Posting of Abstracts [Modify Forum]  [Remove Forum]
Written Assignment 3:
Post the abstract for your final project.
Enter your abstract as a new thread in this forum; use your name and "abstract" as the title.

Post your comments under the appropriate threads!
[ 141 Messages ]
[ All read ]

Schnitzler + Film (Clair & Steph)  MEALY, CLAIR H  Thu Oct 31 2002 2:12 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & S...)  RICHTER, DANIELA M  Sun Nov 3 2002 2:01 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & S...)  KELLER-LALLY, ANN  Sun Nov 3 2002 11:00 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & S...)  HOLT, LEE W  Tue Nov 5 2002 11:35 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & S...)  TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN  Fri Nov 8 2002 6:23 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & S...)  BOYD, KEVIN J  Sun Nov 10 2002 4:25 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & S...)  WILLIAMSON, JASON  Mon Nov 11 2002 12:36 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & S...)  ARENS, KATHERINE M  Mon Nov 11 2002 7:57 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair ...  ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E  Tue Dec 3 2002 11:10 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair ...  WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S  Mon Nov 11 2002 11:31 pm
Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair ...  WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S  Mon Nov 11 2002 11:35 pm

Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: T...  RICHTER, DANIELA M  Sun Nov 3 2002 3:20 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  KELLER-LALLY, ANN  Sun Nov 3 2002 11:15 pm
Re:Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  TURNER, STEPHANIE S  Tue Nov 5 2002 9:31 am
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  SMITH, VON R  Wed Nov 6 2002 3:23 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  HOLT, LEE W  Wed Nov 6 2002 5:48 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN  Fri Nov 8 2002 6:55 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  BOYD, KEVIN J  Sun Nov 10 2002 4:50 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  WILLIAMSON, JASON  Mon Nov 11 2002 12:52 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appear...  ARENS, KATHERINE M  Mon Nov 11 2002 8:07 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appe...WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S  Mon Nov 11 2002 11:40 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appe...  MEALY, CLAIR H  Mon Nov 11 2002 11:41 pm
Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appe...  ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E  Tue Dec 3 2002 11:17 pm

Ann's Course Proposal  KELLER-LALLY, ANN  Sun Nov 3 2002 10:45 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  TURNER, STEPHANIE S  Tue Nov 5 2002 9:24 am
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  KELLER-LALLY, ANN  Thu Nov 7 2002 8:45 am
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  HOLT, LEE W  Wed Nov 6 2002 12:05 am
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  KELLER-LALLY, ANN  Thu Nov 7 2002 8:49 am
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN  Fri Nov 8 2002 9:11 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  RICHTER, DANIELA M  Sun Nov 10 2002 3:01 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  BOYD, KEVIN J  Sun Nov 10 2002 5:09 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  KELLER-LALLY, ANN  Mon Nov 11 2002 8:13 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  WILLIAMSON, JASON  Mon Nov 11 2002 1:20 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  ARENS, KATHERINE M  Mon Nov 11 2002 8:15 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S  Mon Nov 11 2002 11:44 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  MEALY, CLAIR H  Mon Nov 11 2002 11:49 pm
Re: Ann's Course Proposal  ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E  Wed Dec 4 2002 12:43 am

Lee Holt Abstract  HOLT, LEE W  Mon Nov 4 2002 7:44 pm
Re: Lee Holt Abstract  KELLER-LALLY, ANN  Mon Nov 4 2002 9:59 pm
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 39 times  Date: Thu Oct 31 2002 2:12 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & Steph)

[Remove Forum]
Stephanie Turner
Clair Mealy
GER 382N
Written Assignment III
Course Description

Arthur Schnitzler: Literature and Film
Objective: To explore a variety of the literary works of Arthur Schnitzler and their relationship to the cinematic interpretations of these works.

Students will read a variety of Schnitzler's works and explore them as reflections of and responses to the many forces effecting the life and culture in Vienna at the turn of the 19th century and beyond. This course also involves a look into how the minds of "Hollywood" and film have portrayed these works on screen. By investigating the impact of the text on the film, we will discuss how the film is (or is not) aligned with, parallels, manipulates, or otherwise alters the text. We will explore the modern impact of the text by taking a look at public reception of the works in their time as well as their film counterparts. Was it popular during its time? Was it revolutionary, and if so, how?

