

**Boston University
Spring 2009**

**CAS LG 452
Topics in German Civilization**

The Age of Reason[, Feeling] and Revolution A Survey of German Literature and Thought, 1750-1800

**Theme of the course: (adapted freely from Rousseau's *Social Contract*):
"When is it legitimate to challenge authority?"**

**TR 11:00-12:30
CAS 427**

Prof. Peter J. Schwartz

Office: 718 Commonwealth Ave., #501A

Office Hours: W 10:30-12:00, R 2:00-3:30, and by appointment

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SYLLABUS

Course description

Eine Annäherung an die vier Hauptströmungen des deutschen intellektuellen Lebens in den Jahren 1750-1800: Aufklärung, Empfindsamkeit, Sturm und Drang und Klassik, organisiert um eine zentrale Frage der europäischen Aufklärung: Unter welchen Umständen dürfte man es für legitim halten, die Autorität (einer Regierung, einer Konvention, eines Gesetzes, einer sozialen Ordnung, einer ästhetischen Regel) hinterfragen, bestreiten, ablehnen, zerstören? Wir werden den sozialpolitischen Ansprüchen des aufkommenden deutschen Mittelstands bzw. der Problematik der französischen Revolution (die ja aus dieser Frage hervorgegangen ist!) besondere Aufmerksamkeit schenken. Literarische, philosophische, ästhetische und epistolarische Texte von Goethe, Schiller, Lessing, Kant, Herder, Karl Philipp Moritz, A.G. Meißner und andere. Primärliteratur, Diskussion und schriftliche Aufgaben in deutscher Sprache, Sekundärliteratur hauptsächlich auf Englisch. Prerequisite: CAS LG 350, or the permission of the instructor. (It will help a great deal if you've read *Die Leiden des jungen Werther!*)

Rules, terms & conditions

The course will be a mixture of lecture, discussion, reading, and writing. German will be our primary language of lecturing and discussion. Readings will be assigned in English and German. You will be expected to read roughly 10-15 pages in German *and* 20-30 pages in English per class meeting. The reading in English is secondary literature and is meant to provide context for the primary German-language readings; we will rarely discuss it directly, but I shall shape our discussions of the primary materials assuming familiarity with the secondary readings. All writing will be in German unless I instruct otherwise. English-German dictionaries will be permitted at exams.

Required texts

→ to buy at Schoenhof's Bookstore (76A Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge, T-Harvard):



- *Was ist Aufklärung?* (Reclam)
- G.E. Lessing. *Emilia Galotti* [Reclam]

All other required texts will be available for download in .pdf format in the “Course Documents” section of the Blackboard site for this course:

<http://blackboard.bu.edu/>

I will respond quickly to requests to raise printing quotas.

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.

A number of relevant books (assigned, peripheral 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=lg452>

I will distribute occasional handouts, as well as most assignments, in class. If you miss a class, please be sure to ask a fellow student or me if you’ve missed a handout! I shall also do my best to post assignments and handouts to Blackboard (but I’m making no promises!).

All other required texts will be available in .pdf format in the “Course Documents” section of the Blackboard site for this course.

<http://blackboard.bu.edu/>

I will be supplying you with one music CD, at no cost.

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 make occasional (possibly frequent) 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!

Writing assignments

Aside from the final paper (which I may decide not to assign), **writing assignments will be short (1-2 pages), relatively informal** (though I would ask you to take care with language!), **and fairly regular**. They will normally take the form of study questions. Their main 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). As they are also intended to improve your German, I may sometimes (or often) ask you to submit revisions based on my comments. Writing will mostly be graded 3/3-/3+ (depending upon the type of assignment, & whether I think it's legitimately gradable). I will be arranging individual consultations mid-term to discuss students' performance in the class.

Written assignments are to be typed and double-spaced. This makes "one page" the equivalent of roughly 300 words. All written assignments are due in class on the due dates. If you would like to submit your papers by email, please do so by 2:30 PM on the day they are due; otherwise, I will expect a hard copy. (I prefer to receive work on paper.) I will not accept protestations of wonder that your emails have become lost in cyberspace, so please make a habit of cc-ing your own email account when sending me assignments, and then check to be sure you have really attached the file. Please send work as attachments, not paste-ins.) Please also bring a hard copy to class, to aid in discussion (if you have sent me the text as an email, there is no need to turn in the hard copy). If need be, work can be left for me at the MLCL Department Office at 718 Commonwealth Avenue (Room 103, across from the elevator). Late assignments will affect your grade.

