

CAS LL 251
Introduction to the Study of
Continental European Literature
(in translation)
“The Faust Tradition”
Boston University
Spring 2007
TR 11:00-12:30, CAS B14
Prof. Peter J. Schwartz
Office: 718 Commonwealth Ave., #501A
Office Hours: W 2:00-4:00, R 1:00-2:00, and by appointment
Tel.: (617) 353-6211 email: pjs8@bu.edu

Course description:

A comparative study of the Faust theme in the European tradition, 1587-1994. Texts by Christopher Marlowe, Johann Wolfgang Goethe, Thomas Mann, Jan Svankmajer, and others. Thematic emphasis on transmission and refunctionalization of literary themes within and between national traditions (especially German, English, Czech); methodological emphasis on techniques of close reading and scholarly research, including the use of theory and criticism; frequent assignment of critical essays. May also be taken to fulfill CAS WR 150 requirement. Prerequisite: Completion of two years of language study, and WR 100 or the equivalent for those students desiring WR 150 credit.

Writing assignments:

There will be a strong emphasis on writing in this course.

I will instruct you in detail, in print & in advance how I expect you to prepare each reading selection for class. Daily preparation for class will often include either short written responses to distributed study questions or short (ca. 2-page) informal critical or response papers. These assignments' primary purpose will be to ensure that you have engaged actively with the material before we begin to discuss it in class (which should make our discussions more fruitful for everyone). Some of them will be letter-graded; others will be graded 3/3-/3+ (depending upon the type of assignment, & whether I think it's legitimately gradable).

Ideally, assignments should be sent to my email account (pjs8@bu.edu) *by 10 AM the morning they are due*, so I can read them before class. Please cc your own email account when sending these essays, and check to be sure you have really attached the file. Please also bring in a hard copy to class, just in case & to aid in discussion (if you have sent me the text as an email, you may as well turn in the hard copy, just to be safe).

In addition to these regular short assignments, you will write three longer papers.

The first is a **“lens essay”** of 5-6 pages, in which you will discuss one text in relation to another (details elsewhere). You will be expected to revise the (ungraded, marked-up) first draft of this paper; the revised draft will be letter-graded.

The second essay is a **short research paper** of 5-6 pages, in which you will discuss one or more texts with the aid of secondary literature (details elsewhere). This project will have three phases. First, you will prepare a prospectus: a formulation, in 1-2 pages of prose, of the question or

problem you would like to address in your paper. I will read this and return it to you with commentary, in time for you to visit me in the extra office hours I shall schedule for the purpose of discussing these prospectuses. Next, you will turn in a first draft of your paper, which I shall return marked up and with commentary, but ungraded. You will then hand in a revised draft of your paper, which will be letter-graded.

Same procedure with the third essay, a **longer research paper** of 8-10 pages, except here *no second draft will be due* (prospectus and 1st draft only). However, I *heartily recommend* that you visit me in my office to discuss your ideas and your drafts as they develop.

Written assignments are to be typed and double-spaced. This makes “one page” the equivalent of roughly 300 words. All written assignments are due at the end of class on the due dates. Please don’t skip class to finish papers, that’s really stupid. If you need to email me a paper, please cc yourself and check that the attachment is really attached; it’s your responsibility that I receive your paper. If need be, work can be left for me at the MFL Information Office at 718 Commonwealth Avenue (first door on the left as you enter the building. Late assignments will be accepted – I would rather you handed them in late than not at all – but the grades I give them will drop a notch with every day of lateness.

In general, I am available and eager to meet with you in my office to discuss the class, your work, your interests, decisions about a major or minor, or your larger academic goals. My office hours are: Wednesdays 2:00-4:00, Thursdays 1:00-2:00, in room 501A of 718 Commonwealth Avenue. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment to meet me outside of office hours if your schedule does not permit you to visit me during them. If you would like to stop by randomly, please call first to see if I am in and available (353-6211).

Exams and other matters:

There will be no midterm exam, unless I decide otherwise. I reserve the right to administer pop quizzes on suspicions of slacking. There will be a final exam (on Friday, May 11, 9:00-11:00 PM, in the usual classroom). No make-up exams will be offered.