We will establish the time period and the prevailing themes of Fin de Siècle Vienna. After setting the foundation during our first weeks of class (by way of period films and background readings), we will explore how this particular atmosphere influenced Schnitzler. We will look at specific examples from the works, i.e. characters, settings, plots, and correlate them to the events of the day. The class will consist of readings, from Schnitzler and additional material, discussions, and screenings of the cinematic representations.

Grading criteria will consist of written assignments; attendance, participation, quizzes, and a final paper (10 pages). For the final paper the student will be asked to select a work that has not been made into a film and explain how such a film could be produced, i.e. character outline, plot development, setting, historical context, background, and focus. Other paper topics are possible and must be approved and discussed with instructor and fellow students in the course. The final paper may be written in groups of two to three students.

*****
This sounds like a really interesting course to take. There are only two things that I would specify. I was wondering which level of course this is, i.e. graduate or undergraduate level. Then, being somewhat knowledgeable about the period and Schnitzler's work, I would like to know at least one or two of the works you are going to deal with in the course of your class. Especially if you deal with undergrads you could mention "Eyes Wide Shut" just to give them something that they are more or less familiar with, even though they might not know anything about Schnitzler himself.

Well, that's all from me. I think your course proposal is a really neat idea.

Clair and Stephanie,

I want to take your course! I have a couple of suggestions for you:

1. It might be interesting to also include Schnitzler's background (i.e. family, personal history) in addition to the elements of Fin de Siecle society that influenced him.

2. Do you want the course to count as a significant writing component?

Bis bald! - Ann

Your class looks great! A few suggestions:

1) List the films and the literature you wish to cover. Since this is a GRC course, also make sure that English translations exist (and are in print - i.e., can be ordered from publisher).

2) How do you plan to grade the final project (which, by the way, is a fantastic idea)? Should students do a single scene, an entire screenplay, etc.?

3) How do you market this class to students? I assume you would target RTF and German majors (or those curious about film), but how do you get the exposure necessary to ensure enrollments?
4) I think Dr. Moeller does his film screenings on one night every few weeks - that way class time can be spent doing discussion rather than watching films (check with Sebastian - he has designed a film course for Fall 2003).

5) If you were to team-teach the class, how would the work be divided between the two of you?

I think your course sounds great. Most of these questions will be answered when you list your texts and films, so I look forward to seeing them!

[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 12 times Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 6:23 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU> Subject: Re: Schnitzler + Film (Clair & Steph)
[Remove Forum]
The course looks great. I like in particular the comparisons between the films and the works as they are written. I would like to say, that it might be a good idea to alternate between viewing the film first and reading the work first, since a totally unbiased reading/viewing is no longer possible after approaching the work the first time. It would be interesting to explore how reading the work can structure the approach to the film as well. Just speaking from experience, there are movies which are good in their own right, but a prior reading of the work they are based on can lead to enormous bias and a need to test the faithfulness of the adaptation. Which is another excellent question, how does one determine the faithfulness of an adaptation? In order to be faithful must it bring as many plot elements to the table as possible or can it adapt the mood and the emotions without the particulars?

As far as the final project is concerned (which I agree is a really cool project), I would consider allowing the students to focus on either character outline, plot development, setting, historical context, background, or focus (or a combination of the above). From my own experience the character outline and plot development alone can occupy 10 pages (and that is of a relatively short story, with only one plot line). Also, it might be a good idea to introduce the students to methods of reading and interpreting films in general (traditional plot structure, the hero's journey model, multiple plot-lines, mise-en-scene etc.). I think this would better prepare them for a final project where they have to make all those decisions themselves.

Just a side question. Is the university sensitive about the content of films to be shown for classes? I am thinking in particular of Eyes Wide Shut. There was a great deal of controversy over the overt sexual content of the orgy scene, to put it bluntly. 10-30 seconds of footage had to be cut to avoid receiving an NC-17 rating. It might be a good idea to warn the students about objectionable content and to allow for an alternate film for those who feel they can't watch something they object to.

