

German Studies

Fall 2018, Volume 12, Number 1



Message from the Chair

We in German Studies at Emory are happy to bring you our 12th annual departmental newsletter. Amid various changes within the university—new President Claire Sterk, new Provost Dwight McBride, new Dean of Emory College Michael Elliott, and ongoing construction

of a new Campus Life Center—the German Studies department continues to distinguish itself in its research, teaching, and service. The faculty remains extremely productive and continues to make significant contributions in their respective fields. Perhaps most noteworthy were the publication of Assistant Professor Paul Buchholz's monograph with Northwestern University Press and the addition to the faculty of Visiting Assistant Professor Sharon Weiner.

The department's outstanding students also continue to impress in the classroom and beyond. Graduating major Lydia Rautman was selected College German Student of the Year by the Georgia chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German, two students were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, five majors or minors graduated with honors, and three graduating seniors will spend next year as English Teaching Assistants in either Germany or Austria, marking the 12th year in a row a German Studies student has spent a postgraduate year teaching English in the German-speaking world. The German Club, under Tico Han's leadership, organized a weeklong series of events supported by the German Embassy to examine the German national election last September.

The department also was delighted to be able to support its students with two different scholarships. For the 11th year in a row, the Max Kade Foundation granted the department four scholarships to support students participating in the Vienna summer program. This year also marked the third year of the Viola Westbrook Endowed Scholarship and two German Studies students, Meghan Hurley and Gabrielle Blom, were this year's recipients.

In addition to sending our own students abroad to serve as teaching assistants, the department is fortunate to also host its own Fulbright teaching assistant each year. This past year Helena Geisler, a native of Tirol, Austria, taught the one-credit conversation courses and lived in the German House, where she organized a range of exciting extracurricular events. Assisting her as well as the rest of the faculty and the students was the indispensable Terez Whatley-White, who completed his sixth year as departmental administrator this year.

Beyond these individual contributions, the department also hosted various programs and events that are described in more detail in this newsletter: the 45th consecutive summer program in Vienna; a series of guest lectures by scholars, authors, and professionals; a symposium on ecocriticism in German Studies; and a semester-long film series titled "Resisting Fascism."

In closing, we encourage you to read more about the department in the following pages, visit our website for additional information, contact us with any questions or news, or—best of all—stop by the department to visit with us. Thank you for your continued support.

Hiram Maxim
Chair and Professor

**Newsletter of the
Department of
German Studies at
Emory University**

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**Help sustain our
Vienna Program by
giving to the Westbrook
Scholarship Fund**

Faculty News



Paul Buchholz In March 2018, Paul Buchholz celebrated the publication of his monograph, *Private Anarchy: Impossible Community and the Outsider's Monologue in German Experimental Fiction*, with Northwestern University Press. At

the same time, he continued work on his next book project, "Relations of Desolation," which will examine the imagination of collectivity in narratives of ecological crisis from the 1960s onward. After conducting archival research in Vienna and Los Angeles in the summer of 2017, Buchholz presented work from this new project at the German Studies Association annual conference held in Atlanta and at the colloquium series of Cornell University's Institute for German Cultural Studies. In spring 2017 he co-organized the symposium "Ecological Archives: Histories of Environment in German Studies" with Caroline Schaumann and presented a paper stemming from his new book project there. In April 2018 he completed a new article on the prose of the West German writer Nicolas Born. The 2017–2018 academic year was an exciting one on campus as well for Buchholz, who curated Emory Cinematheque with the theme "Resisting Fascism," teaching a seminar in English with the same title.



Peter Höyng In the fall, Peter Höyng wrapped up three essays that have been in the works for a while. Topically they range from a theatrical representation of the Holocaust, to a forgotten historical figure who embodied the dialectics of the

Enlightenment in the late 18th century, to a modern rendition of Schubert's *Winterreise* ("Winter Journey") by the Austrian Nobel laureate in literature Elfriede Jelinek. Höyng's main task for the year was co-editing a forthcoming volume in which 15 prominent scholars in the field of German studies give testimony to the profession they helped make so thriving and vibrant. The senior colleagues presented their reflections at a symposium at Washington University in St. Louis last fall organized by Paul Michael Lützeler, who also serves as co-editor of the forthcoming anthology. In addition, Höyng participated for the first time in the Podium-Dialogat at

Lafayette College, Pennsylvania, where four Austrian authors presented their work and were paired with four scholars from our field, all engaging in a true dialogue.



