

German 381
The German Heritage in Europe
"Austria, Germany and Switzerland:
Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Issues"
Prof. R. Ruppel

Wintersemester, 2005
T/Th: 12:35 - 1:50
CCC 328

(syll381.05)

Tentative Syllabus

Books: Rental: Wulf Koepke: *Die Deutschen*
New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2000
Purchase: Arthur Schnitzler: *Fräulein Else* (Reclam)
Friedrich Schiller: *Wilhelm Tell* (Reclam)
Adalbert Stifter: *Bergkristall* (Reclam)

(H) = Handout

Dien. 6. Sept. Introduction to course: Objectives and Expectations
Was bedeutet das Wort "Kultur"? Was verstehen wir unter dem
Begriff Kultur in den deutsch-sprachigen Ländern?

Donn. 8. Sept. Die Schweiz: eine geographische und politische Einführung.
Die Eidgenossenschaft (Koepke: 414-418)
Die Schweizer Geschichte

Dien. 13. Sept. Vortrag: Schweizer Geschichte;
Schiller: *Wilhelm Tell*, (1. Aufzug) Schweizer Neutralität

Donn. 15. Sept. Hugo Loetscher: "Der Waschküchenschlüssel" **(H)**
Die Schweizer Demokratie (Regierung)

Dien. 20. Sept. Schweizer Neutralität & Internationale Organisationen
Wilhelm Tell, (2. Aufzug)

Donn. 22. Sept. Die Schweiz und die Europäische Union
Laure Wyss: *Briefe Nach Feuerland* (Auszüge)

Dien. 27. Sept. "Schwyzertütsch" Die Schweizer Dialekte - Mani Matter
Wilhelm Tell (3. Aufzug)

Donn. 29. Sept. Schweizer Kultur: Literatur und Kunst

Dien. 4. Oktober. *Wilhelm Tell* (4. & 5. Aufzug)

Donn. 6. Oct. **Examen über die Schweiz**

German 381
"Austria, Germany, Switzerland:

Syllabus, 2005/page 2

Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Issues"

Dien. 11. Okt.

"Die Alpenrepublik" (Koepke, 396)
"Eine Übernationale Geschichte" (Koepke, 397-398)
"Wien" (Koepke, 400-403)
Österreich: geographische und politische Einführung

Donn. 13. Okt.

Höhepunkte der österreichischen Geschichte I
Essay I über die Schweiz ist fällig

Dien. 18. Okt.

Höhepunkte der österreichischen Geschichte II
"Fremdenverkehr und Produktion" (Koepke, 403)
"Kärnten, Steiermark und Burgenland" (404-405)
"Am Inn und am Rhein" (405-408)
"Im Bereich der Donau" (408-410)

Donn. 20. Okt.

Wien als Kulturzentrum und Weltstadt
Österreich als Musikmonopol

Dien. 25. Okt.

Österreichisches Barock
Kunstgeschichte: fin de Siecle Vienna (Schorske)

Donn. 27. Okt.

Wiener Sucession: Gustav Klimt, u.a.

Dien. 1. Nov.

Österreichische Literatur
Schnitzler: *Fräulein Else* (purchase text)

Donn. 3. Nov..

Schnitzler: *Fräulein Else*
Hugo von Hofmannsthal: "Terzinen III" **(H)**

Donn. 8. Nov.

Schnitzler: *Fräulein Else*
Edmund Wengraf: "Kaffeehaus und Literatur" **(H)**

Dien. 11. Nov.

Schnitzler: *Fräulein Else*
Hermann Bahr: "Die Moderne" **(H)**

- Dien. 15. Nov. Schnitzler: *Fraulein Else*
Hermann Bahr: "Decadence und Dilettantismus" (H)
Peter Altenberg: Auszüge aus: *Sonnenuntergang im Prater* (H)
- Donn. 17. Nov. Österreichische Gegenwartspolitik:
Österreich und die UNO; Österreich und die E.U.
-
- Dien. 22. Nov. Kunst in Österreich heute: Otto Wagner und Hundertwasser
- Donn. 24. Nov. **Thanksgiving - Erntedankfest**
-
- Dien. 29. Nov. BRD: Geographischer Überblick: Die Länder
"Die deutschen Länder" (Koepke, 208-226)
- Donn. 1. Dez. Zeitgenössische Probleme in der BRD
1. Abbau des Sozialstaats
2. Die Wahlen
- Dien. 6. Dez. Die BRD und die E.U.
Die europäischen Union (historischer und geographischer Überblick)
- Donn. 8. Dez. Die Bedeutung der E.U. für Europa und die Welt
Ash: Europe, 2000 (H)
-
- Dien. 13. Dez. Die Bedeutung der E.U. für Europa und die Welt:
- Donn. 15. Dez. Ash: "Can Europe be Europe?" (H)
Summary, Exam Outline and Course Evaluations