Overall the course looks awesome, something students can enjoy and engage with. Good job.

[Post response]
Hello Clair and Steph!

The course looks really good. Especially clever is your plan to explore the time to which the works are bound (including "public reception"). With "Traumnovelle" and "Eyes wide shut" alone you could spend a great amount of time. I believe that Kubric's film takes place in present day New York and that he felt the novella adapted well to its corresponding social class in the modern American city.

I do have a few questions regarding the final paper:

1) Will the students have to choose a text from the Fin de Siecle Vienna era? If so, does it have to be Schnitzler? I think it a good idea for the continuity of the course theme (the main one).

2) How will the students write this final paper? This might be a difficult task for them. How will you guide them in their writing?

I look forward to reading more about your project!

I really like this topic, too. I agree with Erin that it might not be a bad idea to alternate between reading first and viewing first. About how many works and films are we dealing with?

My only significant question is, to what degree will you investigate the styles of the directors, or is this even important in light of your course objectives? Will you investigate those elements that a particular director introduces but are not found in the original text? By elements I mean something as simple as a recurring motif or as significant as an entire scene or main character.

I like the final assignment. They get to use what they know and be creative at the same time. Keep in mind that the RTF people will probably include more detailed information about lighting, camera angles, etc, i.e. a jargon that the lit people might not be as familiar with.
Hi,
note the common elements in everyone's comments: the quiet question of what the focus really is.
- Schnitzler's Vienna
- reading and interpreting in historical context
- "reading" films and tracing what the process of adaptation is.

Any one is possible with the materials suggested, but you'll need to watch out how the learning is structured for the students (which students, which level, with what build-up to what outcome?).

This is the next step in evolving your idea and reediting your course advertising.
Well done-
katie

---

Great course!
Since I have little to no experience interpreting film versus texts, perhaps it would be helpful to go through how to critique a film, especially how it is different from a written text.

---

I'd like to read some quotations from Ehrenfels' writing that appear to reflect or comment on current events (1859-1932).

---

Whoops, sorry! I posted Susan's comment to your section. Here's your comment: Which books or articles will students be offered in order to ensure that they will have a common minimum of understanding of what is involved in film-making?
Keeping Up Appearances: The Public Image of the Marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth

The married life of Emperor Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth is still a major “cash cow” of the Kitsch industry today. The products offered to satisfy the mainly German and Austrian Sissi-addicted public include a wide range of products like movies, coffee mugs, postcards, and glossy coffee table books.

In my paper I want to show the origins and development of the image of Sissi and Franz Joseph as a happily wedded couple. I am going to focus on the lifetime of Elisabeth and the time immediately following her death. My assessment of the representation of their marriage will begin with what was referred to by the Austrian public as “Österreichs glücklichste Stunde”, the wedding of Franz Joseph I. and Wittelsbach Princess. From there on I will trace it, following the birth of their three children, Elisabeth’s numerous travels and absences from court to the assassination of Elisabeth in the end. I want to find out how the court’s public relations machinery managed to project a general positive image of this marriage, which was after all rather mismatched. I also want to compare this way of dealing with family scandals to the way in which the British royal family has managed, more or less successfully, the various affairs and éclat’s in their family.

Hi Daniela!

I’m looking forward to hearing more about your topic. It will be interesting to see what parallels you find using the British royal family in comparison. Have you decided what type of sources you will consult to draw conclusions about the "propoganda" regarding their marriage? Did either Franz Joseph or Sissi keep a diary of some sort or do we still have any of their personal correspondence with friends or family?
Date: Tue Nov 5 2002 9:31 am  
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE S <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM>  
Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth  

Hallo! Your paper sounds very interesting. I know little about the topic, so I am probably not the best one to make suggestions. You might already plan to discuss this but maybe you could add something how their marriage compared with other Hapsburg marriages? Why was theirs different? Was it different? Did the specific time period affect how the marriage was handled? Just some thoughts.

***  

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts  
Read 14 times  
Date: Wed Nov 6 2002 3:23 pm  
Author: SMITH, VON R <DREARASH@HOTMAIL.COM>  
Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth  

Hi Daniela! Interesting topic. I think your paper is likely to be especially important because you use the word "éclat" in your abstract.