Marianne Lancaster During the fall 2017 semester, Marianne Lancaster continued in her longtime role as coordinator of first-year German courses. This involves training and supervising the Fulbright teaching assistant as well as training new faculty

members. In addition, Lancaster served as the departmental representative to the Emory College Language Center Executive Committee, as the coordinator of the department's student peer tutors, and as the department's liaison with the PACE program. She also hosted a dinner in her home for Business German students, enjoyed serving as the outside reader for a senior honors thesis on medical imaging in the Department of Mathematics for one of her former students, and taught the class German for Reading Comprehension to graduate students in summer 2017. Marianne was on a much-deserved leave for the spring 2018 semester and spent it in Germany, Austria, and other parts of Europe.



Hiram Maxim In his fourth and final year as chairperson of the department, Hiram Maxim continued his work on two projects: a case study into the experiences of international students studying German and the examination of pedagogical frameworks for language learning and teaching in the linguistic landscape. The latter topic kept him particularly busy as he worked with students during the summer program to explore the linguistic landscape of Vienna. He published an article on that experience in *Der Deutschunterricht*, is co-editing two volumes examining language-teaching opportunities in public spaces, and taught two courses that focused on understanding public language use in the greater Atlanta area. In addition to these projects, he once again chaired the university's Environment Committee and served on the Emory College committee charged with revising the General Education Requirements. He will spend the 2018 fall semester as the Fulbright-Botstiber Visiting Professor of Austrian-American Studies at the University of Vienna and will remain in Vienna for the spring semester with the support of a Emory University Research Committee–Halle Institute International Research Award.



Caroline Schaumann Returning from a busy summer teaching at Deep Springs College in California and co-directing the Emory Vienna summer program, Caroline Schaumann developed a new upper-level course in German on *Heimat*

and continued to serve as director of undergraduate studies. She also expanded her interests in environmental topics, teaching for the first time the interdisciplinary course IDS 206: Foundations of Sustainability, serving on the steering committee for Climate@Emory, and working as director of undergraduate studies for the sustainability minor in the spring. Schaumann delivered the keynote address "Reading the News from Nature" at the annual German Studies colloquium at SUNY–Binghamton and co-organized with Paul Buchholz the symposium "Ecological Archives" at Emory. She published two chapters in peer-edited volumes, one on Alexander von Humboldt as ecologist and the other on environmental challenges in contemporary German literature. Her article "Alexander von Humboldt and the Upside of Failure," which elaborated on Humboldt's mountain climbs for a more general audience, was published in *Alpinist* magazine in spring 2018. Finally, Schaumann completed her book manuscript on the cultural history of mountaineering, which is currently under review with a major publisher.



Miriam Udel This summer, Miriam Udel put the finishing touches on her translated anthology of Yiddish children's literature that includes Yiddish literary activity for children from Eastern Europe, Israel, and the Americas. She

turns next to a follow-up project, a critical study of the children's corpus titled "Grimmer than Grimm?: Children's Literature and the Jewish 20th Century." Her work on this volume will be supported in 2018–2019 with a senior fellowship at Emory's Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry.

Sharon Weiner During her first year as a visiting assistant professor, Sharon Weiner wrote an article soon to be submitted for publication examining trauma and silence in Ingeborg Bachmann's *Malina* in light of Wittgenstein's private language argument. She also presented a paper analyzing motifs of madness and silence in Paul Celan's 1960 "Meridian" at the 2018 annual conference of

the Austrian Studies Association. Both pieces are part of a larger book project based on her dissertation, which explores the implications of Wittgenstein's private language argu-



ment for unspoken trauma through the lens of postwar Austrian literature. Sharon attended the AATG-Georgia fall workshop and German Studies Association conference, moderated a panel at the "Ecological Archives" symposium organized by

colleagues Caroline Schaumann and Paul Buchholz, and looks forward to moderating a panel on Michael Haneke's *Funny Games* at the upcoming German Studies Association conference. This year, Sharon taught five courses in the first-year language program, reached out to the German American Chamber of Commerce to help create pathways to internships and employment for majors and minors, and enjoyed offering yoga in German as an extracurricular activity. In summer 2018, she will rejoin the faculty of the Middlebury German Language School, teaching grammar and culture.

