

German 8200 Seminar in Literature and Literary Culture  
*Autumn 2013*

## GDR LITERATURE: "AUFBAU" AND THE CULTURAL DEBATES OF THE FIRST FIFTEEN YEARS

Prof. Fehervary

Course structure and readings will be organized around various topics involved in the building and challenges of a socialist culture. Requirements: Individual presentations and written drafts leading up to a final research paper.

~~ Transitions, reconstruction and the weight of the past: Bertolt Brecht, *Der kaukasische Kreidekreis*; Anna Seghers, "Der Mann und sein Name"; Poetry by Johannes R. Becher, Bertolt Brecht, Nelly Sachs, Inge Müller, Peter Huchel

~~ Background with sample texts pertaining to cultural institutions and cultural policies, e.g.: Kulturbund; Aufbau-Verlag; "Literaturgesellschaft"; Akademie der Künste; Arbeiter-Bauern Fakultät; J.R.Becher-Literaturinstitut Leipzig; Deutscher Schriftsteller-Verband; Berliner Ensemble; Deutsches Theater; DEFA-Film Studios Babelsberg; Formalismus-Debatte; Bitterfelder Weg; Kafka-Konferenz-Prag 1963; Zeitschriften/Zeitungen: Ost und West, Neues Deutschland, Sonntag, Neue Deutsche Literatur, Sinn und Form

~~ "Agro"-dramas and women: Erwin Strittmatter, *Katzgraben*; Heiner Müller, *Die Umsiedlerin*

~~ Individuals, collectives and industrial labor: Heiner Müller, *Der Lohndrucker* (with background on "Held der Arbeit" Hans Garbe, Claudius' novel and Brecht's "Büsching"-fragment, and a film showing of Müller's later staging at the Deutsches Theater)

~~ Revolution in Hungary 1956, Bitterfelder Weg and beyond: Uwe Johnson, *Mutmaßungen über Jakob*; Christa Wolf, *Der geteilte Himmel*; Franz Fühmann, *Das Judenauto* (excerpts); Frank Beyer, *Spur der Steine* (Film); Johannes Bobrowski, *Levins Mühle*

Prereq: 6200, or Grad standing, or permission of instructor. Repeatable to a maximum of 30 cr hrs.  
Admis Cond course.