

# Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2020-2021

## German Literature I (A001947)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)  
Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

### Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 1)	German	Gent	lecture	30.0 h
			practicum	7.5 h
			guided self-study	7.5 h

### Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Benzing, Carolin Juliane	LW07	staff member
De Greve, Lore	LW07	staff member
Janssens, Hanne	LW07	staff member
Biebuyck, Benjamin	LW07	lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Dutch - German)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject English - German)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - German)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Greek)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Italian)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Spanish)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Swedish)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German)</a>	5	A

### Teaching languages

German

### Keywords

German, literary studies, 20th and 21st century literature, short historical survey of German literature model analyses, prose, poetry, drama

### Position of the course

Beginning students have little or no knowledge of German literature, and many of them have little or no experience with courses taught in German. The aim of this basic course is to familiarise the students with the most important tendencies in German literature, with a first set of techniques and methods of literary analysis and with historical and thematic aspects of 20th and 21st Century German literature. This course can be taken up by exchange students.

### Contents

In this course students are acquainted with the key questions of literary practice since

the beginning of the 20th century and with the ways in which they can analyse and interpret literary texts from this period. We will be dealing with the big canonical authors such as Kafka, Brecht, Rilke, Grass, Bachmann and Thomas Mann. By using specific case studies, the lecturer tries to offer the students insight into the way in which contemporary problems such as the changing experience of language, industrial warfare, dealing with a traumatic past and the transformation of individual and collective ways of life are represented in German literature. A thorough analysis of selected texts is presented by the lecturer; students are expected to think along with the lecture, to discuss the topics and to develop their own interpretations in a substantiated manner, by means of which they can improve and refine their own analytical reading and writing competences. In the exercise part or "Tutorium", students make short writing exercises, by means of which they can learn basic literary research skills. These exercises will be discussed in class and thus enhance the students' speaking, listening, reading and writing skills in German. As part of the "Tutorium" there is also a guided tour in the German literature library collection. During the breaks we make a relaxing walk through German music history, from Bach to present-day rap. The reading list of this course will be announced well before the start of the semester via the UGent electronic learning platform.

#### Initial competences

Prior knowledge of German is not required. The lectures and the discussions take place in German and hence required a lot of efforts from all participants, particularly in the beginning of the semester. This course aims at a first acquaintance with German literature and with the instruments of literary studies.

#### Final competences

- 1 To be able to master and apply a basic knowledge of German (reading: short and medium size German texts with medium complexity; listening: understand a spoken exposition fluently; speaking: to take part in a simple dialogue; writing: to develop autonomously a statement in good German, with limited complexity and by making use of the acquired conceptual apparatus).
- 2 To be able to apply a basic knowledge of German literary traditions while analysing literary texts and
- 3 To have basic knowledge of German literary history and to be able to situate texts in it.
- 4 To be able to put the basics of analysis into practice when investigating German literary texts.
- 5 To have a basic scientific insight in the specific characteristics of literary texts and the ways in which literature functions historically.
- 6 To be familiar at a basic level with scholarly methodology (sources, references, quotations, deontology).

#### Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

#### Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

#### Teaching methods

Guided self-study, lecture, practicum, online lecture, online seminar: coached exercises

#### Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lecture: 30h (= weekly lectures of 150 minutes)
- Seminar: 7.5h (= six exercises of 75 minutes, in which students make and discuss basic analytical exercises (speaking and writing) in German)
- Self-study: 7.5h (students perform research activities on themselves, under the supervision of the lecturer, i.e. for personalized feedback, intermediary questions etc.)

Notice: this course entails a total workload of 150h; this encompasses the preparation of the lectures (the reading), the attendance of the lectures and seminars, the preparation and the making of the exam, and the exercises; the workload for the exercises can be estimated on 15 to 20h).

#### Learning materials and price

German-language syllabus (available on Minerva); reading list with appr. 7 titles (total cost: appr. 60 euro); additional teaching materials freely available on Minerva.

#### References

#### Course content-related study coaching

Individual and group tutoring; course-specific tutorials (seminar)

## Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

## Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination with open questions, open book examination, oral examination

## Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination with open questions, open book examination, oral examination

## Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Portfolio

## Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

## Extra information on the examination methods

### *Assessment moment*

Periodical (80%) and non-periodical: continuous assessment (20%).

(If the student does not pass the non-periodical evaluation, a second chance is offered by means of a compensatory activity between the first and second exam period.)

### *Assessment form*

- Written exam: open book with 4 questions testing insight and comprehension.
- Oral exam: 2 knowledge questions (literary history; 20C history) and 1 comprehension question (on the basis of the student's reading).
- Continuous assessment

Reaching the desired level of language proficiency is part of the learning competences of this course. This proficiency is supported by feedback on writing tasks, by self-study and self-testing, and by participation in the tutorials.

## Calculation of the examination mark

Exam: 80%; the students become a mark with a maximum of 16 on the written exam (which consists of 2 analytical questions (each 1/3 of the mark) and two synthetic questions (each 1/6 of the mark); the oral exam adds to that a mark that varies from -1 (for the worst possible performance) to +1 (for the best possible performance).

Portfolio (with three assignments): 20% (4)

## Facilities for Working Students

### Facilities:

- 1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours

### Extra information:

Participation of the Tutorium is highly recommended; it offers the students the opportunity to train those competences crucial for this course, under the supervision of a lecturer.

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the [monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy](#)