

Dr. Meltem Gürle  
 Course Nr.:  
 Time/Date: Mon. 12h-13:30h  
 Location:  
 Office Hours: Mon. 16.00 – 17.00h  
 Meister-Ekkehart-Str. 11, Raum 1.05  
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 WiSe 2019

**Course Title:** The Modernist Short Fiction

**Course Description:**

From Chekhov and Kafka to Joyce and Woolf, the Europeans play an important role in shaping the art of short fiction. This course, while focusing largely on the works of the European masters and the widely accepted characteristics of the modern short story, such as epiphany, fragmentation and formalist experimentalism, will occasionally visit other continents and authors less typical of the modernist canon in order to present a more diverse history of the genre.

The reading and writing assignments –linked with lectures and class discussions— are aimed at developing the students’ skills to analyze and interpret literary texts as well as familiarizing them with the elements of fiction, such as character, plot, point of view etc. Students will be expected to read the stories beforehand and come to each class prepared to discuss them.

**Syllabus**

<b>Weeks</b>	
<b>Week 1</b> <b>07/10/2019</b>	Introduction What is a short story?
<b>Week 2</b> <b>14/10/2019</b>	Character: A change in focus <i>A Simple Heart</i> by Gustave Flaubert (France)
<b>Week 3</b> <b>21/10/2019</b>	Plot: Narrative Disruption <i>A Rose for Emily</i> by William Faulkner (United States)
<b>Week 4</b> <b>28/10/2019</b>	Dialogue: Music and Melody <i>The Killers</i> by Ernest Hemingway (United States)
<b>Week 5</b> <b>04/11/2019</b>	Description vs. Narration <i>Infant Prodigy</i> by Thomas Mann (Germany)
<b>Week 6</b> <b>11/11/2019</b>	Point of view and Perspective <i>Aura</i> by Carlos Fuentes (Mexico)

<b>Week 7</b> <b>18/11/2019</b>	Impressionism <i>The Stranger</i> by Katherine Mansfield (New Zealand/England)
<b>Week 8</b> <b>25/11/2019</b>	Epiphany <i>A Painful Case</i> by James Joyce (Ireland)
<b>Week 9</b> <b>02/12/2019</b>	Symbolism <i>Oval Portrait</i> by Edgar Allan Poe (United States) <i>Tattoo</i> by Junichiro Tanizaki (Japan)
<b>Week 10</b> <b>09/12/2019</b>	Irony and Humor <i>Seven Floors</i> by Dino Buzzati (Italy) <i>Lamb to the Slaughter</i> by Roald Dahl (Norway/England)
<b>Week 11</b> <b>16/12/2019</b>	Myth and Metaphor <i>Kill me, master!</i> by Bilge Karasu (Turkey)
<b>Week 12</b> <b>23/12/2019</b>	Imagery <i>The Chrysanthemums</i> by John Steinbeck (United States)
<b>Week 13</b> <b>30/12/2019</b>	No Classes
<b>Week 14</b> <b>06/01/2020</b>	No Classes
<b>Week 15</b> <b>13/01/2020</b>	Tone and Mood <i>The Lady with the Little Dog</i> by Anton Chekhov (Russia)
<b>Week 16</b> <b>20/01/2020</b>	Theme: The Introduction of the Absurd <i>The Judgment</i> by Franz Kafka (Czech Republic)
<b>Week 17</b> <b>27/01/2020</b>	Review and Questions