



FACULTY BOARD OF HUMANITIES

German Contemporary Literature and Culture: Reception, Transfer and Context, 120 credits

Deutsche Gegenwartsliteratur: Rezeption, Vermittlung und Kontext, 120

högskolepoäng

Programme code: H2TLK

Second cycle / Avancerad nivå

1. Confirmation

This programme syllabus was confirmed by the Dean of the Faculty on 17-12-2019 (GU 2019/3085) and was last revised on 14-12-2022 (GU 2022/2822) to be valid from 28-08-2023, Autumn semester 2023.

Responsible Department/equivalent: Department of Languages and Literatures

2. Purpose

The programme leads to a Master's degree (120 credits) in German as the main field of study. The main field of study throughout the whole programme is German and the main items of the programme concern contemporary German literature and its cultural reception and mediation as well as its different historical, theoretical and international contexts. The specialisations of the programme give possibilities to hold positions in, for example, the culture and literature sectors.

At the same time, the programme provides the students with a broad knowledge platform: it prepares both for a flexible working life and for postgraduate courses in German. The profile of the programme ties cultural, literary theoretical, (inter)medial and aesthetic discourses to praxis orientation and strategic competence. This also prepares for an international labour market in constant change.

Students are given the possibility to find and do a placement during the second semester of the course.

3. Entry requirements

A Degree of Bachelor of Arts, and 60 credits of German with at least 30 credits from TY1210 or the equivalent Swedish or foreign courses. The credits taken in German may be outside the

Bachelor's degree. In addition, language proficiency equivalent to English 6 is required.

4. Higher education qualification and main field of study

This programme leads to a Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits) with a major in German (Filosofie masterexamen med huvudområdet Tyska).

After completed studies the first year, 60 credits, including a degree project of 15 credits (TY2103), students may apply for a Master's degree (60 credits) with German as the main field of study. The requirement for a master's degree is a bachelor's degree in addition to completed mandatory courses.

A Degree of Master of Arts (120 credits) with German as the main field of study is awarded after the student has fulfilled the course requirements of 120 credits. Within the scope of the course requirements, the student should have completed one or two independent works (degree projects) of 30 credits in total in the main field of study for the courses. In addition, a Bachelor's degree is required.

Compulsory courses in the programme are stated below under Contents and set-up. The student himself/herself applies for a degree certificate after completed studies.

5. Outcomes

Second-cycle courses and study programmes should involve specialisation of knowledge, skills and abilities in relation to courses at first cycle level and should in addition to what applies to courses at first cycle level

- further develop the students' ability to independently integrate and use their knowledge,
- develop the students' ability to handle complex phenomena, issues and situations and
- develop students' qualifications and skills needed for positions that involve independent work and research and development.

General goals and objectives of Master's degree (120 credits)

Knowledge and understanding

for a Master's degree (120 credits), the student should

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding within the main field of the course, including broad expertise in the subject, considerably advanced knowledge in certain parts of the subject, and an advanced understanding of the current research and development work, and
- show advanced knowledge of methodology in the main field of study.

Competence and skills

for a Master's degree (120 credits), the student should

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge both critically and systematically, to analyse, assess and handle complex phenomena, research questions and situations, even with limited information,
- demonstrate an ability to critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate research questions, to plan and with an adequate method carry out qualified assignments within given time frames and thereby contribute to the development of knowledge as well

as to evaluate this work,

- demonstrate an ability to, in both national and international contexts orally and in writing, clearly describe and discuss the knowledge and the arguments that underlie their conclusions, in dialogue with different groups,
- demonstrate such skills that are required to participate in research and development work or to work independently with other qualified activities,

Judgement and approach

for a Master's degree (120 credits), the student should

- demonstrate an ability within the main field of study to make assessments considering relevant scholarly, social and ethical aspects as well as demonstrate an awareness of the ethical aspects of research and development work,
- demonstrate an understanding of the possibilities and limitations of scholarship, its role in society, and people's responsibility for how it is used,
- demonstrate an ability to identify his or her need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his/her own knowledge development.

