

Advanced German: Marcel Beyer's *Flughunde*

Start date 16 September 2016 **End date** 18 September 2016

Venue Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge

Tutor Paul A. Hoegger **Course code** 1617NRX011

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr
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To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Paul A. Hoegger is teacher and coordinator for German at the Language Centre of the University of Cambridge. Originally from Bern in Switzerland, Paul moved to Germany in his late teens. After a career as a ballet dancer and later as a newsreader for the German World Service (Deutsche Welle) he moved to Cambridge to study Modern and Medieval Languages at King's College Cambridge. He holds a BA in French and German and an MPhil in European Literature from the University of Cambridge and has been researching eighteenth-century German drama for his PhD project at the German department of Cambridge University. Since 2004 Paul has been working as a language supervisor for German at several colleges of Cambridge University. Since 2009 he has been setter and principal examiner for the German *Pre-U* paper at University of Cambridge International Examinations and for the last two years examiner for the *Text and Culture* paper of the Modern and Medieval Languages Tripos.

Course programme

Please ensure you read the set course text in advance and bring a copy with you. Please do not worry if you do not have the edition outlined below, as any other edition is acceptable.

Course text: Marcel Beyer, *Flughunde*, Suhrkamp Verlag, Frankfurt a. M. 1996, ISBN 978-3-5183-9126-6.

Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00 Dinner

20:30 – 22:00 **Introduction to the course and contemporary German topic**

After a short introduction to the course and a 'setting of the scene' for the weekend, we will distribute the poems to be recited on Saturday afternoon. This will be followed by a sharing and discussing of newspaper or magazine articles or other stories which have caught your eye and which deal with any aspect of German speaking culture.

22:00 Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30 Breakfast

09:00 – 10:30 **Discussion of Marcel Beyer's *Flughunde***

You will be asked to give your reactions to the novel. We will then examine Beyer's depiction of the protagonists Hermann Karnau and Helga Goebbels in more detail and discuss such issues as the probability of the plot and the author's attitude to historical reality as well as stylistic features.

10:30 Coffee

11:00 – 12:30 **Further discussion of *Flughunde* and introduction to the poems chosen for the afternoon recital.**

In this session we will look at the role played in the novel by the aural sense. We will examine the protagonist's obsessive project of mapping the human voice, and we will take a look at contemporary research on the subject, notably by the author Ernst Jünger. We will then move on to the poems distributed on Friday evening, concentrating in particular on the more challenging poems by Paul Celan and Rainer Maria Rilke.

13:00 Lunch

14:00 – 16:00 Free

16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Recital of music and poetry In this session Victoria Edge (soprano) and Timothy Jayne (piano) will perform songs thematically associated with Beyer's novel <i>Flughunde</i> . The songs will be interspersed by the reciting of poems by the other participants of the seminar.
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Viewing of the documentary <i>Im toten Winkel</i> (2002) by André Heller and Othmar Schmiderer The duration of the film is 90mins. We will therefore postpone the discussion of the film to the first session on Sunday morning.
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion
Sunday	
07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Gender roles in the Third Reich and the importance of propaganda for the Nazis. We will begin the session by discussing <i>Im toten Winkel</i> and will then move on to discuss the role assigned to women and the family under the Nazis in general and the role of Magda Goebbels and her children in particular. To this end we will watch some short documentary footage on the Goebbels family.
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	The role of language in the Third Reich and the end of the German Gothic script In this our final session we will examine how the Nazis exploited the German language to their own ends, we will look at some of their neologisms before examining what happened to the so-called gothic script under their regime.
12:45	Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To study the set text as a work of literature in the target language.
- To extend students' vocabulary and awareness of German culture and current affairs.
- To increase students' confidence when expressing themselves in the target language.

Content:

This course is designed to provide an opportunity for students to immerse themselves in German language, literature and culture. The language spoken is German throughout, and a number of sessions will be devoted to discussing and analysing the set text which should be read in advance in preparation for the course. Newspaper articles on subjects of current interest as well as audio-visual materials will be provided to practise comprehension and speaking skills. For the first session on Friday students are encouraged to bring along and to present a short news item relating to any German topic.

Presentation of the course:

As the main objective of this course is to give students ample opportunity to practise their speaking skills, the emphasis will therefore be on discussing and analysing the set text as well as newspaper articles and audio-visual material used during the seminar. Some work will be done in pairs or small groups to make the best use of the time available.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- identify the main themes and concerns of the set text.
- broaden their knowledge on various aspects of the period treated in the seminar.
- express an opinion in German about the treatment of these themes in the text.
- contribute to the discussion of other course material in the target language.
- broaden their range of vocabulary in the target language.
- increase their fluency in the target language.

Reading and resources list

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Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Paul Celan	<i>Die Gedichte</i> B. Wiedemann (Hrsg.)	Suhrkamp Verlag, Frankfurt a.M. 2003
Rainer Maria Rilke	<i>Die Gedichte</i>	Insel Verlag, Frankfurt a.M. 1986
Ernst Jünger	<i>Sprache und Körperbau</i>	Klett Verlag, Stuttgart 1979
Elke Frietsch (Hrsg.)	<i>Nationalsozialismus und Geschlecht</i>	Transcript Verlag, Bielefeld 2009
Joseph Wulf	<i>Presse und Funk im Dritten Reich</i>	Sigbert Mohn Verlag, Gütersloh 1964
Berthold Hinz u.a. (Hrsg.)	<i>Die Dekoration der Gewalt</i>	Anabas Verlag, Gießen 1979

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 08 September 2016