Yiddish Lebt at Emory



Jake Krakovsky 14C visited the course *Growing Up Jewish* to perform his play.

This was a lively year for Yiddish culture instruction at Emory. During the fall semester, Miriam Udel taught her popular, sustainability-focused course, *Nature and the Jewish Imagination*. She and Marshall Duke retooled their course, *Growing Up Jewish*, as an evidence-based first-year seminar. Course highlights included a live performance of a one-man show by Jake Krakovsky 14C, *Yankl on the Moon*, which originated as his senior thesis. Following their intensive, semester-long engagement with Yiddish and other children's literary traditions from the 19th and 20th centuries, students analyzed a variety of contemporary Jewish children's titles over dessert during the final course meeting.

Last spring, Yiddish for Speakers of German was offered to a group of advanced German students. The new curriculum was designed to use authentic children's materials intended for various ages and written by both pedagogues and canonical authors. Udel also offered a course on *The Changing Jewish Family*, tracing various transformations in Jewish family life in Europe, North America, and Israel over the course of the 20th century and

into the 21st. Students viewed *Menashe* (2017), the first feature-length film made in Yiddish since the Holocaust. The semester concluded with a plethora of creative final projects, including a raucous student-designed game of Yiddish Cranium and Pinterest boards of Teyve and other important characters encountered throughout the course.

Experimental Fiction and the 'Art' of Community

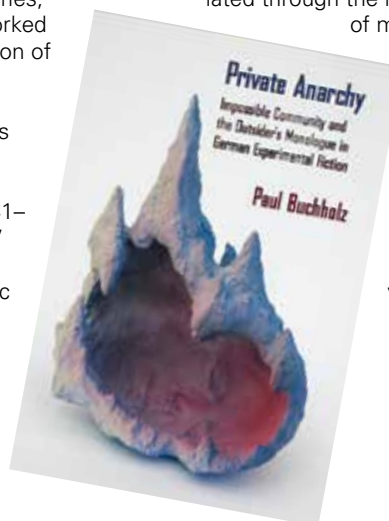
In March 2018, Northwestern University Press published Paul Buchholz's monograph, *Private Anarchy: Impossible Community and the Outsider's Monologue in German Experimental Fiction*. The book examines how German-language experimental fiction in the 20th century became a means of imagining anarchic new forms of community. In this way, these experimental writers challenged a dominant narrative about the fate of "community" in modern society. European social theorists of the late 19th and early 20th centuries such as Ferdinand Tönnies and Émile Durkheim tended to define modernity as a condition of heightened alienation, in which

traditional community is replaced by a regime of calculating, self-interested individualism. Where community once existed, a vacuum has supposedly emerged, guaranteeing our collective isolation from one another. *Private Anarchy* reconstructs an alternative intellectual history of the 19th and 20th centuries, showing how experimental writers worked against this commonsensical conception of modernity.

In their experimental prose, the writers Gustav Landauer (1870–1919), Franz Kafka (1883–1924), Thomas Bernhard (1931–1989), and Wolfgang Hilbig (1941–2007) each considered how the "void" of modern mass society could be the precondition for an alternative, anarchic form of community. Such community does not rest on any assumptions of shared origins or organic unity but rather on an experience of extreme emptiness, which blurs the boundaries of the self and enables intimacy between total strangers. In these paradoxical fictions, community is

created through the verbal form most closely associated with alienation and isolation: monologue. The monologues of antisocial characters acquire the strange ability to void the world and forge previously impossible relations. In each case, community is articulated through the narrative device of metalepsis, which

collapses the distinct narrative layers of a text and enables transgressive contact between otherwise isolated voices.