Local outcomes

In addition to these goals common to all courses, certain local goals apply according to the following: The student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- show a broad knowledge and good understanding of the reception, mediation and international contexts of contemporary German literature and culture;
- show extensive knowledge of German and comparative literature;
- demonstrate extensive knowledge of literary methods and an advanced understanding of current research practice and development work;

Competence and skills

- show extensive skills in integrating knowledge of German contemporary literature and culture in a critical and systematic way;
- analyse, assess and handle complex issues concerning international and transnational contexts, also on the basis of limited information;
- demonstrate skills in critically, independently and creatively identify and formulate issues in the area of German contemporary literature and culture;
- plan and with adequate methods carry out an individual assignment within a stipulated time frame and contribute to the knowledge development and demonstrate the ability to evaluate this work in a critical way;
- demonstrate the ability to account clearly, orally and in writing, both in national and international contexts for and discuss his/her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments that form the basis for these in dialogue with different groups;

Judgement and approach

- show good ability to make assessments in the field of contemporary German literature and culture with regard to relevant scholarly, social and ethical aspects and show awareness of ethical aspects of research and development;

- discuss and critically reflect on the possibilities and limitations of scholarship, its role in society and the responsibility of people for how it is used and;
- demonstrate an ability to identify his or her need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his/her own knowledge development.

6. Content and structure

The programme may be given on campus or as a distance course. There may be cross-listed courses in the programme for students who do either the campus course or the distance course.

The programme includes mandatory courses and elective or optional courses. Mandatory courses include as at least 75 credits. The number of credits of German as the main field of study may be higher if students write a thesis of 15 credits in the first academic year, and a thesis of 30 credits in the second academic year.

Current elective courses are listed on the Department's website. Students in the programme are guaranteed a place on elective courses, provided that the entry requirements are fulfilled. Student may, instead of the elective courses at the department, also do optional courses.

Semester 1

During semester 1, students do three compulsory courses of 7.5 credits in German as the main field of study with a specialisation in contemporary literature:

The course TY2110 *German-speaking literary theory and cultural theory in an European context*, 7.5 credits, provides an introduction to questions in German-speaking literature and culturally theoretical issues, as well as in how these relate to an European context.

The course TY2121 *German post-war literature I*, 7.5 credits, treats the history of German literature from 1945 and down to the present day. At the forefront are different movements and perspectives in literary history, which are illustrated through studies of different canonized works in literary history.

The course TY2122 *German, Authorships I*, 7.5 credits, provides an introduction to modern German literature based on a specific authorship. The choice of authorship varies. The course treats the central issues of the authorship and examines these from a narratological and literary-historical perspective.

An elective course of 7.5 credits.

Semester 2

During semester 2, students do two mandatory courses of 7.5 credits and specialise in German as the main field of study focusing on contemporary literature and literary studies:

The course TY2111 *The history of the German-speaking aesthetics and the mediality in a European context*,

7.5 credits, aims to give an insight into the history of the German-speaking aesthetics and mediality.

Student also do a course in German contemporary literature of 7.5 credits which may vary depending on the range of courses offered. This course may be either a thematic course (e.g. TY2108 *German contemporary literature: Migration literature*, TY2118 *German contemporary literature, Telling history/histories*, TY2119 *German contemporary literature: Travels in literature*

) or an authorship course (e.g. TY2123 *Authorship II*).