:-)  

But seriously: one thing comes to mind when I read your statement about the Habsburg PR machine projecting a "positive image" of the marriage. I'd be interested in some discussion of how said PR machine decided what "positive image" to project and why. Was it just damage control, or was there an actual positive program to the image they tried to convey? At what audience was the "positive image" aimed? What were their values, and to what extent were these culture-specific or culturally marked (i.e. Catholic vs. Protestant or Jewish or Orthodox, German vs. Magyar vs. Slavic, etc.)? That might put part of the contrast with the British Royal family into more relief.

Since there were many different potential audiences for these "positive images", were they ever variously tailored to these different audiences? Were Franz and Sissi marketed differently in any way to Ruthenes than to Germans or Magyars or Czechs? To the Liberal Bourgeois Conspiracy than to the rural nobility or small-town artisans, etc.?

A complete discussion of all this would probably take you outside the scope of your original paper, but, hey, you have other papers and eventually whole books to write someday, right?

Von  

***  

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts  
Read 14 times  
Date: Wed Nov 6 2002 5:48 pm  
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  
Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth  

Your topic sounds interesting. I know that you voiced some doubts about it in class, so I'll be brief.
1) Are you going to compare representation (i.e., kitschy goods, official representations of the family) and reality (i.e., observations by critics like Kraus, actual events) of the marriage? Or are you comparing the Austrian and English royal families? I couldn't tell which angle you were headed towards.

2) Have you considered to what extent the court's PR machinery actually influenced the public's perception? Perhaps the public generated the mythical image of the happy family on their own; anyway, it seems like there might be a two-way street here.

I'm not too knowledgeable about the royal families, but I think it could be a cool topic. When I read the first part about material objects acting as representations of the family, I thought of Benjamin's 'Kunstwerk' essay; perhaps his theory of reproducibility as denigration of art could be used to approach the material history of Habsburg PR. That's a total shot in the dark (I'm not even sure I understand Benjamin most of the time), but hey - we're just brainstorming here, aren't we?

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 11 times  Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 6:55 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU> Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth
[Remove Forum]
To be honest, I know very little about this topic, so I apologize in advance if I sound stupid or this is totally off-base.

The idealization of Elisabeth and Franz Joseph's marriage (in addition to reminding me of the British royal family), reminds me of the common American perception of Jackie and John Kennedy (the White House as Camelot, etc.), which also has a certain kitsch value even today. It would be an interesting comparison to the Hapsburgs because the American myth is not as sustained by government control of the information. In that sense, it can be an interesting question, as Lee noted, to what extent does the public desire and participate in these myths. Is there some basic need to have feel good myths and to maintain them at all costs against reality, while at the same time basing them on real people? To what extent does this image shape the actions of the married couple themselves, does there image begin to define them in public as well? Perhaps another interesting question could be that this touches is whether it is ever possible for someone to be out of the public spotlight, I mean was it difficult for the King and Queen to get away for awhile?

I hope that helps. The topic sounds really interesting, good luck.
[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 8 times  Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 4:50 pm
Author: BOYD, KEVIN J <KBOYD@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth
[Remove Forum]
Hi Daniela!
What a great idea for a course!

I can relate to your topic because the success of this kitsch industry you speak of does relate to Magris' thesis about the existence of a Habsburg myth in Austrian literature. You might want to look at Magris' approach to this myth for insight if you think it is important for your course to look at Sissi's image after her death.

Questions...

Do you think that the British royal family learned something by the way the Habsburgs dealt with Sissi's image (or could it be the Habsburg royal family taking note of British practices when it comes to public perception)? I think it is a cool idea to look at the British example to enhance the overall importance of how well the Habsburg court dealt with the public.

[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 8 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 12:52 pm
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth

I, too, really liked your proposal. My only questions are:

1. Was Sissi's most alluring feature to the public her beauty, intelligence, charm, or all three? Did her beauty, i.e. her physical presence, play a role at all? I believe the Hungarians were also quite fond of her, so now I'm wondering to what degree the Austrians capitalized on this to promote harmony between the two halves of the empire.