I will be scheduling two or three video screenings at Geddes Language Center (685 Commonwealth Avenue, 5th floor):

- “**Faust on a String**” on or before Tuesday 20 March (it’s short, so I may show it in class)
- “**House/Lights**” before Thursday 26 April
- “**Lekce Faust**” before Thursday 3 May

I will try to plan these to fit the schedules of as many of you as possible. I will also leave the videos on reserve at Geddes for those of you who can’t make the scheduled screenings. These videos are a mandatory part of the course; if you can’t make a common screening, it is your individual responsibility to arrange an alternate screening for yourself.

Daily attendance in class is mandatory. You are expected to show up punctually for class, and, once there, to participate in discussion. *You cannot get an A in this class if you do not talk, no matter how good your written work is.* More than three (3) unexcused absences will begin to affect your grade; more than seven (7) unexcused absences will *automatically* earn you an F in the course. Students should notify the instructor of any foreseeable absence or lateness in advance, in person or by email.

Students are expected to abide by all the university standards on plagiarism and academic conduct. Please consult the College of Arts and Sciences Academic Conduct Code [<http://www.bu.edu/cas/academics/programs/conductcode.html>] for clarification of official standards. Plagiarism from any source (including the internet), cheating on exams, and other academic misconduct will not be tolerated in any form. **THIS MEANS YOU!**

No proficiency in any particular foreign language is required for the course, though I would encourage those who can to read what they can in the original.

This course may count either as a Humanities course for purposes of satisfying the CAS Divisional Studies requirement, or as a writing course (CAS WR 150), but not as both simultaneously.

Approximate credit distribution for final grade:

- 15% Attendance, preparedness and in-class oral participation
- 20% Written responses to distributed study questions; response papers
- 15% Lens essay (5-6 pp., revised)
- 15% Short research paper (5-6 pp., revised)
- 20% Longer research paper (8-10 pp., revised)
- 15% Final exam

Required texts:

For purchase, at the BU bookstore:

- Christopher Marlowe. *Doctor Faustus* (Norton)
- Johann Wolfgang Goethe. *Goethe's Faust* (tr. W. Kaufmann, Anchor)
- Thomas Mann. *Doctor Faustus* (tr. John E. Woods, Modern Library)

All other required texts will be available in .pdf format in the “Course Documents” section of the CourseInfo site for this course; I’ll be handing out occasional xerox copies as well, all of which I shall also try to make available on the CourseInfo site.:

http://courseinfo.bu.edu/courses/07sprgcasll251_a1/

I will also post a number of useful links under “external links,” and I will be happy to accept suggestions from students concerning additional relevant links.

I will be announce new postings to the website, and make sundry other announcements, by email – if you normally use an address other than your BU address, please be certain to set up mail forwarding to your preferred address!

A number of relevant books (assigned, secondary and optional further reading) will be on reserve at Mugar Library. Check this link to see what’s there:

<http://library.bu.edu/search/r?SEARCH=ll251>

I will also be handing out CDs of relevant music, and explaining its relevance when appropriate.

LL 251
Introduction to Continental European Literature:
The Faust Tradition

Class Schedule: Meetings, Themes, Readings

Tues., 16 Jan. *Introduction*

The Making of the Legend

Thurs., 18 Jan. **Historical Documents** [1507-16??]

Primary: *"The Historical Faustus," from Bates, *Faust: Sources, Works, Criticism*, pp. 2-8

Tues., 23 Jan. **The *Faustbuch* of Johann Spies** [1587/1592]

Primary: "The Faust Legend," in Kastan's edition of Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, pp. 182-209

Secondary: *André Jolles, "Legend," from *Simple Forms* [excerpt]

 *Jacobus de Voragine, *The Golden Legend* [excerpts]

Thurs., 25 Jan. **further discussion of the origins of the Faust tradition**

Secondary: *J.W. Smeed, "The Development of the Faust Legend..." *Faust in Literature*, pp. 1-13

Secondary: *Stuart Atkins, "[Survey of the Faust Theme]." *Faust* [Norton ed.], pp. 573-585

Marlowe's Doctor Faustus

Tues., 30 Jan. **Christopher Marlowe Doctor Faustus**[1592(?)/1604]

Primary: Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*, A-text, beginning through sc. 2.3 [pp. 3-33]

