



## DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

### **TY2103 German, Literary Essay I, 15 credits**

Tysk litteraturvetenskaplig uppsats I, 15 högskolepoäng

*Second Cycle*

---

#### **Confirmation**

This course syllabus was confirmed by The Faculty of Arts on 2010-12-28 and was last revised on 2021-06-21 by Department of Languages and Literatures to be valid from 2022-01-17, spring semester of 2022.

*Field of education:* Arts 100%

*Department:* Department of Languages and Literatures

#### **Position in the educational system**

The course is given as a freestanding course at second cycle level.

#### *Main field of studies*

German

#### *Specialization*

A1E, Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits)

#### **Entry requirements**

For admission to the course, 90 credits of German with at least 30 credits from TY1310, German, Advanced course (30 credits), are required as well as at least 15 credits at second-cycle literary studies or the equivalent prior knowledge.

**Learning outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

*Knowledge and understanding*

- show advanced knowledge of methodology in German literary studies by critically and systematically integrating knowledge as well as analysing, assessing and handling complex literary issues also on the basis of limited information

*Competence and skills*

- demonstrate the ability to independently search for material, identify, formulate and solve problems, and delimit a subject area
- independently identify and formulate a complex and theoretically exhaustive literary issue and choose an appropriate working method so that the work can be carried out in the allocated time
- apply the correct formatting style for a scholarly work,
- present skills in discussing in groups orally and in writing earlier established knowledge that forms the thesis of the essay

*Judgement and approach*

- demonstrate an understanding of theoretical and ethical issues, e.g. how one relates to other research in one's own work and what responsibility a scholar has for his or her own research,
- show how the results of his or her own work contribute to the development of knowledge and demonstrate an understanding of what role this has in society by using

his or her knowledge and skills in different work situations both in and outside the university and

- relate critically to and take responsibility for his or her own learning.

### **Course content**

In the course, students practice how to write in a methodologically consistent way a thesis of about 25-30 pages (7500-9000 words) on a delimited topic within German literary studies. Furthermore, students practice how to orally defend their own results as well as critically analyse and discuss the scholarly works of others.

### **Form of teaching**

The teaching is conducted in the form of seminars and individual supervision.

*Language of instruction:* German and Swedish

### **Assessment**

To what extent the student has achieved the aim of the course is tested by an examiner and at a final seminar where the thesis should be defended orally. Assessment is based on individual student performance.

A student who has failed a course item is eligible for a retake exam/assignment. In connection with written assignments, supplementary assignments may be offered in order for the student to achieve a Pass grade. Such a supplementary assignment should be done within the stipulated time (normally five working days after the result has been posted). Otherwise a Fail grade will be reported.

A student who has completed an exam/assignment with a passing grade is not eligible for a retake for the purpose of receiving a higher grade. Nor may a student withdraw a test/assignment once it has been submitted for the purpose of avoiding receiving a grade for the work.

A student who has taken two exams in a course or part of a course without obtaining a pass grade is entitled to the nomination of another examiner. The student needs to contact the department for a new examiner, preferably in writing, and this should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for special educational support, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, the examiner may decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years, after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to placements and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

*If you do not finish your essay: about supervision, examination and re-registration*

1. Supervision of essays is linked to the term when a student is registered on the course for the first time. Supervision can be done individually or in a group. Hours for supervision are allotted at the course introduction for the term in question.
2. If students are unable to finish their essays within the course period, they must notify the Director of Studies as soon as possible in order to save any remaining supervision for the next course opportunity. Such a notification must be given before the course ends. If no notification is given, the supervision will be regarded as forfeited and the students only have the right to be examined in connection with later examination occasions.
3. Any remaining supervision that has been saved according to point 2 can be used during the six (6) subsequent terms from the first occasion when the student registered on the course. Saved supervision may only be used during one and the same term. After that, students only have the right to have their essays examined in connection with a re-registration on the course. A student may be given a new supervisor when the remaining supervision is used.
4. Students who have saved supervision according to point 2 and who intend to use it in connection with a later course opportunity, need to notify the Director of Studies for the subject in question no later than 20 April (before the Autumn term) or 20 October (for the Spring term). This also applies in case a student wishes to use supervision the following term after the first course opportunity.
5. To be able to use remaining supervision according to points 2-4, students must re-register on a course opportunity when the saved supervision is to be given. Students must also re-register on a course opportunity to have their essays examined.
6. In the event of unforeseen circumstances such as illness, saved supervision that a student has planned to use according to point 4, may be postponed by agreement with the Director of Studies/Study Counsellor.
7. For students who registered on the course before points 1-6 came into effect (Spring Term 2022), the right to supervision is assessed on an individual basis.

## **Grades**

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

The expected learning outcomes of the course are the minimum requirements for the three forms of knowledge (Knowledge and ability; Skills and abilities; Judgement and approach). The expected learning outcomes are the minimum requirements for a Pass grade. To pass the entire course, a student is required to have achieved all the expected learning outcomes.

For the grade Pass, it is required that the student can account for the course content that has been discussed and analysed in lectures, seminars and in the literature within the scope of the course, and show that he/she has understood the main points of the course: The student can discuss and evaluate and to a certain extent generalise the course content so as to apply it to other contexts and situations; The student can discuss these subjects both orally and in writing with a linguistic ability without making serious language errors in pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar.

To pass with distinction, it is required that the student fulfils the requirements for a Pass grade as described in the expected learning outcomes. For a Pass with distinction grade, it is also required that the student is able to generalise from a holistic perspective and more independently the acquired skills and knowledge in the course for use in new contexts and situations, i.e. a more independent ability in analysis, synthesis and concept formation; and it is also required that the student has a linguistic ability to express more abstract and complicated argumentation patterns without serious language errors regarding pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar.

For more specific assessment criteria, see the department's template for assessing theses. This is made available to the students at the beginning of the course.

## **Course evaluation**

The students are given the opportunity to make a written evaluation of the course. The results of the evaluation are published digitally.

## **Additional information**

The course TY2103, German Literary Thesis I, 15 credits, may be included as part of second-cycle courses and study programmes.

From the autumn semester 2007, this course partly replaces TY6100 German Advanced course 2, 61-80 credits, literary specialisation, and may not be included in a Master's Degree (120 credits) together with the essay component in TY6100.

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