For the remaining 15 credits the student may choose between the following three alternatives:

The course TY2103 *German literary thesis I*, 15 credits, is a thesis at second cycle level (Master's (60 credits) dissertation). The course practices the ability to write a thesis in a methodologically consistent way within a delimited field in German literary studies. Furthermore, students practice defending their own findings orally and analysing and discussing others' research projects critically.

or,

The course SPL250, *Language in practice*, 15 credits, provides an opportunity for placement at a workplace where the student carries out a delimited and concrete assignment linked to language. The aim of the placement is to give the student the opportunity to use his/her knowledge of and about language and culture in a work situation, as well as to identify possible future career paths in Sweden or abroad.

or,

Elective course/courses equivalent to 15 credits

Semester 3

During semester 3, an in-depth module within German as the main field of study is offered with a specialisation in comparative and applied literature through three compulsory courses of 7.5 credits:

TY2113 *German contemporary literature: The history of German post-war literature in the context of other European literatures*, 7.5 credits, gives an overview of German-speaking post-war and contemporary literature based on a comparison between a selection of German literary history and the literary history of other European countries.

The course TY2115 *German post-war literature II*, 7.5 credits, or the equivalent, treats German post-war literature based on texts that have influenced both the public debate and German literary studies. The public debate has centred on issues

regarding the relation between e.g. Auschwitz and post-war literature about guilt and innocence, the split of Germany and the reunification, and conservatism and avantgarde.

The course TY2124 *German, Applied literature*, 7.5 credits, gives an overview of the different sides of literary mediation in the German-speaking countries (e.g. literary criticism, bookstores, the publishing business, journalism). The course primarily deals with questions that treat the approach of society to literature and whether the function of literature manifests itself differently depending on the medium in which it is produced.

An elective course of 7.5 credits.

Semester 4

During semester 4, students who have not written an individual assignment in semester 2 in German as the main field of study, write a Master's thesis of 30 credits. This thesis is compulsory in the programme for students who have not written an individual assignment of 15 credits earlier during semester 2.

Students who have written an individual assignment in semester 2 in German as the main field of study can choose either to write a thesis of 15 credits and do an elective course/courses of 15

credits, or write an individual thesis of 30 credits. A thesis of at least 15 credits is mandatory.

The course TY2104 *German literary thesis II*, 30 credits, is a thesis at second cycle level (Master's thesis). The course includes practising writing a thesis in a methodologically consistent way within a delimited German literary field. Furthermore, students practice defending their own findings orally and analysing and discussing others' research projects critically.

or,

The course TY2125 *German literary thesis II*, 15 credits, is a thesis at second cycle level (Master's thesis). The course includes practising writing a thesis in a methodologically consistent way within a delimited German literary field. Furthermore, students practice defending their own findings orally and analysing and discussing others' research projects critically.

and an elective course or elective courses to the extent of 15 credits.

7. Guaranteed admission

The programme applies general guaranteed admission for the programme courses. Admission to the modules of the programme requires that the student follows the study route stated here and manages at a normal rate, his/her examinations and is qualified to study the course/courses.

The Department of Admission is responsible for elective courses. Guaranteed admission applies for programme courses and elective courses but not other courses that students apply for themselves.

8. Transitional regulations

This programme syllabus applies to students who were admitted to the programme in the Autumn semester of 2023 or later.

Students who started their courses according to an older programme syllabus for Contemporary German literature and culture: Reception, mediation and context, Master's programme, 120 credits, may not be guaranteed re-examination sessions later than two years after the new programme syllabus has come into force. Students may instead choose to follow the new programme syllabus.

9. Other information

Swedish name of the course: Contemporary German literature and culture: Reception, mediation and context, Master's programme, 120 Higher Education Credits.

Language of instruction: German is the language of instruction in the mandatory courses in the programme. The independent project is written in German. Other courses may be given in English, German, Swedish (if the student knows Swedish) or another language that is stated in the course syllabus.

For forms of teaching and examination, see the course syllabi for the courses in question.

Equality aspects should be taken into consideration in content, literature, teaching and evaluation.

The study programme is evaluated in accordance with the current Policy for Quality Assurance

and Quality Improvement of Education at the University of Gothenburg.

The courses are also evaluated within the scope of respective course.

The programme syllabus was originally established by the Faculty of Humanities board, University of Gothenburg 22/02/2008 (registration number G217 4502/07), revised 20/12/2016 (registration number G 2016/560) and 17/12/2019 (registration number GU 2019/3085).