Secondary: *John D. Jump, "The literary sources of the play," pp. xxxviii-xli

[*read through* *John D. Jump, "The authorship of the play," pp. xli-xlv

8 Feb.] •John D. Jump, "Introduction," *Doctor Faustus*, pp. 13-67

Thurs., 1 Feb. **Christopher Marlowe Doctor Faustus**

Primary: Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*, sc. 3. Chorus-4.2 [pp. 33-46]

Tues., 6 Feb. **Christopher Marlowe Doctor Faustus**
Primary: Christopher Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*, sc. 5.1-end [pp. 46-53] XV-Epilogue [pp. 128-148]
Goethe's Faust I

Thurs., 8 Feb. **J. W. Goethe Faust I** [lines 1-807] [1773-1808]
Running secondary: Walter Kaufmann, "Introduction," *Goethe's Faust*, pp. 3-61
 *Henry Hatfield, "Faust I: The Little World," *Goethe: A Critical Introduction*, pp. 132-176
 *Cyrus Hamlin, "The Composition of Faust," [Norton ed.], pp. 505-513
 **Everyman* [excerpt] Dedication
 *Calderon. *El Gran teatro del mundo* [excerpt] Prelude in the Theater
 *The Book of Job [excerpt] Prologue in Heaven
 *Kalidasa. *Sakontala* [Prologue] Night

PAPER #1 DUE!

Tues., 13 Feb. **J. W. Goethe Faust I** [lines 808-2072]
 Before the City Gate
 Study [I]
 Study [II]

Thurs., 15 Feb. **J. W. Goethe Faust I** [lines 2073-3024]
 CD: Beethoven. "Lied aus Goethes Faust" Auerbach's Keller in Leipzig
 Witch's Kitchen
 Street
 CD: Schubert. "Der König in Thule" Evening
 Promenade
 The Neighbor's House

Tues., 20 Feb. *Monday schedule (no class)*

Thurs., 22 Feb. **J. W. Goethe Faust I** [lines 3025-3543]
 Street

		Garden A Garden Bower Wood and Cave Gretchen's Room Martha's Garden
CD: Schubert. "Gretchen am Spinnrade"		
Tues., 27 Feb.	J. W. Goethe	Faust I [lines 3544-3834] At the Well City Wall Night. Street in Front of Gretchen's Door Cathedral
Thurs., 1 Mar.	J. W. Goethe	Faust I [lines 3835-4612] Walpurgis Night Walpurgis Night's Dream Dismal Day, Field Night, Open Field Dungeon
Tues., 6 Mar.	J. W. Goethe	Faust I [lines 3835-4612]
Tues., 8 Mar.	J. W. Goethe	Faust I [wrap-up]
PAPER #2 DUE!		
Tues., 13 Mar.	<i>Spring Break – NO CLASS!</i>	
Thurs., 15 Mar.	<i>Spring Break – NO CLASS!</i>	
Tues., 20 Mar.	Czech, German and English puppet plays <i>excerpts, plus short video screening: "Faust on a String" (to be scheduled)</i>	

Thomas Mann's Doctor Faustus

Thurs., 22 Mar.	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus [1947]
Tues., 27 Mar.	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus
Thurs., 29 Mar.	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus
Tues., 3 April	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus
Thurs., 5 April	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus
Tues., 10 April	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus
Thurs., 12 April	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus
Tues., 17 April	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus
Thurs., 19 April	Thomas Mann	Doctor Faustus

Gertrude Stein & The Wooster Group: House/Lights

Tues., 24 April	Gertrude Stein Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights [1936]	
	[House/Lights screening to be arranged]	
Thurs., 26 April	The Wooster Group	House/Lights [1998]
Tues., 1 May	The Wooster Group	House/Lights

Jan Svankmajer's Faust Film

Thurs., 3 May	Jan Svankmajer	Lekce Faust [1994]
	<i>Film:</i>	Jan Svankmajer, <i>Faust</i> – screenings to be arranged
	<i>Secondary:</i>	*Svankmajer “Svankmajer’s Faust Diary”

PAPER #3 DUE!

*****FINAL EXAM: Saturday, May 11, 9:00-11:00 PM, CAS B27 (the usual classroom)*****