**German Literature**

## Prof. Elena Raponi

***Text under revision. Not yet approved by academic staff.***

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

Semester 1: *Prof. Elena Raponi*

The course aims to explore the German literature of the 20th century through a critical reading (either total or partial) of the most significant plays, lyrical and narrative texts of the different areas of the German language (especially Germany, Austria, and Switzerland). In addition, it aims to teach students how to analyse and interpret a selection of texts in German, using the specific terminology of the *Literaturwissenschaft*, depending on the different literary genres.

Finally, the course will focus on the reading of the scientific production in German, regarding the texts included in the reading list.

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will have acquired the historical and literary knowledge they need to orient themselves among the different currents of the German literature of the 20th century. Furthermore, they will have acquired the specific literary terminology used in these three genres: plays, lyrical and narrative texts.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to translate in Italian, understand, analyse, and interpret the texts included in the reading list, and place them in the right historical, literary, and cultural context.

In addition, they will be able to present the content of specific scientific studies in German.

Semester 2: *Prof. Elena Raponi*

The course aims to bring students closer to the knowledge of Thomas Mann's work, through the critical reading of a selection of stories by the writer, published between 1903 and 1944. The course also aims to develop in students the ability to analyse and interpret the course texts, using the essential terminology of *Literaturwissenschaft*. Finally, the course aims to familiarise students with reading the German-language scientific production of the course texts.

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will have acquired the historical and literary knowledge necessary to orient themselves within the work of Thomas Mann. They will also have acquired the German terminology specific to the narrative literary discourse.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students will be able to translate, understand, analyse, and interpret the textbooks included in the reading list, and place them in the right historical, literary, and cultural context.

In addition, they will be able to present the content of specific scientific studies in German and in Italian.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Semester 1: *Prof. Elena Raponi*

Deutsche Literatur: Vom Expressionismus bis zur Gegenwart.

Semester 2: *Prof. Elena Raponi*

Thomas Mann: Erzählungen (*Tonio Kröger*, 1903; *Schwere Stunde*, 1905; *Mario und der Zauberer*, 1930; *Das Gesetz*, 1943-1944).

***READING LIST***

Semester 1

a. For the anthological part:

The teaching material (slides and scientific essays) available on Blackboard.

- Elena Raponi, *Deutsche Literatur: Vom Expressionismus bis zur Gegenwart. Texte* - a.a. 2022/2023 (course pack available starting from the end of September 2022 at the photocopying centre workshop, in Largo Gemelli)

In addition, students will have to read one of the following textbooks:

H. Hesse, *Siddhartha*, Suhrkamp, Berlin 2022 (1922).

Ödön von Horváth, *Jugend ohne Gott*; Suhrkamp, Berlin 2021 (1937).

B. Brecht, *Der kaukasische Kreidekreis*. Text und Kommentar, Suhrkamp, Berlin 2020 (1944/45).

M. Frisch, *Homo faber. Ein Bericht*, Suhrkamp, Berlin 2021 (1957).

Chr. Wolf, *Der geteilte Himmel,* Suhrkamp, Berlin (1963).

P. Weiss, *Die Ermittlung*, Suhrkamp, Berlin 2021 (1965).

H. Müller, *Mauser*, in H. Müller, *Die Stücke 2*, Suhrkamp, Berlin 2001, pp. 243-260.

Th. Bernhard, *Ein Kind*, München, dtv 20185 (1982).

D. Grünbein, *Das Reservoir der Träume*, St. Ingbert, Conte-Verlag, 2018 (ISBN 978-3-95602-146-6).

For an in-depth analysis of the literary institutions of the 20th century, the textbook:

Bengt Algot Sørensen, *Geschichte der deutschen Literatur*, Bd. 2. *Vom 19. Jahrhundert bis zur Gegenwart*,

4. aktualis. Aufl., Verlag C.H. Beck, München 2016.

For further, possible insights, we recommend reading the following volumes:

E. Bahr (edited by), *Geschichte der deutschen Literatur: Kontinuität und Veränderung vom Mittelalter bis zur Gegenwart*, Francke Verlag, Tübingen 1987, vol. 3: *Vom Realismus bis zur Gegenwartsliteratur*.