2. Like you said, this kitsch industry appeals to Germans as well as Austrians. Why is that? And were the Germans as enamoured of her one hundred years ago as they are now? To what degree do Germans fuel this industry?

Looks really good!

[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 8 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 8:07 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth

Hi,
great comments in this thread!!
Note that there are recurring themes (also to be accommodated in what you really are doing, checking the biographies):

Notes on questions:

1. Beauty, intelligence, charm.

2. Historical context.


5. Mythological aspects.
-what is your data? The real marriage, the mechanisms of marriage, the publicity mechanisms? You've decided on biographies, but there still remains a question of how much real history you need to deal with, and which history (representations of the Victorian woman? Court protocol in Habsburg Europe? etc.)

-what is your method? That is, are you analyzing representations of realities? Norbert Elias' Court Society would help you with the won version; the Burke, Fabrication of Louis XIV with the other.

-what is your goal? Analogies to other royals? It'll impact where you go with the whole. Very cool idea that everyone wants to read!

-katie

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 8 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:40 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth

[Remove Forum]

Nice title. Speaking of the British royal family, I imagine you are thinking (among others) about Queen Victoria's favorite employee from Scotland and how her children and her government ministers reacted to her obvious infatuation with him: another need to keep up appearances.

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 8 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:41 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth

[Remove Forum]

Daniela:

I particularly like this topic. Mainly, the reasons why this topic is interesting - that it is not very well covered as well as being a sexy topic - is also going to make it hard to research and cover - so, to echo Lee's comments, narrowing focus (so you don't kill yourself over this paper) is going to be pretty important.

To throw out another idea or focus point, what are other women royalty up to at this time? How are their attitudes and actions being covered in the "press" and by society?

I also like the comparison to Brit. royalty as well as our own versions here in the states.

well done -
clair

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 4 times
Date: Tue Dec 3 2002 11:17 pm
Author: ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E <SENGELHARDT11@HOTMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re:
Abstract: Keeping up Appearances: The public image of the marriage of Franz Joseph I. and Elisabeth

Are there magazines like Royalty and Majesty and Hello! and OK that focus on Austrian royals? I know that sometimes those magazines do include sections on royals outside of England. Great topic!

DEPARTMENT OF GERMANIC STUDIES

GRC 301: The Biology of “Difference” in 19th Century Germanic Culture (Unique #TBA)

Instructor: Ann M. Keller-Lally
Semester: Spring, 2004
Class Meetings: TBA
Cross Listings: TBA

**This course contains a substantial writing component which fulfills part of the Basic Education Requirement in writing.**

DESCRIPTION:

During the 19th Century, many changes occurred in the field of science. Darwin’s theories planted seeds for the development of physical anthropology, Social Darwinism and scientific experimentation to determine biological traits characterizing specific groups. As a result, biological typing became a means for establishing physical “difference” within human populations.

This course is designed to introduce students to the development of biological typing in the 19th century with particular attention given to developments within Germanic societies. We will begin with a unit exploring relevant scientific developments in medicine and biology in order to contextualize later readings. In subsequent units, we will explore gender, racial, criminal and insanity typing through assigned readings, class discussions and examples in film and literature.

Students will have the opportunity to explore a specific topic of interest related to the course content by developing a long paper. Students will be guided through the research process with systematic instructor and peer feedback.

REQUIRED TEXTS: Course Packet available from ...TBA
ASSIGNMENTS:

I. Homework Assignments
A. 4 one-page précis (Objective: how to analyze a literary text for approach and content)
B. Homework exercises to accompany assigned readings and prepare for class discussion
C. Peer feedback assignments

II. Bibliographic Search (Objective: how to research the plausibility of a topic and correctly cite sources). Due in week 4 of the course.

III. Paper Proposal outlining topic treatment in the short and long papers (Objective: Ensuring logical progression in a paper topic). Topics must be approved by the instructor prior to submitting the paper proposal. Due in week 6 of the course.

IV. Short Paper (5-7pp) – First version of the final paper. Due in week 10 of the course.

V. Long Paper (12pp) – Rewritten and expanded version of the short paper. Due at the final class meeting of the semester.

