January 14:** Life of Goethe, and works, biography, part I (Der **junge** Goethe: 1749 - 1775)

**January 19:** Life of Goethe, and works, biography, part II (Von Weimar nach Rom: 1775 - 1789)

**January 21:** Life of Goethe, and works, biography, part III (In ein neues Jahrhundert: 1789 - 1832)

**January 24:** S. 9 - S. 15, Zueignung, Vorspiel auf dem Theater

**January 26:** S. 16 - S. 19: **Prolog** im Himmel

January 28: Visit to **Merrill** Library, introduction to the bibliographical resources

January 31: S. 20 • S. 32: Nacht

February 2: S. 32 • 36: Vor dem Tor, Faust und Wagner

February 4: S. 36 - S. 42: Bauern unter der Linde

February 7: S. 42 • S. 52: Studierzimmer

February 9: S. 52 - S. 58, Zeile 1740: Studierzimmer: Faust und Mephistopheles

February 11: S. 58, Zeile 1741 - S. 67: Studierzimmer: Faust und Mephistopheles

February 14: S. 67 - S. 75: Hexenküche

February 16: S. 75 • S. 86: **Hexenküche, (Verjüngung** Fausts), **Straße**

February 18: S. 86 - S. 96: Abend, Spaziergang, Der Nachbarin **Haus**

February 22: S. 97 - S. 103: Strasse, Ein **Gartenhäuschen**

February 25: S. 103 - S. 114: Wald und **Höhle**, Gretchens Stube, **Marthens Garten**

February 28: S. 114 - S. 121: Zwinger, Nacht

March 1: S. 121 • S. 132: Walpurgisnacht

March 3: S. 139 - S. 137: Walpurgisnachtstraum

March 6: S. 137 - S. 139: **Trüber** Tag, Feld

March 8: S. 139 - S. 145: Kerker

March 10: Inhaltsangabe: Faust II. Teil

### **FORMAL          ENTA          PAPER TOPICS:**

March 20: Christopher **Marlowe**: The Tragical History of the Life and Death of Doctor Faustus. A **comparative** analysis between Marlowe's Faust and Goethe's Faust figure. Name:

March 22: Ancient Magician or Modern Scientist? Faust as Explorer. Name:

March 24: Goethe's Faust: A study on Good and Evil. Name:

March 27: Nietzsche's Zarathustra and Goethe's Faust: Positions and Perspectives. Name:

March 29: Goethe's Life and Goethe's Faust: Comparisons and Connections (Goethe about Goethe's Faust: Letters and Documents (see the Appendix in the Trunz edition).  
**Name:**

March 31: Faust as a legend: Roots and Origins, myths and historical facts: the first generic "FAUSTBUCH." Name:

April 3: Goethe, Faust, and the Internet: Exploring new dimensions. Name:

April 5: Randy **Newman's** Faust, (a 1995 US musical production.) Name:

A BASIC INTRODUCTION OF THE VIDEO CHOSEN:

April 7: FAUST, Gustaf Grundgens Meisterwerk, (Verfilmung der Inszenierung im Schauspielhaus Hamburg im Jahre 1960). **Schwarz-Weiß**, 128 Min. No subtitles. Introduction:

April 10: FAUST, Gustaf Grundgens Meisterwerk, (Verfilmung der Inszenierung im Schauspielhaus Hamburg im Jahre 1960). **Schwarz-Weiß**, 128 Min. No subtitles.

April 12: Screening of FAUST: Eine deutsche Volkssage, (D, 1926, F. W. Murnau. Introduction:

April 14: Screening of FAUST: Eine deutsche Volkssage, (D, 1926, F. W. Murnau)

April 17: Screening of Damnn Yankees, (USA, 1958, 110 Min., G. Abbott/S. Donen). Introduction:

April 19: Screening of Damnn Yankees, (USA, 1958, 110 Min., G. Abbott/S. Donen)

April 21: Screening of Testament of Dr. Cordelier! Jean Renoir: FAUST, (French, with English subtitles, France, **1959**), 95 Min. Introduction:

April 24: Screening of Testament of Dr. Cordelier! Jean Renoir: FAUST, (French, with English subtitles, France, **1959**), 95 Min.

April 26: Screening of Mephisto, (Hungary, 1981, Istvan Szabo), (German, with English subtitles). Introduction:

April 28: Screening of Mephisto, (Hungary, 1981, Istvan Szabo), (German, with English subtitles)

**April 14 : WRITTEN PAPER/ESSAY DUE! (First Revisions should be done and submitted by April 21. final preparations for last (second round of revisions are to be submitted by April 26. the final paper will be copied and supplied to all class members in the form of a reader consistina of collected materials to be picked up in the instructors office by May 5 th!)**

\* Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious offenses and will be handled according to Student Code.

The videos will be on reserve at the **Science&Technology** Library in the Audio Visual Department beainnina this week.

For **any** other questions. need for help. and or other directions. please contact the instructor in person. by phone or e-mail.