*DTV: Deutsche Literaturgeschichte*, Bd. 8: Wege in die Moderne 1890-1918, Deutscher Taschenbuch Verlag, München 1997 (and following volumes: Bd. 9, Bd. 10, Bd. 11, Bd. 12).

C. Buglioni, M. Castellari, A. Goggio, M. Paleari, *Letteratura tedesca. Epoche, generi, intersezioni. Dal Medioevo al primo Novecento*, Le Monnier Università, Florence 2019.

C. Buglioni, M. Castellari, A. Goggio, M. Paleari, *Letteratura tedesca. Epoche, generi, intersezioni. Dal primo dopoguerra al nuovo Millennio*, Le Monnier Università, Firenze 2019.

M. Dallapiazza, C. Santi,  *Storia della letteratura tedesca. 3. Il Novecento*, Editori Laterza, Rome/Bari 2001.

Further information on the reading list will be made available during the course.

semester ii

1. For the anthological part:

- Thomas Mann, *Tonio Kröge*r (1903); *Schwere Stunde* (1905), in Th. Mann, *Schwere Stunde und andere Erzählungen*, S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt a.M.;

- Thomas Mann, *Mario und der Zauberer* (1930), in Th. Mann, *Unordnung und frühes Leid*, S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt a.M.;

- Thomas Mann, *Das Gesetz* (1943-1944), in Th. Mann, *Die Betrogene. Erzählungen 1940-1953*, S. Fischer Verlag, Frankfurt a.M.

For the historical-cultural context and the literary currents of the 20th century, the textbook:

Bengt Algot Sørensen, Geschichte der deutschen Literatur, Bd. 2. Vom 19. Jahrhundert bis zur Gegenwart, 4. aktualis. Aufl., Verlag C.H. Beck, München 2016 (in particular pp. 270-280, pp. 299-312, pp. 359-375, pp. 409-419, pp. 431-440, pp. 454-461).

Critical essays:

- Instrucitonal materials uploaded on the Blackboard platform of the course.

- Elena Raponi, *Thomas Mann: Erzählungen. Saggi critici* (course pack available since mid-February at the photocopying centre workshop, in Largo Gemelli).

- Thomas-Mann-Handbuch, hrsg. von Helmut Koopmann, 3. aktualis. Aufl., Fischer Taschenbuch Verlag, Frankfurt a.M. 2005 (passim).

- Thomas-Mann-Handbuch: Leben, Werk, Wirkung, hrsg. von Andreas Blödorn – Friedhelm Marx, Metzler, Stuttgart 2015 (passim).

Further information on the reading list will be made available during the course.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Mainly frontal lectures, held in Italian and German.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam, to be held in Italian and German, consisting in open-ended questions. It will include: 1) a first part, in which students will be asked to read aloud and translate one or more texts; this exercise aims to assess the use of an appropriate terminology and the knowledge of the language structures of the texts included in the reading list; 2) a second part, during which students will have to analyse and interpret the texts included in the reading list, and identify their historical and literary context. In addition, they will be asked to discuss about the content of a selection of scientific studies in German.

Each point will determine 50% of the final mark, that will be expressed in thirtieths: in order to pass the final exam, students will have to obtain at least 18 points (out of 30) in each part. Assessment criteria: the use of a correct and precise terminology, the ability to make a clear exposition, and the capacity to use argumentation.

Only for the students enrolled in the last year of the 3-year course: the final mark will take into account also the weighted average between the results obtained in the written and oral interim tests of the German Language course.

The reading list is the same for all students, regardless of class attendance.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

This course will cover *the whole academic year* for the students enrolled in the last year of the 3-year course in *Foreign Languages* (curriculum LLS - *Foreign languages and literatures*) and for the ones enrolled in the 2-year course.

On the contrary, it will cover only one academic semester for the students enrolled in the last year of the 3-year course in *Foreign Languages* (curriculum LCMD - *Languages, communication, Media and Digital Cultures*; curriculum LMT - *Languages for management and tourism*). These students will have to take the exam covering the topics explained during semester 1.

For the students enrolled in the 1-year course: in order to access the oral exam on semester 2, they will have to pass the oral exam on semester 1.

The course will be supported by 20 hours of practical activities, held by Prof. Gloria Colombo (semester 1: 10 hours; semester 2: 10 hours).

*Prerequisites*

Students should have a good knowledge of the German language, at least corresponding to the B2-level of the CEFR.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.