

LITERATURE FOR THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

The emphasis in your first-year literature work will be on texts from the period 1890 to 1930. Four short works of prose and four plays have been prescribed for close study:

Prose

Theodor Fontane, *Effi Briest* (1894/95) [Reclam]

Thomas Mann, *Der kleine Herr Friedemann* (1897) [in *Frühe Erzählungen* 1893 – 1912 (Fischer)]

Franz Kafka, *Die Verwandlung* (1912/1915) [Reclam]

Irmgard Keun, *Nach Mitternacht* (1937) [List Taschenbuch]

Drama and Film

Frank Wedekind, *Frühlings Erwachen* (1891) [Reclam]

Arthur Schnitzler, *Liebelei* (1894) [Reclam]

Brecht, *Aufstieg und Fall der Stadt Mahagonny* (1930) [Suhrkamp Basis Bibliothek]

M (dir. Fritz Lang, 1931) [DVD: Eureka 2012 Masters of Cinema edition. ASIN B0030GBSSO]

These are cheap editions of the texts for study. In most cases it is recommended that you buy these, as others may vary a little; besides, in lectures and seminars we need to be able to find our way about quickly by page numbers. In the case of *M* and *Mahagonny* other editions vary considerably, and so these should be considered the compulsory editions. In the case of the Mann and Kafka, you will also find editions of 'collections' of several stories. You might judge that you will want in the long run to read more than just the set texts, in which case it would be perfectly reasonable to invest in a larger volume - stick to Fischer editions of both Kafka and Mann.

In addition you are expected to get to know a small selection of poems from all periods of German literature, taken from the anthology, *Deutsche Lyrik*, edited by Hanspeter Brode. Frankfurt a. M.: Suhrkamp. ISBN 3 518 38107 5. For the time being, it does not much matter which you look at, but attached are the poems prescribed for next year. In your first term, we shall start work on the drama and film texts, and some poetry followed by the prose and more poems in the subsequent term. Please make sure you have read the drama books and watch the film by October and if you can manage the prose too so much the better. There is not much time during term and you must come prepared. If you manage to read anything else from this period, or indeed from any period of German literature, that would be a bonus. If you have difficulty obtaining any of the texts, you will find that the following bookshop can supply them relatively easily though amazon.de is of course generally a good option:

Blackwell's Bookshop, 48-51 Broad Street, Oxford OX1 3BQ Tel. 01865 / 792792.

The list of poems for special study is as follows:

Der von Kürenberg: Ich zôch mir einen valken (16)
Heinrich von Morungen: Owê, sol aber mir iemer mê (18)
Walther von der Vogelweide: Under der linden (24)
Fleming: An Sich (47)
Gryphius: Thränen des Vaterlandes (50)
Hofmannswaldau: Vergänglichkeit der Schönheit (52)
Goethe: Willkommen und Abschied (93)
Goethe: Auf dem See (96)
Goethe: Erlkönig (100)
Goethe: Römische Elegien V (102)
Hölderlin: Andenken (147)
Hölderlin: Hälfte des Lebens (149)
Eichendorff: Denkst du des Schlosses noch... (171)
Müller: Der Lindenbaum (178)
Heine: Sie saßen und tranken am Teetisch (185)
Heine: Ich weiß nicht was soll es bedeuten (186)
Heine: Wie langsam kriechet sie dahin (195)
Droste-Hülshoff: Im Grase (201)
Mörike: Auf eine Lampe (213)
Mörike: Denk es, o Seele! (213)
Meyer: Der römische Brunnen (236)
Meyer: Auf dem Canal Grande (238)
George: Es lacht in dem steigenden jahr dir (250)
Lasker-Schüler: Ein alter Tibetteppich (253)
Hofmannsthal: Manche freilich ... (258)
Rilke: Der Panther (263)
Rilke: Archaischer Torso Apollos (265)
Rilke: O Brunnen-Mund (269)
Stadler: Fahrt über die Kölner Rheinbrücke bei Nacht (276)
Heym: Der Gott der Stadt (296)
Benn: Astern (288)
Trakl: Grodek (305)
Brecht: Die Liebenden (319)
Brecht: Fragen eines lesenden Arbeiters (322)
Brecht: Schlechte Zeit für Lyrik (327)
Huchel: Der Garten des Theophrast (347)
Celan: Sprachgitter (354)
Jandl: wien:heldenplatz (362)
Bachmann: Erklär mir, Liebe (366)
Enzensberger: Ins Lesebuch für die Oberstufe (371)
Brinkmann: Einen jener klassischen (374)
(41 poems)