Exams

On **27 January**, there will be a short quiz on the Sheehan and Bruford readings listed under 15 January, mostly to make sure you've read them. There will be **no midterm exam**. There will be a **final exam** [on Wednesday, May 6, 9:00-11:00], and **occasional quizzes**, announced or unannounced. **No make-up exams will be offered.**

Approximate credit distribution for final grade

10%	Attendance
30%	Preparedness and in-class oral participation
40%	Short written assignments
20%	Final exam

Other matters

Daily attendance is mandatory. You are expected to show up punctually for class, and, once there, to participate in discussion. This is because I believe that thinking an idea or a question through to expression will take your comprehension much further than simply sitting and listening. It will also make class much more interesting for everyone present.

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 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!**

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 10:30-12:00, Thursdays 1:30-3:00, 718 Commonwealth Avenue, Room 501A.** 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). NB: I am much better about answering email than returning calls.

CAS LG 452 • Zeitplan

Donnerstag, 15. Januar *Einleitung in den Kurs*

- James J. Sheehan "Eighteenth-Century Culture." *German History 1770-1866* [144-206]
- W.H. Bruford "The Nobility in General." *Germany in the Eighteenth Century* [45-72]
"The Influence of Political, Economic and Social Factors on Literature."
Germany in the 18th C. [291-327]

NB: Lesen Sie diese Texte bis zum 27. Januar, an welchem Tage wir eine kleine Prüfung dazu haben werden.

Dienstag, 20. Januar *Aufklärung*

Immanuel Kant "Beantwortung der Frage: Was ist Aufklärung?" [WiA 9-17]
[1784]

- Howard Caygill "Enlightenment." *A Kant Dictionary* [174-175]
- Hans Reiss "Introduction." *Kant's Political Writings* [1-15]
- Werner Schneiders *Das Zeitalter der Aufklärung* [7-12]

Donnerstag, 22. Januar *Aufklärung*

Immanuel Kant "Beantwortung der Frage: Was ist Aufklärung?" [*Fortführung*]

- Robert Wokler "Enlightenment, Continental." *Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 315-320
- Werner P. Friederich "German Enlightenment, 1730-1780." *History of German Literature* [59-72]

Dienstag, 27. Januar *Aufklärung*

Andreas Riem "Verliert oder gewinnt der Staat durch Aufklärung?" [WiA 33-6] [1788]
G. E. Lessing "Über die Wahrheit" [1777] [42-43]

Quiz zu Sheehan & Bruford (s. den 15. Januar)

Donnerstag, 29. Januar

Aufklärung

J.-J. Rousseau
[1762]

Du Contrat Social [The Social Contract]

[Book I = pp. 179-199;
Book III Chs. 1, 10, 18 = pp. 229-234, 257-260, 271-273]

J. B. Erhard

"Wie weit geht die Aufklärung?" [WiA 32-33]

[1795]

"Über das Recht des Volks zu einer Revolution" [WiA 44-48]

[1795]

Dienstag, 3. Februar

Aufklärung

Friedrich Schiller

"Über die Grenzen der Vernunft" [WiA 52-55]

[1795]

• Klaus Epstein

"The Enlightenment, the Constellation of Social Forces,
and the Rise of Conservatism." *The Genesis of German Conservatism* [29-47]

Donnerstag, 5. Februar

Empfindsamkeit

Laurence Sterne. *A Sentimental Journey through France and Italy* [Auszug]
[1768]

J. G. Jacobi

Briefe

[1771-1779]

Louise von Ziegler

Albertine von Grün

• David J. Denby "Sensibility." *Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment*, 59-65.

Dienstag, 10. Februar

Empfindsamkeit

Benedikte Naubert aus: *Heerfort und Klärchen. Etwas für empfindsame Seelen*
[1779]
Fürstin v. Gallitzin aus: *Tagebücher* [1783-1786]

Donnerstag, 12. Februar *Seelenkunde und Kriminalgeschichten*

K.P. Moritz Vorschlag zu einem Magazin einer Erfahrungs-Seelenkunde
[1782]
 aus: *Gnothi Seauton oder Magazin zur Erfahrungsseelenkunde: [1783]*
 Willensfreiheit (I. 161-2)
 Geschichte eines im frühesten Jünglingsalter intendirten Brudermords (III.
142-5)

Dienstag, 17. Februar - Monday schedule, keine Klasse

1Donnerstag, 19. Februar *Seelenkunde und Kriminalgeschichten*

A.G. Meißner aus: *Kriminalgeschichten (1784-1788)*
 Mord aus Schwärmerey [1784]
 Mörder, der sich zwingt, eine Ursache zu finden [1785]

Dienstag, 24. Februar *Seelenkunde und Kriminalgeschichten*

A.G. Meißner Ein Räuber, weil die menschliche Gesellschaft
[1784]
 ohne Schuld ihn ausstieß

• W.P. Friederich "The Storm and Stress, 1760-1785." *History of German Literature* [73-
91]

Donnerstag, 26. Februar *Anfänge des Sturm und Drang: Herder und Goethe in Strassburg*

