





Teacher(s)	Büssgen Antje ;
Language :	Deutsch
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Prerequisites	Introduction to German literature and good knowledge of German (advanced level B2+ as defined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).
Main themes	<p>The problems stemming from European colonialism and the post-colonial debates and also the more recent problem of climate change and human responsibility for it are related to the processes mentioned above.</p> <p>Reading contemporary literary texts based on themes of globalization and interculturality thereby requiring a brief theoretical introduction to these processes (globalization, intercultural dialog, climatic change, etc.) and in particular to their ethical and esthetical sides and to the role of the intellectual in society. The literary texts studied in this course (novels, plays, etc.) are therefore accompanied by theoretical and scientific texts (essays, studies) related to the respective subjects.</p>
Learning outcomes	<p><b>At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Read contemporary literary works which are based on the processes which mark our time in its economic, social, and cultural dimensions and which treat the challenges of our present and future: the globalization and creation of alliances of countries which co-operate economically and politically (Europe and the European Union, for example) and the interaction of different cultures within societies which are more and more subject to migration (intercultural dialog or clash?).</li> <li>2 Realize the importance of literary texts as the basis for the public discussion about these questions and of the self-image of the author as an intellectual in modern society.</li> </ol> <p>The theme of the course is linked to the issues covered by the course of the BAC on the civilizations of German speaking countries.</p>
Evaluation methods	Active and regulated participation in the course and oral presentation: 30%. Personal work 70%. The use of AI for writing individual textes is not permitted. In the event of a repeat, the examination consists of revising the text.
Teaching methods	Seminar. Introduction to the thematic start of the course by the teacher. Followed by a joint discussion in plenary lectures. Oral presentations by participants in the course (paper and thesis paper). Evaluation through written work.
Content	<p>20th and 21st Century Literature: Globalisation, Europeanisation and Social Change.</p> <p>The present is a time of great social transformations, with globalization and the process of European integration (EU), geopolitical shifts, migration movements, populism and the rise of anti-democratic parties. Life models and the identity concepts of Western societies, which are based on the history of European ideas, especially the Enlightenment, are challenged by these changes, and work on self-understanding is required. Fear, uncertainty and anger, but also activism, commitment and a new perspective on seemingly utopian alternative concepts, thrive in such times of crisis. For a good two decades, contemporary German-language literature has been reacting to the changes of late modernity with a wealth of literary productions. In the seminar we will read novels that deal in particular with the topics of Europe (EU), globalization and climate change. At the same time, studies by well-known sociologists (Reckwitz, Rosa, Nachtwey) will be used to relate the scientific analyses and the narratives of literature to one another. What tools do literature and literary studies provide to deal with the crises of the present, and what does sociology provide? Are the disciplines complementary? Does literature offer something that social science analysis cannot? What is its added value</p>
Inline resources	Program, bibliography and some texts in copy on Moodle.
Bibliography	Sera communiqué à la première séance du cours / mise sur moodle.
Other infos	For the selection of texts to purchase, please contact the teacher at the beginning of January 2026.

Faculty or entity in charge	ELAL
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Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Certificat universitaire en littérature	LITT9CE	5		
Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures : German, Dutch and English	GERM2M1	5		
Master [60] in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE2M1	5		
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : German, Dutch and English	GERM2M	5		
Master [120] in Modern Languages and Literatures : General	ROGE2M	5		