Schlußexamen (Final): Montag, 19. Dezember 2005, 8-10 Uhr in CCC 328

German 381
"Austria, Germany, Switzerland:
Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Issues"

Syllabus, 2005/page 4

Guidelines and Expectations

Professor: Richard Ruppel

Office: CCC 490A

Tel. 346-4410

e-mail: ruppel@uwsp.edu

Office Hours: Mondays: 10:00 - 11:00
Tuesdays: 2:30 - 3:30
Fridays: 10:00 - 11:00
and by appointment

Department Webpage: <http://www.uwsp.edu/forlang/>

Attendance Policy

It is expected that you will attend class regularly. If for some reason you must miss class, you are still responsible for the work missed and are expected to come to the next class prepared. Excessive absenteeism will be reflected in the final grade. Regular attendance will be taken.

Course Objectives

This course on German culture has two objectives. As a content course, the first objective is to acquaint you with the heritage and culture of Switzerland and Austria and contemporary issues in Austria, Germany and Switzerland today. This course will devote approximately four weeks to Switzerland, six to Austria and the remaining time to contemporary issues in Germany and in the European Union. The history and cultural heritage of Austria and Switzerland will be approached in greater depth than that of Germany because other culture courses in the departmental offerings and on semester abroad are devoted solely to Germany. I urge you to think comparatively about these different countries and to become aware of their diversity--be it historical, political, cultural, linguistic or artistic. The last two weeks will be devoted to new developments in the European Union.

The second objective is of course to increase all aspects of your ability in German (speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing). In keeping with the tradition of courses in this department, this course will be conducted in German.

Readings

The readings will include a broad sampling of German, Austrian and Swiss articles as well as selected readings from Koepke's *Die Deutschen*. In addition we will read Schnitzler's *Fräulein Else*, Schiller's classic *Wilhelm Tell* and Stifter's "Bergkristall." for their historical and cultural content as well as literary merit; it will help you to understand the ancient Swiss and to visualize Austrian Society on the brink of modernity. These readings will prepare you for the day's discussion. The discussion of the readings in class will further enhance your speaking skills. Do the readings. Come to class prepared.

German 381

Syllabus, 2005/page 5

**"Austria, Germany, Switzerland:
Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Issues"**

Writing: Two essays and one Referat (oral presentation assisted by Power Point)

There will be two essays to be written on assigned topics pertaining to each of the countries we will be studying. There will always be a choice of topics. Essays should be a minimum of three to five pages, typewritten or word-processed. No late papers will be accepted. Papers will be assessed for both the ability of the writer to express him/herself in German **AND** for the content, i.e. the ability to argue a critical thesis in a logically organized essay on a given topic. You will not be graded solely on your ideas, but rather on your ability to defend your ideas, based on a solid thesis (an argument) that is carefully and logically argued in the body of your essay.

In addition, you will be asked to prepare a Referat on an Austrian topic. I will provide you with a list of topics from which to choose. You can of course use the internet and the library to prepare your presentation. You will be expected to author a text in your own words (!) in German that will accompany your presentation. This text is to be submitted to me in advance for comment and correction. You will read your corrected text to the class, using a power point presentation for the purpose of assisting your audience's understanding. A picture is worth a thousand words....

Remember to document your papers and your Referat. I want to know the sources, be they internet or library sources. Your essays must be composed in your own German. If you find information on the internet or in a book, you need to rephrase it in German that you can handle and that the class (in the case of the presentation) can understand. Offering the words of others as your own is Plagiarism. Plagiarism is an academic offense. UWSP will impose disciplinary sanctions upon those, who plagiarize. Please consult the following site on plagiarism, before beginning your essays and Referat: <http://webster.comnet.edu/mla/plagiarism.shtml>

Grades:

Your course grade will be based on the following:

1. two exams (15% each)
2. the essays you submit (which may be rewritten and will, if improved, be awarded up to one grade higher at the discretion of the instructor.) 20% each
The essay and presentation grades will be based on the following:
 1. the ability of the writer to express him/herself in German
 2. the content--the strength of the thesis or argument and the ability to defend that position
3. the Referat (20%)
The Referat grade will be based on the usefulness of the content and on the overall delivery.
4. one's overall cultural and linguistic improvement, interest shown, etc. (10%)