

German 260 – Spring 2013
German Film in English: From Caligari to Fatih Akin

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Course Description and Objectives

This course covers the periods from the beginning of filmmaking in Germany, exploitation of the media during the Nazi time and reflect on different political and moral implications in East and West Germany after the end of World War II, namely how films dealt with the Holocaust, and how life under socialism and capitalism are reflected in films. German unification and its results as well as the situation of minorities in contemporary Germany will give a broad overview and its moral implications in films.

We are going to discuss not only moral implications but will also analyze film techniques such as sound, lighting, editing and camera and their role for filmmaking. You are going to write short film reviews, response papers and reflections on reading materials.

Films

All films will be available on Blackboard (you need to be on campus to watch them)

Reading Materials

Siegfried Kracauer. *From Caligari to Hitler. A Psychological History of the German Film* (Excerpts)

Lotte H. Eisner. *The Haunted Screen* (Excerpts)

Timothy J. Corrigan. *A Short Guide to Writing about Film*

Bernard Williams. *Morality: An Introduction to Ethics* (Excerpts)

Stanley Milgram: "The Perils of Obedience"

Stanley Milgram: "The Liberating Effects of Group Pressure"

Robert Jay Lifton. *The Genocidal Mentality: Nazi Holocaust and Nuclear Threat* (Excerpts)

Additional materials will be provided by the instructor.

Requirements and Grading

- Class attendance and participation (20%)
- Ungraded writing assignments (10%)
- 2 Essays (20+20%)
- Oral presentation (10%)
- Final project (20%)

Class attendance and participation

Effective learning requires active class participation at all times! Unexcused absences will result in a lowering of your semester grade. Please notify me ahead of time if you know that you have to miss class or if you were unable to watch the film.

Letter Grades

A	93-100	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69	F	0-59

Plagiarism and cheating will be handled according to the Student Code outlined in the current Student Handbook and in the statement on Academic Honesty at Moravian College.

Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Elaine Mara, assistant director of learning services for academic and disability support at 1307 Main Street, or by calling 610-861-1510. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.

Tentative schedule of assignments

Date	Homework (homework to complete before coming to class on that day)	In Class (in class)
Monday, 14. January		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Requirements and Syllabus
Wednesday, 16. January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Das Kabinett des Dr. Caligari Kracauer, p. 61-76 Eisner, p. 17-26 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: Das Kabinett des Dr. Caligari
Wednesday, 23. January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nosferatu: Eine Symphonie des Grauens Kracauer, p. 77-87 Eisner, p. 97-106 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: Nosferatu: Eine Symphonie des Grauens
Monday, 28. January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metropolis Corrigan, p. 1-14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: Metropolis
Wednesday, 30. January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The White Ribbon Corrigan, p. 14-17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: The White Ribbon
Monday, 4. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> M – Eine Stadt sucht einen Mörder Lifton, p. 8-14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: M – Eine Stadt sucht einen Mörder
Wednesday, 6. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Olympia Triumph of the Will Kracauer, p. 297-303 Eisner, p. 335-337 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: Olympia and Triumph of the Will
Monday, 11. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stalingrad Corrigan, p. 18-35 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion: Stalingrad

Wednesday, 13. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophie Scholl • Corrigan, p. 36-47 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Sophie Scholl
Monday, 18. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downfall • Lifton, p. 52-58 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Downfall
Wednesday, 20. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Murderers are among Us • Lifton, p. 99-107 • First Essay due 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: The Murderers are among Us
Monday, 25. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Marriage of Maria Braun • Lifton, p. 230-242 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: The Marriage of Maria Braun
Wednesday, 27. February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Second Track • Corrigan, p. 48-57 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: The Second Track
Monday, 11. March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angst essen Seele auf • Corrigan, p. 57-81 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Angst essen Seele auf
Wednesday, 13. March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wings of Desire • Corrigan, p. 82-108 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Wings of Desire
Monday, 18. March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baader-Meinhof-Komplex • Corrigan, p. 109-126 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Baader-Meinhof-Komplex
Wednesday, 20. March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Das Experiment • Williams, p. 82-98 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Das Experiment
Monday, 25. March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wave • Milgram: Group Pressure • Corrigan, p. 127-156 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: The Wave
Wednesday, 27. March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Run Lola Run • Second Essay due 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Run Lola Run
Monday, 1. April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Wednesday, 3. April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goodbye Lenin • Corrigan, p. 157-174 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Goodbye Lenin
Monday, 8. April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lives of Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: The Lives of Others
Wednesday, 10. April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funny Games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion: Funny Games

**Monday,
15. April**

- The Edukators

- Discussion: The Edukators

**Wednesday,
17. April**

- Head On

- Discussion: Head On

**Monday,
22. April**

- Auf der anderen Seite

- Discussion: Auf der anderen Seite

**Wednesday,
24. April**

- **Final Project due on the day of the official final exam!**

- Course Summary

Schöne Ferien!