Reexamining Fascism



Paul Buchholz hosts a “Resisting Fascism” film screening.

What was fascism, and is it still possible today? How has fascism been opposed historically? In recent years, these questions have gained a new urgency in public discourse in the United States and Europe. Hoping to foster productive public dialogue on the topic, Paul Buchholz curated the Emory Cinematheque series “Resisting Fascism” for the fall 2017 semester in collaboration with the Department of Film and Media Studies, chaired by Matthew Bernstein. From late August to late November, 13 films screened on Wednesday evenings in White Hall, starting with Charlie Chaplin’s 1940 anti-Nazi classic, *The Great Dictator*.

The roster of films reflected the international and multilingual nature of early anti-fascist cinema and included several notable works created by European émigré filmmakers and actors such as Michael Curtiz’s *Casablanca* and Fritz Lang and Bertolt Brecht’s *Hangmen Also Die*. Beyond Hollywood, the series explored narratives of anti-fascist resistance created in Europe during the post-war era such as Volker Schlöndorff’s adaptation of the Günter Grass novel *The Tin Drum* and the Oscar-winning Austrian film *The Counterfeiters*, directed by Stefan Ruzowitzky.

Along with his German Studies colleagues Hiram Maxim, Peter Höyng, and Caroline Schaumann, Buchholz provided a brief introduction to each film and also facilitated post-screening Q&A sessions with the audience. From the first very screening, “Resisting Fascism” drew large and highly enthusiastic audiences from the Emory campus and the wider Atlanta community. Each screening sparked engaged discussions among the attendees (and many requested that a second series be organized right away). In conjunction with the Cinematheque, Buchholz also taught the seminar Resisting Fascism, cross-listed with Film and Media Studies, in which an equally energized group of students from across Emory engaged with the difficult histories (real and imagined) of anti-fascism in the 20th century.

Ecological Archives Symposium

From March 23–24, 2018, the Department of German Studies hosted the symposium “Ecological Archives: Histories of Environment in German Studies,” organized by professors Paul Buchholz and Caroline Schaumann. This event brought together a wide range of German studies scholars and Emory humanities faculty who engaged with questions of ecology, the environment, and materiality. The renowned scholar Hubert Zapf, professor and chair of American literature at the University of Augsburg, Germany, delivered the keynote lecture, “Cultural Ecology, the Environmental Humanities, and the Ecological Archives of Literature.”

As the urgent concerns of the 21st century have expanded the scope of humanities research, one major goal of the symposium was to present and discuss new research regarding the histories of ecological or environmental thought and to bring to light (re)discovered texts, documents, and cultural artifacts that record our contemporary ecological crisis. Participants explored various answers to the question of how these ecological perspectives have altered or expanded the archives and canons of the humanities.

This event was made possible by gracious funding from the Emory Conference Center Subvention Fund, the Hightower Speaker Fund, the Emory Office of Sustainability Initiatives, and the Emory departments of German Studies, Philosophy, History, French and Italian, Film and Media, and Religion, and the Tam Institute for Jewish Studies. A follow-up publication is currently being planned.



My Year as a Fulbright Teaching Assistant at Emory

by Helena Geisler

When I received a call from Fulbright Austria early in 2017 informing me about my placement at Emory University, I was excited about the opportunity to teach and study in the US but also clueless about what to expect. Little did I know about the fantastic year that lay ahead of me. When I arrived at the Atlanta airport, my supervisor and colleague, Marianne Lancaster, picked me up, took me shopping for necessities, and helped me get settled into my new apartment, the German House. The next day, I met Terez Whatley-White, who took me on a sightseeing tour through Decatur and Atlanta, and who throughout the year was at my side

whenever I needed him. Soon after my arrival, I met my future colleagues, who were exceptionally kind, warm, and welcoming towards me. I could not have asked for better people to work with.

Throughout my year at Emory, I taught German 101 and two conversation classes and organized events promoting German and Austrian culture. Besides these responsibilities, I was able to take courses and explore subjects related to my interests. I took classes in American studies, politics, psychology, and dance. In addition to these academic classes, I took advantage of Emory's wide range of student clubs and activities: I joined the Emory Salsa Club, participated in the International Conversation Partner Program, went on hikes with Outdoor Emory, and made new friends at the International Coffee Hour.

