



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

GERM 627.63

Seminar in German Literature and Culture (Literature and Knowledge)

Fall 2018

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Martin Wagner

**OFFICE LOCATION:** CHD 421

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday and Friday, 3-4 pm

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 403-220-5398

**E-MAIL:** martin.wagner@ucalgary.ca

**DESCRIPTION**

This course serves as an introduction to the study of narrative and looks at newer scholarship emerging from Germany to answer the question of how the originally literary theories of narrative can be applied to cultural studies more broadly.

**OBJECTIVES**

- Students will learn about recent approaches and methodologies in literary and cultural studies.
- Students will be familiarized with the dominant theories in the study of literary narrative.
- Students will increase their understanding of the place of literary studies within contemporary cultural studies.
- Students will learn in both practical and theoretical terms what it can mean to apply a theory in literary studies.
- Students will improve their ability assess scholarly work according to professional academic standards.

**OUTCOMES**

- Students will be able to analyze the narrative structure of literary text and non-literary texts using the appropriate conceptual vocabulary. They will make informed choices in their use of this vocabulary and clearly state how a certain narrative theory advances our understanding of texts (or vice versa, how the understanding of specific texts can help us refine the conceptual vocabulary).
- Students will be able to write academic book reviews, using the appropriate structure, language, and criteria for evaluation.
- Students will be able to comment on the place of literary studies within contemporary cultural studies.

**DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES**

- Three book reviews: 45 %
- Two case studies: 40 %
- Preparation and participation: 15%



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#### **GRADING SCALE**

A+ (97-100 %), A (92-96%), A- (86-91)  
B+ (81-85%), B (76-80%), B- (71-75)  
C+ (67-70%), C (62-66%), C- (58-61%)  
D+ (54-57%), D (50-53%), F (0-49 %)

#### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

- Mieke Bal, *Narratology: Introduction to the Study of Narrative*. 4th Edition. (University of Toronto Press, 2017)
- Albrecht Koschorke, *Wahrheit und Erfindung. Grundzüge einer allgemeinen Erzähltheorie* (Fischer, 2012).
- Wolf Schmid, *Elemente der Narratologie*. 3. Auflage. (De Gruyter, 2014)

#### **RECOMMENDED TEXTS**

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#### **COURSE NOTES**

##### **Course Expectations:**

- **Three book reviews (no fewer than 750 words each):** Students write a review of each of the three books studied in this course. These academic book reviews will be graded based on the clarity of structure and writing, the concision and completeness of the summary, the soundness and nuance in the evaluation, and the successful establishment of connections to other published research.
- **Two case studies (no fewer than 1000 words each):** Students prepare two narratological case studies—one focusing on a literary text and one on a non-literary text. Students should make clear at the outset which narratological concepts will be applied in the analysis, and to which end these concepts will be applied (what will the analysis reveal about these concepts, or the studied texts?). These case studies will be graded based on the convincingly reasoned choice of the narratological concepts, the successful and nuanced application of the chosen concepts, as well as on the structure and clarity of the writing.
- **Preparation and participation:** Students are expected to participate in class discussions and to come to class with questions and comments related to the assigned readings. To receive a perfect grade, students must make 15 substantial contributions over the course of the semester (in the form of questions, comments etc.). Students may choose, alternatively, to submit five short reflective statements (c. 250 words each) about individual class meetings. These statements have to be emailed to the instructor no later than 48 hours after the meeting on which they comment.

All written assignments have to be submitted to the instructor via email. Please use Word documents for all written assignments. Assignments can be written in either German or English. Students are encouraged write some assignments in German and others in English.

#### **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;



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- 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.

#### **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://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 [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

#### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS**

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

#### **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



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Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](http://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](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

**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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

**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.

**SAFEWALK**

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

**STUDENT UNION INFORMATION**

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

**WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.