GRADING:
Unit Quizzes 10%
Class Participation and Homework Assignments 20%
Short Paper 30%
(Includes Bibliographic Search 5% and Paper Proposal 5%)
Long Paper 40%

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 14 times  Date: Tue Nov 5 2002 9:24 am
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM>  Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal
[Remove Forum]
What a cool class. My only question is if you plan on discussing Austria's role specifically or if that is included in your discussion of German societies in general?
[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 18 times
Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 8:45 am
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal
[Remove Forum]
The plan is to integrate as much as possible of how biological typing developed in Austria, but I needed to leave it a bit broad in order to bring in the important contributions and groundlaying information.

Thanks for the question. It makes me think that I need to be more explicit about including Austria! - Ann
Really cool course proposal. It’s not evident which texts you plan to use for your course packet, so I thought I might suggest some:

1) Sander Gilman, Difference and Pathology - which you already know.
2) Donna Haraway, Primate Visions - her introduction provides an interesting peek into the ways in which scientific narratives are shaped, and how the prejudices of their authors (those impeccably empirical scientists) leak into the narratives.
3) Peter Harrison, Protestantism, the Bible, and the Rise of the Natural Sciences - perhaps a little earlier than you want to look at (early modern science), but is also an excellent study of how science happens in certain times and places.
4) Anson Rabinbach, The Human Motor - deals with the metaphor of the body as a machine, with some interesting tidbits on racial biology.
5) Anne Harrington, Reenchedanted Science - covers the idea of holism in German culture from the Wilhelmine Era to Hitler - this is a really great survey of different perspectives that scientists used to approach biology.
6) Michel Foucault, The Birth of the Clinic - the first few pages would provide a great summary of how language interferes with the visualization of the body; Foucault describes the differences between a really early surgeon (18th century?) and a recent surgeon, who perform the same operation but describe it in utterly different ways.
7) There’s also some recent literature out there about cyborgs, or the meshing of man and machine, a theme which pops up in ETA Hoffmann’s Der Sandmann as well as films like Metropolis. Might be worth an MLA search - I know Donna Haraway’s written something called the Cyborg Manifesto, but I think it’s a bit too crazy for undergrads.
8) For insanity, Foucault’s Madness and Civilization could be excerpted - maybe also Birth of the Clinic.

I think breaking up the paper(s) into discrete, manageable components was great, and your inclusion of a quick research methods primer will go a long way towards making the papers more interesting (for you and the students).

Cool stuff! May I audit? :-)

Wow! (My mouth is hanging open!) These are great suggestions. Thanks so much for the help!

P.S. You may audit the course if you promise not to be the discipline problem you normally are in class.
Wow! (My mouth is hanging open!) These are great suggestions. Thanks so much for the help!

P.S. You may audit the course if you promise not to be the discipline problem you normally are in class.

This course proposal is really well put together and I really don't have anything I can anything constructive that the other comments haven't already said. I was going to mention Foucault, but somebody beat me to it.

I too would like to say that I think that the writing component is really well handled and that it will really give undergrad students insight into the process of writing a larger research paper. It is a great introduction to large scale writing, an introduction I wish I would have had as an undergrad.

Ann,
This sounds like a really interesting class. There is only one thing I would add to your description of the class: What was the effect of the biological typing? I would maybe give a bit of information on that, especially since this is a class offered to undergrads, who probably never ever even heard of this issue. You could maybe mention that biological typing played an important role in anti-Semitism. Something that is familiar to the students you want to attract. Otherwise I think your course proposal offers good detailed information on what is expected in this class. Maybe mentioning one or two of the authors you will be looking at might also help.

Hi Ann!
I can’t wait to read more about your course and see what the list of required reading texts will be! Your topic is a provocative one that will surely facilitate diverse in-class discussions.

As far as your methodology is concerned, your course looks solid. What will happen though if a student comes across something after week 10 that he or she feels they would rather write about? Or will the precis be their guides to choosing a topic for the short paper?
--Kevin

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 10 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 8:13 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Ann’s Course Proposal

[Remove Forum]
Kevin - The point about coming across a topic after week 10 is well taken. Sometimes, I have a difficult time nailing down a topic if I know very little before taking the course. I need to re-evaluate this. Maybe I need to go over, in general, the topics that will be discussed in the beginning week or two of the course, just to give them an idea of the different things that are available.
Vielen Dank -Ann

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 8 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 1:20 pm
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Ann’s Course Proposal

[Remove Forum]
Hi Ann.

