

General Education Course Proposal

1. Catalog Description

- a. **Course Number:** FLE 2061G
- b. **Course Title:** German Literature in Translation
- c. **Meeting Times & Credit:** (3-0-3)
- d. **Terms to be Offered:** F, S or SU
- e. **Short Title:** Ger Lit in Trans
- f. **Catalog Description:** This course is designed to introduce students to a representative sample of German literature and literary movements from 1750 to 1950.
- g. **Prerequisites:** ENG 1001G and ENG 1002G
- h. This course is writing intensive.

2. Objectives of the Course:

Collectively the following learning objectives relate directly to EIU General Education goals in that their attainment requires students to “listen and read critically as well as write and speak clearly and effectively.” In addition, students will be trained in the use of “sources and methods for reflection upon human experience in its historical, literary, philosophical, and religious dimensions” as they are expressed through the medium of German literature. They will gain experience in the application of methods leading to an understanding of the role of language, German culture and traditions in the production of German literature as well as that literature’s influence and value in furthering the understanding of the student’s own culture. Specifically, this course is designed:

- ❖ To introduce students to major German authors, literary movements and critical theory.
- ❖ To train students in literary analysis and the use of rhetorical devices and their role in development and execution of literate expression.
- ❖ To offer intensive practice in writing about literary themes.
- ❖ To provide guided opportunities to present critical and personal research and opinions through classroom discussion and oral presentations.
- ❖ To analyze critically the works read and debate their artistic, social and cultural merits.
- ❖ To introduce students into the world of German literature and to examine the influences and consequences of the ideas, themes and aesthetic forms embodied in it.
- ❖ To apply those themes and ideas to global, national and personal issues.
- ❖ To enable students to understand why a work is deemed a *classic*.

3. Outline of the Course

Course will meet for 15 weeks of 45 fifty-minute class sessions

- Week 1: Introduction
Enlightenment
Lessing, Nathan the Wise
- Week 2: Nathan the Wise
- Week 3: Classicism (selected poems)
- Week 4: Romanticism
Goethe, The Novella
- Week 5: Kleist, The Marquise from O . . .
- Week 6: Storm, The Schimmelreiter
- Week 7: Poetic Realism
Keller, Clothes make the Man
- Week 8: Naturalism
Hauptmann, The Beaver Coat
- Week 9: Expressionism (selected poems)
Impressionism (selected poems)
- Week 10: Existentialism
Kafka, The Judgment, short stories
- Week 11: Brecht: Epic Theater
The Three Penny Opera
- Week 12: Mann, Tonio Kroger
- Week 13: Hesse, Siddhartha
- Week 14: Grass, Cat and Mouse
- Week 15: Summary

4. Evaluation of Student Learning:

a. Students will be evaluated as follows:

Three unit exams	30%
One oral report	10%
Three compositions	30%
Class participation	10%
Final paper	20%

b. This course is writing intensive in that 80% of the final grade is based on written work. 50% of the written work is based on self-generated thought. At least one written assignment will be subject to instructor commentary and student revision.

5. Rationale:

- a. **Purpose and Need:** This course will be placed in the Humanities and Fine Arts Segment of the General Education Curriculum. Students will be encouraged to examine German culture and traditions through literature and how they influenced European, North American and world culture from a historic and philosophical perspective. They will have the opportunity to develop the critical skills necessary for the understanding and appreciation of the linguistic and cultural heritage embodied in the assigned texts. In addition, the course will be part of the English-language core of courses needed by Foreign Languages majors to complete the degree. This course may be taken by majors concentrating in Spanish or French as part of the English-language core. Students concentrating in German may count it only as a General Education course.
- b. **Justification of the Level of the Course:** The content and requirements of this course including the amount of reading and the writing expectations are consistent with those of other 2000 level courses offered across the curriculum. Emphasis will be placed on the reading of primary sources with secondary sources and critical/theoretical matter introduced primarily through lecture and excerpts. Prerequisites: ENG1001G and ENG1002G.
- c. **Similarity to Existing Courses:** There is no similar course in German Literature.
- d. **Requirement or Elective:** The course may be taken by students concentrating in Spanish or French to complete the English-language core of the Foreign Language major. Students concentrating in German may count it only as a General Education course.

6. Implementation

a. **Faculty Member to Whom the Course May be Assigned:**

Course will be assigned initially to Shelley French

b. **Additional Cost to Students:** No additional cost

- c. Texts:** Introduction to German Poetry: A Dual Language Book, edited by Gustave Mathieu and Guy Stern. Romantic Novellas, edited by Frank G. Ryder and Robert M. Browning. Nineteenth Century German Plays, edited by Egon Schwarz. Gottfried Keller: Stories, edited by Frank G. Ryder
- d. First Term to be Offered:** Spring 2001

7. Community College Transfer: No community college course will be judged as equivalent.

8. Date approved by the department: 4/18/00

9. Date approved by the college curriculum committee: 4/26/00

10. Date approved by CAA:

Departmental contact person: Shelley French

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