**German Language and Literature (Year 1, Three-Year Course Students; One-Year Course Students; Year 1, Two-Year Course Students)**

## Prof. Lucia Mor

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

The course aims to provide students with the necessary historical-literary knowledge and reading skills to understand the development of the cultural and literary German identity, from its origin, during the Carolingian period, to the *Goethezeit*. Against the background of historical and historical-literary content, the primary aim of the course is for students to acquire the ability to critically interpret material through analysing and commenting on representative literary texts (poetry, narrative texts, plays), partly in translation (texts in *Alt*- and *Mittelhochdeutsch*) but mostly in the original language (general course). The course also aims to introduce students to the work and poetry of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe by Friedrich Schiller, through reading poems and dramaturgical texts.

*Knowledge and understanding*

By the end of the course, students will have the historical and historical-literary knowledge they need to understand the cultural and literary German identity from the 8th to the 18th century, as well as the essential language skills for accessing texts on the syllabus in the original language.

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

By the end of the course, students will be able to: translate into Italian, analyse and comment on the texts on the syllabus with critical awareness, as well as contextualise them on a historical, historical-literary and historical-cultural level; students will also have a firm grasp of the chronology of the development of German Literature, be able to recognise the themes, forms and poetics of the various movements and make connections between authors and various periods.

*“Independence of judgement”, “communication skills” and “ability to learn”.*

The critical comparison with the semantic layers of the literary text allows students to learn how to interpret and evaluate the content of various types of highly-structured and complex text autonomously and critically. In addition, through this exercise, they will learn to present and communicate thoughts, ideas and concepts to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and develop learning skills that enable them to undertake further studies with a high degree of autonomy.

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. *General course*: the first part of the course will be general in scope, covering - with a focus on the most emblematic texts - the following periods in the history of German literature: earliest works, the Swabian era, Humanism and the Renaissance, the Lutheran Reformation, the Baroque period and the Enlightenment. There will be a particular focus on the figure and work of Gotthold Ephraim Lessing.

2. *Single-subject course*: Part 2 of the course will focus on one specific subject, namely the *Goethezeit* and, therefore, the poetics of the *Sturm und Drang* and *Weimarer Klassik* movements, through the critical interpretation of the lyric production and theatre of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and of Friedrich Schille.

***READING LIST***

a. General course (required reading)

G.E. Lessing, *Emilia Galotti (\*).*

L. Mor, *Introduzione alla letteratura tedesca*, Epub, Morcelliana, Brescia 2020 (EAN 9788828402633).

L. Mor (edited by), *Letteratura tedesca dalle origini a Gotthold Ephraim Lessing. Testi e materiali,* (corso istituzionale, a. a. 2023/24 - downloadable from the course Blackboard page).

b. Single-subject course (required reading)

J.W. von Goethe, *Faust. Der Tragödie erster Teil (\*)*

*Any one of the following:*

J.W. von Goethe, *Iphigenie auf Tauris* (\*).

F. Schiller, *Die Räuber* (\*)

F. Schiller, *Maria Stuart (\*)*

L. Mor (ed.), *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe e Friedrich Schiller: poesia e teatro. Tests and materials,* (single-subject course, academic year 2023/2024 - downloadable from Blackboard).

Details of further reading material will be provided during lectures

c. Recommended (optional) reading for possible individual research into historical and literary contexts:

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

L. Mittner, *Storia della letteratura tedesca,* vol. I-III, Piccola Biblioteca Einaudi, Torino, 1977.

M. Freschi (ed.), *Storia della civiltà letteraria tedesca,* vol. I-II, Utet, Torino, 1998.

L. Mancinelli, *Da Carlomagno a Lutero. La letteratura tedesca medioevale,* Bollati Boringhieri, Torino, 1996.

F. Fiorentino-G. Sampaolo, *Atlante della letteratura tedesca,* Quodlibet, Macerata, 2009.

(\*) We recommend the edition published by Reclam, which can be accompanied by any Italian-language version or Italian parallel-text edition.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam in Italian (and/or German upon request). The exam will proceed as follows: 1) reading aloud and translation: students must read with the correct pronunciation, demonstrate that they have learned the vocabulary and linguistic structures of the texts on the syllabus and must learn to describe the specific forms from the point of view of the literary genre in question; 2) in-depth analysis, interpretation, critical commentary and historical, historical-literary contextualisation of the texts on the syllabus.

Each part is worth 50% of the mark for the exam. Important assessment criteria include: To pass the exam, students must score at least 18/30 in both parts. Language skills, clarity of expression, ability to structure effective arguments and make links with other authors and works.

The syllabus is the same for attending and non-attending students.

The weighted average of the marks for the interim tests in written and spoken languages will contribute to the final mark.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

1. Students require no specific prior knowledge or language skills to access the texts. The course is also open to absolute beginners, who will receive basic support in the form of Gloria Colombo's practical classes.
2. The course will be accompanied by ten hours of practical classes with Gloria Colombo, which will focus on the linguistic analysis of the texts on the syllabus.

3. The course lasts one year and is designed for students enrolled in the first year of the *Linguistics* degree programme whose study plan includes the German Language and Literature course (i.e. the following profiles: *Foreign Languages and Literature, Language for Management and Tourism* and *Languages, Communication and Media*).

4. The course is also designed for students on a one-year course, for those in the first year of a two-year course, as well as for students on the three-year degree programme in *Linguistics* and those on the Master’s programme taking a year of German language and literature. The exam syllabus for these students will focus on the contents of either Semester 1 or Semester 2, as per students’ preference.

5. The lecturer's webpage or “*PPD*” (via the Università Cattolica homepage: “*Docenti*” link) and the Blackboard platform will be regularly updated with notices and instructions regarding the course.

6. Students from other faculties: Please contact the lecturer to arrange a syllabus based on the number of ECTS credits allocated for this course on your study plan.

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.