Prof. Karen Leeder May 2019

FURTHER TOPICS IN THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION IN GERMAN

The papers below are to be taken by candidates who are reading German as their sole language.

Paper XI Introduction to German Film Studies

This paper is studied in Michaelmas Term of the first year and is taught in a weekly intercollegiate seminar for which written work is set. The course focuses in particular on the cinema of the Weimar Republic. The course will examine the development of film style and film technology in the 1920s and early 1930s, as well as putting the films in the wider context of German culture after the First World War. The examination will consist of a commentary on a sequence of stills from one of the set films, and essay questions. The essays will relate to questions of film form and technique, and to thematic issues. There are four set films and the recommended editions:

Asphalt (1929, dir. Joe May). DVD: Eureka Masters of Cinema No. 7, ASIN: B00070G76Y

Tagebuch einer Verlorenen (1929, dir. G. W. Pabst). DVD: Eureka Masters of Cinema No. 97, ASIN: B000OZ0MEU

Mädchen in Uniform (1931, dir. Leontine Sagan). DVD Zeitausendeins Edition, ASIN: B0076JXB68 (Available from amazon.de)

Viktor und Viktoria (1933, dir. Reinhold Schünzel) DVD: Deutsche Filmklassiker, ASIN: B0009NSAR8

Introductory reading:

David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson, *Film Art: An Introduction* (6th, 7th or 8th edition); Sabine Hake, *German National Cinema* (London, 2nd ed. 2007).

To support your language-specific study of film, there will also be four general methodology lectures in Weeks 1-4 of Michaelmas Term devoted to four international films, presenting the basic concepts of film analysis, such as montage, story, self-reference, and spectatorship. The international films taught in this part are used simply as illustrations for the lectures and are not treated as set texts for examination purposes. In 2018-19, these will be: *Potemkin* (dir. Sergei Eisenstein, 1925); *The 39 Steps* (dir. Alfred Hitchcock, 1935); *Blow-Up* (dir. Michelangelo Antonioni, 1967); and *Beau Travail* (dir. Claire Denis, 1999).

Paper XII Introduction to German Medieval Studies

Hartmann von Aue, *Gregorius*, Reclam edition: Middle High German text with a facing page translation in modern German.

This paper is studied in Hilary Term of the first year and is taught by a combination of seminars and tutorials (8 sessions in total). It will focus on the close study of *Gregorius* by Hartmann von Aue. Students will be expected to read the set text in Middle High German and will be given an introduction to the language. The examination will consist of a commentary question, a guided commentary question and essay questions. The essays will relate both to the set text and to more general issues arising from it.

Paper XIII: Key Texts in German Thought

This paper is studied in Hilary and Trinity Terms of the first year. Tuition will take the form of intercollegiate seminars. The focus will be on close reading of four short texts. Translations may be consulted, but students are expected to develop a good grasp of the original works. The examination involves a commentary on a passage taken from one of the texts studied, and two essays on subjects which invite wider discussion of the questions raised by the texts and the relationship between them. The texts are:

Kant, *Idee zu einer allgemeinen Geschichte in weltbürgerlicher Absicht* [in Kant, *Was ist Aufklärung?* Hamburg: Meiner, 1999; NB not the Reclam volume with the same title]

Marx und Engels, *Das kommunistische Manifest* (Stuttgart: Reclam, 1999)

Nietzsche, 'Zur Naturgeschichte der Moral', in *Jenseits von Gut und Böse* (Stuttgart: Reclam, 1988)

Freud, *Warum Krieg?* (Zürich: Diogenes, 1972).