During my time at Emory, I was able to gain valuable teaching experience and learn about new teaching techniques. I was able to share my Austrian culture with my students and friends but also grow on a personal level and learn to better understand the country and

the American people, especially with regards to cultural differences. I was able to travel and fulfill a childhood dream, visiting the Grand Canyon. One of the most rewarding experiences was being able to advocate on behalf of the Fulbright program, for which I met members of the US Congress. This fantastic experience was made possible for me through the German Studies department at Emory, who sponsored my participation. For this—and for all the friendly interactions with colleagues, students, and friends—I am truly thankful! Max, Peter, Marianne, Terez, Sharon, Paul, Caroline, and Miriam, you'll be missed!



German Culture Club Ends Banner Year

This year was a turning point for Emory's German Culture Club (GCC) in many ways. We started with only two members from the previous year and conducted a big executive board recruitment. Our new executive officers include students from different class years and majors. They made great contributions to the club and will definitely keep bringing new blood to GCC in the future. On another note, GCC was officially approved for Recommended for Funding status by College Council. This is a big deal, because the club will be able to mount more diverse and innovative future events with funding support.

GCC again participated in the Campus Week sponsored by the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. This year's theme was "Germany: Making Choices," which featured a whole week of events focusing on the German election in September 2017. Some traditional campus events such as Wonderful Wednesday and movie night were planned, and the club also introduced new events to campus: a guest lecture with a Q&A was hosted by Thomas D. Lancaster from the



Political Science department; a post-election panel with three invited professors from the History, German Studies and Political Science departments; and a German Business World event with two guest speakers sharing their experience on conducting business in Germany and the US.

GCC worked with the Italian Club for a Wonderful Wednesday after Dark during Dooley's Week emphasizing the intercultural connection between the two clubs. In addition,

Tico Han and Danielle Koslow representing the German Culture Club at Campus Week

the club expanded its relationship with the larger Emory community by participating in college-wide activities such as Pretzel Night (sponsored by ECLC), Love Your Major Week (sponsored by German Studies), International Festival (sponsored by OSL and ISLAB) and CultureSHOCK (sponsored by College Council).

Overall, the German Culture Club had another wonderful year with great achievements. Club members are grateful for all the support from the German Studies department and general student body. The club continues to mature, and hopefully it will bring more meaningful chances for cultural experiences to the campus next year. Photos of our events can be found on the German Culture Club's Facebook page.

Student News

On April 23, 2018, the department held its annual awards ceremony and recognized a range of accomplishments by the many talented students studying German at Emory.

Emily Pasieka (Niles, IL) and **Annabel Zhang** (Dongcheng, China) shared the award for outstanding achievement by a first-year German student, while **Anna Sirous** (Moscow, Russia) received the *Sprachpreis* for second-year German.

First-year German student **Ramona Li** (Beijing, China), second-year German student **Cana McGhee** (Decatur, GA), and third-year German student **Paul Weinschenker** (Atlanta) were recognized for their outstanding performance in the inaugural college-wide poetry recitation contest.



Paul Weinschenker reciting Goethe's ballad "Erklärung"

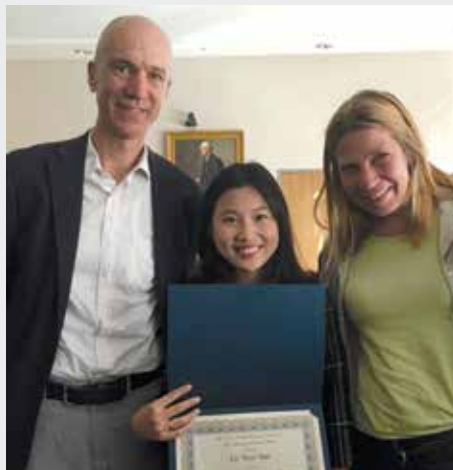
Vienna Summer Program participants **Jake Thompson** (Flowery Branch, GA), **Erduana Omeragic** (Grayson, GA), **Holden Ringer** (Dallas, TX), and **Jason Ginnis** (Chapel Hill, NC) were recognized as this year's recipients of the Max Kade Scholarship. This is the 11th year in a row the Max Kade Foundation has supported these generous scholarships for the Vienna summer program.



