

Call for Papers

The graduate students of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas (Graduate Association of German Students – GAGS) are announcing a call for papers for their 9th annual interdisciplinary conference to be held on

March 11th-12th, 2005 in Lawrence, Kansas.

Abstracts from graduate students and scholars from the humanities and social sciences are welcome. This year, we encourage submissions on the topic of

Wandel durch die Zeit

How do changes occur as time elapses?

How do historical events influence linguistic, literary and political phenomena?

In what way do characteristics of a certain period determine developments in the above-mentioned fields?

Any German or German-related topic is welcome. Possible topics may include, but are not limited to, critical examinations of the following:

➤ *in the area of philology and linguistics:*

- what are diachronic developments of the language and what are the significant linguistic phenomena that gave rise to these, how did a particular language influence German and why
- what was the role of society, specific events (such as social upheavals), or people in these changes, what were attempts to prevent (or stimulate) language change and what was their result, what was the perception of German as a language within Europe and the world; how and why has it changed over time, how has the language changed as a result of migration to other language areas, how has the perception of specific dialects (or the dialects themselves) changed over time,

- what are some synchronic changes induced by different factors – such as the current influence of English on German
- what are pragmatic changes in contemporary German, how is Swiss German or Austrian German developing differently, has the reputation of Swiss German or Austrian German changed, which social or political factors or events are currently influencing the development or change of German or its reputation (in light of current transatlantic tension, for instance), what influence have other factors (such as the fall of the Berlin Wall) had on the use of the language
 - what are some changes in the way the language is studied over time, what are some currently developing theories in linguistics or applied linguistics to the study of German, what are current trends in translation theory as it pertains particularly to the translation from and to German, ...
- *in the area of literature or film studies:*
- which historic (political or social) changes have made a lasting impression on the literary or cinematic life of an era – e.g. the end of the GDR, a particular war or series of wars, migration, etc., how have these events either positively or negatively influenced the work of a particular author/filmmaker or how are they reflected within a particular work/film or series of works/films, how have the authors/filmmakers in turn influenced their times, what has been the reception of a particular German/Austrian/Swiss author and how has it changed over time (GDR vs. post-GDR, pre-WWII vs. post-WWII, pre-emigration vs. post-emigration,...) both within Germany as well as in a larger context, how do German-speaking authors or filmmakers depict the changing relations to other German-speaking nations, how do depictions of Germany differ from those of Austria or Switzerland, what are observable trends in literary theory and how are they tied in with the times,...
- *in the area of history and social or political sciences:*
- how have particular historic events influenced German/Austrian/Swiss society over time, what are current influences on German society and what are its

possibly emerging trends, how has the enlargement of the EU influenced German political or social policies, how have transatlantic relations shaped and influenced German politics or German society, how has the role of Germany within Europe as well as within the world changed over time (or its relation to a particular country), what are observable current trends and where might they lead Germany and the Germans, ...

The keynote address will be delivered by **Wolfgang Brenner**, writer and journalist (Berlin.) (www.brennerhome.de)

Presentations will be about 20 minutes in length, in German or in English. The proceedings are also going to be published in our first annual online journal: *Proceedings from GAGS 9*.

Please submit a 500-word abstract by **January 31st, 2005** to Viktoria Bagi at bagiv@ku.edu

Notification on the status of submissions will be sent out by February 15th, 2005.

Hope to see you in Lawrence!

your GAGS-committee
www.ku.edu/~germanic