



## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *GERMAN POETRY AFTER 1945 - 32829*

*Last update 10-07-2016*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)*

*Responsible Department: german, russian & east european studies*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: English*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Vivian Liska*

*Coordinator Email: [vivian.liska@uantwerpen.be](mailto:vivian.liska@uantwerpen.be)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesdays 10-12 am and by appointment*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Prof Vivian Liska

Course/Module description:

\*Characteristics and place of poetry in German literature  
\*Overview of the situation of poetry in Germany after 1945  
\*Debate about lyrical poetry after Auschwitz. \*The major theoretical statements about this topic (Adorno: *Erziehung nach Auschwitz*, George Steiner: *Language and Silence* et al.).  
\*The main part of the course is devoted to an analysis of individual poems by Paul Celan as well as Nelly Sachs, Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Marie Luise Kaschnitz, Ingeborg Bachmann, Robert Schindel and others.

Course/Module aims:

In depth understanding of the problematic position of German poetry in the historical, cultural and literary context of postwar Europe.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Knowledge of Postwar German Poetry and its theoretical debates  
Practice of close readings of difficult poems.

Attendance requirements(%):

90%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Seminars consisting of interactive lectures and discussions

Course/Module Content:

Introduction: What is Lyrical Poetry? (From Hegel to Heidegger)  
"Poetry after Auschwitz is barbaric" (Adorno)  
Introduction to Paul Celan  
Celan' Early Poetry  
Readings of Individual poems: Before a Candle, Death Fugue, Psalm,  
Nelly Sachs: Choirs after Midnight  
Hans Magnus Enzensberger: Visitation  
Marie Luise Kaschnitz: Zoon Politikon

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Contemporary Poets Reading Celan  
"Celan in Theory"

Required Reading:

A reader with primary and secondary literature will be made available to the students at the beginning of the course.

Additional Reading Material:

The following study material can be studied voluntarily :

- Adorno, Theodor W.. *Ob nach Auschwitz noch sich leben lasse. Ein philosophisches Lesebuch.* Herausgegeben von Rolf Tiedemann. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp, 1997.
- Meinecke, Dietlind. *Über Paul Celan.* Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp, 1978.
- Peter Horst Neumann: *Zur Lyrik Paul Celans. Eine Einführung.* Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen 1968; 2. Auflage 1990, ISBN 3-525-33567-9
- Peter Szondi: *Celan-Studien.* Hg. von Jean Bollack mit Henriette Beese, Wolfgang Fietkau, Hans-Hagen Hildebrandt, Gert Mattenklott, Senta Metz, Helen Stierlin. Suhrkamp, Frankfurt 1972
- Dietlind Meinecke (Hrsg.): *Über Paul Celan.* Suhrkamp, Frankfurt 1973
- Marlies Janz: *Vom Engagement absoluter Poesie. Zur Lyrik und Ästhetik Paul Celans.* Athenäum, Königstein 1976
- Paul Celan Text und Kritik , Heft 53/54, München 1977
- Israel Chalfen: *Paul Celan. Eine Biographie seiner Jugend,* Insel, Frankfurt 1979
- Winfried Menninghaus: *Paul Celan. Magie der Form.* Suhrkamp, Frankfurt 1980
- Karsten Hvidfelt Nielsen, Harald Pors: *Index zur Lyrik Paul Celans.* W. Fink, München 1981
- Gerhart Baumann: *Erinnerungen an Paul Celan.* Suhrkamp, Frankfurt 1986
- Hans-Georg Gadamer: *Wer bin Ich und wer bist Du? – Ein Kommentar zu Paul Celans Gedichtfolge 'Atemkristall',* Suhrkamp, Frankfurt 1986
- Otto Pöggeler: *Spur des Worts. Zur Lyrik Paul Celans.* Alber, Freiburg / München 1986, ISBN 3-495-47607-5
- Werner Hamacher, Winfried Menninghaus (Hrsg.): *Paul Celan.* Suhrkamp, Frankfurt 1988 (Reihe: Materialien)
- John Felstiner: *Paul Celan. Eine Biographie* Beck, München 1997, ISBN 3-406-42285-3
- Wolfgang Emmerich: *Paul Celan Rowohlt,* Reinbek 1999, ISBN 3-499-50397-2
- Jean Bollack: *Paul Celan. Poetik der Fremdheit.* Aus dem Franz. von Werner Wögerbauer. Zsolnay, Wien 2000, ISBN 3-552-04976-2

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Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 40 %

Presentation 40 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 20 %

Class Participation

Additional information:

*This course will be taught in English but the presentations can be given in Hebrew, German or French. The texts will be discussed in English, German and Hebrew.*