Graduating German majors **Zoey Zhang**, **Jacqueline Teed**, **Chebon Ryan**, **Tico Han**, and **Lydia Rautman**

Graduating seniors **Tico Han** (Shanghai, China) and **Lydia Rautman** (Columbia, MO) were recognized for being inducted into the prestigious honor society Phi Beta Kappa, and five students (**Jeff Haylon**, **Lydia Rautman**, **Amy Tang**, **Jacqueline Teed**, and **Zoey Zhang**) were cited for successfully completing and defending their honor's theses.

Finally, two students were singled out for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the department. Graduating senior **Tico Han** received the Emory College Language Center Award for Excellence in German for her superior departmental citizenship and leadership role as president of



Tico Han receiving her ECLC Award with Professors **Maxim** and **Schaumann**

the German Club. Graduating senior **Lydia Rautman** received the department's Award for Excellence for her outstanding class work, her peer tutoring, and her continued engagement with the department, its faculty, and its students. Following the ceremony, students and faculty moved outside to celebrate the end of the academic year at the annual spring Grillfest that once again was locally sourced and generated zero waste.

Alumni News

We are always delighted to hear from our graduates.

Sarah Hesse 17C is completed her year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Maintal, Germany, while **Hannah Rose Blakeley** 16C completed her year as a US teaching assistant in Vienna, Austria, and will enroll in the PhD program in art history at Princeton in the fall.

Two graduates have recently started new positions: **Abby Kahn** 09C as a linguistic analyst for the NSA and **Alex Vinson** 05Ox 07C as a tenure-track faculty member at the University of Michigan medical school.

Two other graduates just completed their respective graduate programs: **Kyle Adams** 16C in the Emory-Georgia Tech joint engineering program and **Jessica Simon** 16C in the master's in public health program at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health.

Meanwhile, **Mimi Hacking** 16C will begin graduate work when she enrolls in the PhD program in German at the University of Pennsylvania in August 2018.

Editors

Hiram Maxim
Terez Whatley-White
Peter Höyng

Send all inquiries to:

Department of German Studies
Emory University
Modern Languages Building
532 Kilgo Circle
Atlanta GA 30322
T 404.727.6439; F 404.727.2903

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Overview of Departmental Events, 2017–2018

In addition to the teaching and research that took place during the 2017–2018 academic year, the department also was home to several events that drew audiences from far and wide. Early in the fall semester, the department hosted a guest lecture by Mark Gelber, director of the Center for Austrian and German Studies at Ben-Gurion University, who spoke on the global Stefan Zweig renaissance. Following the national elections in Germany in late September, the German Studies Roundtable convened as a panel consisting of professors Thomas Lancaster (political science), Astrid Eckert (history), and our own Hiram Maxim to discuss the implications of the election results. Later in the semester, Christoph Rückel, senior partner in the law firm Rückel & Kollegen and a longtime friend of the department, spoke about his work on the legal team responsible for prosecuting aging Nazis in German courts. The fall semester also saw the annual conference of the German Studies Association come to

town, at which professors Buchholz, Höyng, and Schaumann all delivered papers.

The spring semester was equally busy, with two significant scholarly meetings. In February, the annual Southeast German Studies Workshop took place on campus with Paul Buchholz, Peter Höyng, and Hiram Maxim all serving as moderators on panels. The following month, Caroline Schaumann and Paul Buchholz co-organized the symposium Ecological Archives, which brought in scholars from across the country as well as noted environmental humanist Hubert Zapf from the University of Augsburg for the keynote address. The spring semester also saw the inaugural gatherings of PRIMARY, a voluntary meeting of humanities faculty organized by Miriam Udel and Paul Buchholz to discuss a primary text over lunch. Udel led the first gathering with a discussion of Eliezer Shteynbarg's verse fable "The Slaughtering Knife and the Saw," and Buchholz oversaw the

second gathering's discussion of *Humbolts Reise* by Franz Krahberger. For the final event of the semester, Emory's own Jamie Melton, professor of history, delivered the fifth annual Maximilian Aue Memorial Lecture on his new



Professor Jamie Melton

book project, which explores the collaboration between Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and his librettist, Lorenzo Da Ponte, the Viennese world that nurtured it, and the distinctively "social" poetics of the Mozart-Da Ponte stage.

