



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

Germ 561/627
Africa in German Fiction
Time: TR 14:00-15:15
Location: EDC 156

Winter 2017

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Jan Süselbeck

OFFICE LOCATION: CHC 118

OFFICE HOURS: on appointment

TELEPHONE NUMBER : 403-220-7316

E-Mail : jan.suselbeck@ucalgary.ca

DESCRIPTION

In recent years there was a boom of novels about Africa in German language literature. But as Germany ran colonies from the end of the 19th century until 1918, and even Switzerland had been economically engaged in (post-)colonial Africa, the topic is not new at all: There is a long history of writings about Africa and its former colonialization, with many changes in the ideological framings and the literary evaluation of that terrible and bloody part of African, European, and also North American history.

This course aims at close readings and analyzes of novels from the beginning of the 20th century (Gustav Frenssen, *Peter Moors Fahrt nach Südwest*) to the end of the 1970s (Uwe Timm, *Morenga*), including the works of such different contemporary writers as Stephan Wackwitz (*Ein unsichtbares Land*), Urs Widmer (*Im Kongo*), Lukas Bärfuss (*100 Tage*), and Christof Hamann (*Usambara*). The goal of our interpretations will be to use and practise postcolonial theories interpreting German texts, which you will be introduced to in the beginning of the semester.

OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand Germany's colonial history and its literary representation in the 20th and the 21th century. They will be familiar with some of the most important theories of post colonial studies. Students will be trained to closely read and analyse literary texts and secondary literature. They will have enhanced their presentation, reading and writing skills. Last but not least, they will have learned how to do bibliographic research for writing individual academic papers.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

presentation (30 %)

attendance / participation / text responses (“tickets to class”) (20 %)

research paper (50 %)

REQUIRED TEXTS

Uwe Timm, Morenga (English)

https://www.amazon.ca/Morenga-Uwe-Timm/dp/0811216268/ref=sr_1_6?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1459368826&sr=1-6&keywords=uwe+tim

Good / easy to source / many copies available. \$22.50

Christof Hamann, Usambara (German)

https://www.amazon.ca/Usambara-Christof-Hamann/dp/3865215572/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1459369180&sr=1-1&keywords=usambara

Good / easy to source / many copies available. \$29.95

Gustav Frenssen, Peter Moor’s Journey to Southwest Africa (English)

https://www.amazon.ca/Peter-Moors-Journey-Southwest-Africa/dp/1331490251/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1464623967&sr=1-1&keywords=9781331490258

Stephan Wackwitz, An Invisible Country (Ein unsichtbares Land)

https://www.amazon.ca/Invisible-Country-Stephan-Wackwitz/dp/1589880226/ref=sr_1_sc_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1470956473&sr=8-3-spell&keywords=stephan+wackwitz

Lukas Bärfuss, Hundert Tage (German)

https://www.amazon.ca/Hundert-Tage-Lukas-Bärfuss/dp/3442739039/ref=sr_1_7?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1459369884&sr=1-7&keywords=lukas+bärfuss

Urs Widmer, Im Kongo (German)

https://www.amazon.ca/Im-Kongo-Urs-Widmer/dp/3257230109/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1459380363&sr=8-2&keywords=Urs+Widmer%2C+Im+Kongo

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. Students with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre should contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Students also required to discuss their needs with the instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)
Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)
Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)
For the complete list of assembly points please consult
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SAFEWALK

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT UNION INFORMATION

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.