J.G. Herder [1769]	<i>Journal meiner Reise im Jahr 1769</i>	[Auszug]	
	<i>Abhandlung über den Ursprung der Sprache</i>	[Auszug]	[1770]
	Auszug aus einem Briefwechsel über Oßian und die Lieder alter Völker	[Auszug]	[1772]
J.W. Goethe	Heidenröslein [CD]		[1772]
	Mailied [CD]		[1771]
	Neue Liebe, neues Leben [CD]		[1775]
C.F. Weisse	Der Kuß [CD]		[1758]

Dienstag, 3. März *Anfänge des Sturm und Drang: Herder und Goethe in Strassburg*

J.W. Goethe [1773]	Von deutscher Baukunst. D.M. Ervini a Steinbach. 1773
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Donnerstag, 5. März *Anfänge des Sturm und Drang: Herder und Goethe in Strassburg*

J.W. Goethe	Prometheus	[1773]
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*Dienstag, 10. März **Spring Break, keine Klasse***

*Donnerstag, 12. März **Spring Break, keine Klasse***

Dienstag, 17. März *Anfänge des Sturm und Drang: Herder und Goethe in Strassburg*

J.W. Goethe	Prometheus (<i>Fortführung</i>)	
	Ganymed	[c. 1774]
	Grenzen der Menschheit	

Donnerstag, 19. März *Kindesmord: Das typische Verbrechen des Sturm und Drang*

G.A. Bürger	Des Pfarrers Tochter von Taubenhain	[1781]
J.H. Pestalozzi	Über Gesetzgebung und Kindermord [Auszug]	[1783]
Cesare Beccaria [1764]	Dei delitti e delle pene [On Crimes and Punishments] [K. 31]	

Dienstag, 24. März	<i>Das bürgerliche Trauerspiel: Lessings Emilia Galotti</i>	
G.E. Lessing Titus Livius	<i>Emilia Galotti</i> [1. Aufzug] <i>Ab urbe condita</i> , III.44-48	[1772]
Donnerstag, 26. März	<i>Emilia Galotti</i> [2. Aufzug]	
G.E. Lessing	<i>Hamburgische Dramaturgie</i> , 14. Stück	[1767]
Dienstag, 31. März	<i>Emilia Galotti</i> [3. Aufzug]	
	Gero von Wilpert "Bürgerliches Trauerspiel." <i>Sachwörterbuch der Literatur</i>	
Donnerstag, 2. April	<i>Emilia Galotti</i> [4. Aufzug]	
Aristoteles	<i>Poetik</i> 5-11	
Dienstag, 7. April	<i>Emilia Galotti</i> [5. Aufzug]	
G.E. Lessing	Brief an Nicolai vom 13. November 1756	[1756]
Donnerstag, 9. April	<i>Werthers Leiden, im Kontext</i>	
J.W. Goethe [1774]	<i>Die Leiden des jungen Werthers</i> [Auszüge]	
	[Briefe des 10. Mai, 26. Mai, 12. August, letzte Seite des Romans]	
Dienstag, 14. April	<i>Französische Revolution und Weimarer Klassik</i>	
C.M. Wieland	"Kosmopolitische Adresse an die französische Nationalversammlung Von Eleutherius Philoceltes" [Auszug]	[1789]
Anonymus	"Wann hat eine Nation das Recht, sich eine neue Constitution	

	zu geben?" [Auszug]	[1789]
• James A. Leith	"The French Revolution." <i>Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment</i> , 80-89.	
• W.P. Friederich	"German Classicism, 1785-1805." <i>History of German Literature</i> [92-110]	
Donnerstag, 16. April	<i>Französische Revolution und Weimarer Klassik</i>	
J.W. Goethe	<i>Reineke Fuchs</i> [8. Gesang, V. 123-163]	[1793]
J.W. Goethe	<i>Hermann und Dorothea</i> [6. Gesang, V. 1-80]	[1797]
Dienstag, 21. April	<i>Französische Revolution und Weimarer Klassik</i>	
Friedrich Schiller	<i>Über die ästhetische Erziehung des Menschen (Aesthetische Briefe)</i> [Br. 1-6] [1795]	
Donnerstag, 23. April	<i>Monday schedule, keine Klasse</i>	
Dienstag, 28. April	<i>Französische Revolution und Weimarer Klassik</i>	
Friedrich Schiller	<i>Über die ästhetische Erziehung des Menschen</i> [Br. 9, 16]	
Donnerstag, 30. April	<i>Französische Revolution und Weimarer Klassik</i>	
Friedrich Schiller	<i>Über die ästhetische Erziehung des Menschen</i> [Br. 24, 26]	
Mittwoch, 6. Mai	Schlußprüfung (CAS 427, 9:00-11:00)	