DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
German 2251G (2016-17) - Märchen

Instructor: Vlad Tumanov (vtumanov@uwo.ca)
Office hours: Lectures — Tue 1:30-3:30 STVH 3101
Tutorials — Th 2:30-3:30 AHB 1B04

Course Content
The course will deal with German folk tales collected by the brothers W. & J. Grimm, as well as literary fairy tales written by F. Fouqué, L. Tieck, E.T.A. Hoffmann and W. Hauff. Attention will be given to the influence of German fairy tales on children's literature and film. Taught in English. N.B. German 2251G Tutorials: 1 hour per week in German.

Course Requirements for German 2251G
Participation 7%
Portfolio (4 assignments in German: 1=10%; 2=10%; 3=15%; 4=15%)* 50%
Vortrag-Presentation: (end of term – in tutorial class [in German]) ** 10%
Final Exam (2 hrs.: can be written in English or German) 33%

* See portfolio instructions below (upload to OWL) **See Vortrag instructions below

Texts in Sequence for lectures (Western bookstore, online or from instructor)
ISBN: 978-055382167 (published: 1857) also see online version free Amazon version
2. Tieck, L. The White Egbert in Tales From the 'Phantasus', etc. of Ludwig Tieck
ASIN: B00797XE1E. (published: 1797)
3. Fouqué, F. — Undine (publ.: 1811)
5. Hauff, W. — “Cold Heart,” “Little Muck,” “Dwarf Nosey,” “Abner the Jew” (1826-28)

Texts in Sequence for German 2251G (Online or from instructor)
1. Grimms – Kinder- und Hausmärchen
2. Tieck, L. - Der Blonde Eckbert (1797) Lookup version, Gutenberg, Free Kindlebook
3. Fouqué – Undine

Lectures
Introduction: Jan 10; Grimms: Jan 17, 24, 31, Feb 7; Tieck: Feb 7, 14; Fouqué: Feb 28, March 7, 14;
Hoffmann: March 14, 21, 28; Hauff: March 28, Apr 4.

Tutorials
Jan 5, 12, 19; 26, Feb 2, 9, 16; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Apr 6
Films: http://www.youtube.com/user/Thefairytalefanc2012/videos
Portfolio Instructions & Schedule (for each assignment pick a different fairy tale)

1 (350 words = 10%; Jan 26) - Zusammenfassung - in the present tense
Summary of a fairy tale - in your own words: do not just copy the original text

2 (350 words = 10%; Feb 16) - Anderer Blickwinkel - in the past tense
New perspective: retell a fairy tale from the perspective of any character in the story, e.g., Rumpelstiltskin tells what happened when the miller's daughter asked for his help (this is only an example)
-1st person narrative ("I did..."): from the perspective of the character in question

3 (350 words = 15%; March 16) - Alternatives Ende - in the past tense
Alternative ending for a fairy tale, e.g., Little Red Cap is on to the wolf and tricks him before he gets to grandma (this is only an example)

4 (350 words = 15%; Apr 6) - Prequel* - in the past tense
Prequel to a fairy tale: what happens before the action of the story, e.g., how did Hansel and Gretel's family fall on hard times (only an example)
*Alternative topic for Portfolio 4
(350 words) Die Guten und Bösewichte ausgetauscht
Good/bad guy switch, e.g., evil Snow White vs good Queen (only an example)

2 versions of every assignment are collected (1st version on the assigned date):
- upload to OWL under Assignments: Word Files only
- 1st version is given no grade: problems are flagged
- 2nd version is given a grade

NB: All assignments in this course are to be done in German.

Vortrag Instructions & Schedule

10-minute-long retelling or analysis of a fairy tale from our reading list: scheduled during the last 3 tutorials (March 23, 30, April 6)

Requirements:
-no reading from a prepared text
-only notes with key words/concepts allowed
-speaker presents a PPT with a vocabulary list and key concepts on PPT
-upload PPT to OWL under Assignments>Vortrag
The course aims to achieve the following:

- introduce students to the differences between German folk tales & those written by specific authors
- present German fairy tale characters, themes, motifs and structures
- draw connections between German fairy tales and the historical development of German society
- explore ways in which 19th century German fairy tales reflect key ideas of the Romantic movement
- introduce students to connections between German fairy tales and human psychology
- analyze the manner in which German fairy tales fit into the history of ideas and evolving social values
- enrich the cultural experience of students by supplementing the literary works with films
- give students in German 2251F the opportunity to read & discuss the texts in the German original

Learning Outcomes

It is expected that, upon the successful completion of the course, students will have acquired:

- familiarity with the fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm, as well as those of other major authors
- the understanding of the way in which German fairy tales reflect important questions in the psychological, philosophical, political, ethical, artistic, scientific and other domains
- the use of certain fairy tale elements as a means of social criticism
- insight into the special status of the literary fairy tale as a means of dealing with difficult issues from a safe distance
- the appreciation of the need to approach German fairy tales in the context of the norms under which they were created
- an improved ability to express oneself on these and other related topics orally (through in-class presentations) and in writing (through essays).
- (for students in German 2251F) the development and amelioration of their capacity to read, understand and discuss German fairy tales in German

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies (which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in the department's courses) are available here. It is your responsibility to understand these policies, and thus ignorance thereof cannot be used as grounds for appeal.