Innovative Courses 2017–2018

Great German Books

Associate Professor Peter Höyng taught the first-year seminar Great German Books as part of the voluntary core curriculum in Emory College that studies "great works of the Western intellectual tradition and the philosophical and historical foundations of the political community." He selected texts through the lens of the dominant religious belief in Europe, Christianity. While these canonical texts might not primarily address Christian beliefs, institutions, and/or practices, various aspects of religious life nevertheless inform the underlying foundation for each of them. Among the different authors studied were such key figures as Luther, Goethe, Marx, Nietzsche, Freud, and Kafka. The course also qualified as an evidence-based seminar as part of the university's Quality Enhancement Plan to heighten students' awareness about how to gather, evaluate, and use evidence in support of an argument.

German in Georgia

In the fall 2017 semester, Hiram Maxim taught a senior seminar that examined the role and presence of German in the state of Georgia. The course began with an in-depth study of the Salzburger immigrants to New Ebenezer, Georgia, in the 18th century. Students were able to read diaries in Emory's Pitts Library by the Salzburger about their voyage across the Atlantic and their settle-

ment of New Ebenezer along the Savannah River. The unit culminated in an overnight trip to New Ebenezer to view the settlement. The course also focused on Holocaust survivors who now reside in Georgia and included a class visit by members of Eternal Life-Hemshech. A final unit examined the current German business presence in Georgia and concluded with student presentations on different German companies operating in Atlanta. Students also interviewed members of the Emory faculty who emigrated from the German-speaking world and investigated other examples of German in Georgia, such as the German art holdings in the Carlos Museum on campus, the German-influenced town of Helen, Georgia, and the German-born Georgia artist Steffen Thomas. Information can be found on the student-produced website <https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/germaninga/>.

Economic Mysteries

In the 2018 spring semester, Assistant Professor Paul Buchholz offered a new special topics course in German Studies titled Economic Mysteries. The seminar considered the diverse modes of economic thought developed in German-language literature and philosophy of the 19th and 20th centuries as well as in cinema of the 21st century. Students focused in particular on critical thinkers and creative writers who pointed to

the irrational, fantastic, or even "mystical" workings of modern economic systems that are supposed to function in rational, scientifically predictable ways. Readings included the novellas *Des Lebens Überfluß* by Ludwig Tieck and *Die Judenbuche* by Anette von Droste-Hülshoff, theoretical writings by Karl Marx, and Ingeborg Bachmann's radio play *Der gute Gott von Manhattan*.

Heimat

In spring 2018, Associate Professor Caroline Schaumann taught a new senior seminar on *Heimat*. Combining notions of homeland with feelings of rootedness and a sense of belonging, *Heimat* is a concept that has been at the center of cultural engagements in the German-speaking world since the late 18th century. The seminar explored the idea of *Heimat* as a specific locale, as a sense of belonging crossing borders and nations, and as planet Earth. The class discussed constructions of *Heimat* in urban and provincial life (Annett Gröschner, *Heimatkunde Berlin* [2010]), in narratives of immigrants and refugees (Ilija Trojanow, *Nach der Flucht* [2017]), and in depictions of our threatened planet (Christa Wolf, *Störfall: Nachrichten eines Tages* [1987]). In addition to writing analytical essays, students completed two creative projects on their own *Heimat* and *Heimat* language, ranging from websites, collages, essays, and translations to 3-D simulations.

Emory University
Department of German Studies
Modern Languages Building
532 Kilgo Circle
Atlanta GA 30322

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- German Studies Scholarly Enrichment Fund
- The Westbrook Endowed Scholarship Fund

Thank you for your support.