

<b>German 4794:</b>	<b>Time, Space, and Memory: Literature in German after 1945</b>
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Instructor: Dr. Heike Polster  
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Office hours: by appointment, 233a Jones Hall.  
Class meets: TR 1-2.25pm in 313 Dunn Hall.

Course Description:

Any individual or collective understanding and practice of memory builds upon a culturally specific concept of time and space. In this course, we will probe the relationship between temporal and spatial experiences and memory narratives. To this end, we will explore German-language texts by Thomas Lehr, Ilse Aichinger, W.G. Sebald, Ruth Klüger and Anna Seghers. The course focuses on the collapse of traditional concepts of space and time, their subversive potential, the politics of memory, the concepts of contemporaneity, simultaneity, heterochronicity, and gender's challenge to traditional spatiotemporal systems. Readings and discussions in German.

Course Objectives:

- 1, to gain a basic understanding of theories of space and time
- 2, to critically examine memory narratives for their expression of temporal and spatial experiences
- 3, to gain background knowledge on German history
- 4, to develop your skills in analytic reading and in effective written presentation: propose, organize, and construct a research essay in German using primary and secondary sources.

Course Materials:

Lehr, Thomas. 42.  
Sebald, W.G. Ringe des Saturn.  
Klüger, Ruth. Weiter leben.  
Seghers, Anna. „Ausflug der Toten Mädchen.“  
Aichinger, Ilse. „Spiegelgeschichte.“

Course Requirements:

- 1, Regularly attend class and participate in discussion (20%).
- 2, Complete the assigned readings and bring two discussion questions related to the readings to class (20%).
3. Write two short papers (first essay due March 1, second due April 26) and present the findings of your second paper to your discussion group (50%).
- 4, Present on a topic of your choice (historical background, close reading of a text passage, an analysis of an artwork, analysis of a theoretical approach) during a 10-15 minute presentation (10%).

Assessment:

Papers	50 % (including presentation to group)
Participation	20 %
Discussion questions, preparation	20 %
Presentation	10 %

## Papers

Each of these papers will consist of a thesis statement, bibliography, rough draft and final draft. Only the final draft will be officially graded. The instructor, however, reserves the right to lower the grade of any paper for which the requisite parts are not turned in. The final draft should be 5-6 pages in length.

## Academic Integrity

Students are bound by the University policy on academic integrity in all aspects of this course. All references to ideas and texts other than the students' own must be so indicated through appropriate footnotes, whether the source is a book, an online site, the professor, etc. All students are responsible for following the rules outlined in the document regarding the University academic integrity policy:

<http://saweb.memphis.edu/judicialaffairs/pdf/CSRR.PDF>.

For German courses, academic integrity implies that students will not employ online translators nor have others (German-speaking relatives, classmates, instructors, etc.) complete any portion of their work for them. I am happy to be of assistance during your learning process.

## Attendance Policy

Attendance is a pre-requisite of course participation as well as language acquisition itself, as class time offers you an opportunity to discuss the readings and experiment with the language. I ask that you are punctual for class; repeated tardies will negatively affect your grade. If there are any circumstances which will hinder your attendance or punctuality (such as mandatory attendance at a sporting event or distance of preceding course), please bring these to my attention immediately.

## Inclement Weather Policy

Should the university be closed and classes canceled, the readings, discussion topics and presentations scheduled for that particular day will be moved back one class session. Buffer sessions are included on the schedule to insure that all material will be covered.

## Course Schedule:

<b>Datum</b>	<b>Thema oder Text</b>	<b>Wichtig: Referat/Essay/ andere Hausaufgaben</b>
Donnerstag, 12. Januar	Einführung	
Dienstag, 17. Januar	Zeit- und Raumtheorien	Begriffsliste ausfüllen und lernen
Donnerstag, 19. Januar	Zeit- und Raumtheorien	
Dienstag, 24. Januar	Doreen Massey, <i>For Space</i> (Ausschnitt)	
Donnerstag, 26. Januar	Doreen Massey, <i>For Space</i> (Ausschnitt)	
Dienstag, 31. Januar	Seghers, Anna. „Ausflug der Toten Mädchen.“	
Donnerstag, 2. Februar	Seghers, Anna. „Ausflug der Toten Mädchen.“	
Dienstag, 7. Februar	Klüger, Ruth. <u>Weiter leben.</u>	

Donnerstag, 9. Februar	Klüger, Ruth. <u>Weiter leben.</u>	
Dienstag, 14. Februar	Klüger, Ruth. <u>Weiter leben.</u>	
Donnerstag, 16. Februar	Klüger, Ruth. <u>Weiter leben.</u>	
Dienstag, 21. Februar	Klüger, Ruth. <u>Weiter leben.</u>	Thesis Statement fällig
Donnerstag, 23. Februar	Klüger, Ruth. <u>Weiter leben.</u>	Bibliographie fällig
Dienstag, 28. Februar	tba	
Donnerstag, 1. März	tba	Erster Essay fällig!
Dienstag, 6. März – Donnerstag, 8. März	Spring Break	
Dienstag, 13. März	Aichinger, Ilse. „Spiegelgeschichte.“	
Donnerstag, 15. März	Aichinger, Ilse. „Spiegelgeschichte.“	
Dienstag, 20. März	Sebald, W.G. <u>Ringe des Saturn.</u>	
Donnerstag, 22. März	Sebald, W.G. <u>Ringe des Saturn.</u>	
Dienstag, 27. März	Sebald, W.G. <u>Ringe des Saturn.</u>	
Donnerstag, 29. März	Sebald, W.G. <u>Ringe des Saturn.</u>	
Dienstag, 3. April	Sebald, W.G. <u>Ringe des Saturn.</u>	
Donnerstag, 5. April	Lehr, Thomas. <u>42.</u>	
Dienstag, 10. April	Lehr, Thomas. <u>42.</u>	
Donnerstag, 12. April	Lehr, Thomas. <u>42.</u>	
Dienstag, 17. April	Lehr, Thomas. <u>42.</u>	Thesis Statement für zweiten Essay fällig
Donnerstag, 19. April	Lehr, Thomas. <u>42.</u>	Bibliographie fällig
Dienstag, 24. April	tba	Präsentation des zweiten Essays in Gruppe
Donnerstag, 26. April	tba.	Zweiter Essay fällig