This is cool. The course description is both thorough and concise. I agree with your grade distribution. My only questions are:

1. Who are some of the authors and scientists whose texts you will be examining?

2. You mentioned viewing films, but since the films you view will be from the 20th century, how will you incorporate their images? For example, in a non-Germanic context, you would have to point out that Whale’s (?) image of Frankenstein was probably more Hollywood than it was Mary Shelly. Maybe that’s oversimplifying, but it’s just a thought.

-Jason

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 10 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 8:15 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal

HI

Yes, Ann found out that attachments don't work well on Blackboard!
The thread is (rightfully) in awe of Ann's approach to pedagogy - the class set-up is
really solid (with a few issues brought up for further consideration).
But also think about what the message of the course is:
-an area of science?
-how science shows national identity?
-comparisons of national versions?
-the politics of representation? (film versus originals, stereotyping, etc)
This will figure into how the materials are sequenced and ultimately chosen.
And good to consider whether undergraduates need primary and secondary texts, history, as comprehension basis.

We ALL want to take this course!
-katie

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 8 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:44 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal

Earlier I suggested that you use the film JEDER FUER SICH UND GOTT GEGEN ALLE
(except that I referred to it simply as KASPAR, but a fellow student inserted the correct
title for me). My next suggestions is somewhat like Kevin's. I believe that students
should be strongly urged to take their short and long paper topic(s) from one of the four
texts about which they wrote a precis for the first four weeks of class.

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 7 times Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:49 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIRE H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal

Ann!

Brava brava!

Well put together and solid framework. I learned a great deal from your handouts how
Steph and I could improve our course descrit. Good flow and logical assignments.

I, too, think that showing the impact of this typing (and eventual obsession) is v.
important. What made this atmosphere ripe for such atrocious racism, etc.?

Great -
Clair

[Post response]
In the 19th century, America and the European nations strove mightily to reach the North Pole. Nationalism, scientific curiosity, and a yearning for adventure led the expedition leaders and their crews into tragedy and success. Of the several expeditions that set sail in the mid- to late-19th century, I have chosen to focus on the narratives of four expeditions: the British Captain G.F. Lyon (1821), the American Dr. Isaac Hayes (1860-61), the German Karl Koldewey of the first German North Pole Expedition (1868), and Julius von Payer of the Austro-Hungarian North Pole Expedition (1872-74).

I hope to show how Julius von Payer’s un-nationalistic account is marked as an Austrian text, differing from its nationalistic English, American, and German counterparts. Lyon, Hayes and Koldewey’s narratives of their voyages describe their crews in terms of their national and ethnic identity. Payer, however, describes the qualities of his crew in supra-national terms, marking their identities as neither national or ethnic. Their descriptions of key moments also reveal the differences between Payer’s Austrian narrative and the others; while Payer attributes their survival to the discipline and will of his multi-national crew, the other narratives appeal to nationalist characteristics as the saving graces of their expeditions.

Through close readings of Lyon, Hayes, Koldewey and Payer’s texts, I hope to provide a case study that illuminates how Austrian nationalism was constructed less along national and ethnic categories than along corporatist strategies of representation. Austria’s un-nationalistic approach to voyages of discovery and scientific research led to the initiation of the First International Polar Year of 1882/83 and provided a model upon which further international scientific cooperation could be based; without the supra-national corporatism prevalent in Austria at the end of the 19th century, such endeavors would not have been set in motion.
Wow Lee! This sounds really interesting. I can't think of any questions or suggestions at this point. -Ann

P.S. Happy Birthday!

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 14 times
Date: Tue Nov 5 2002 9:19 am
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE S <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract

[Remove Forum]
Wow, Lee, this sounds really interesting. I am also a fan of literature regarding polar/arctic/everest-type expeditions. Is it at all possible to look at other texts written by Austrians of the same period to see if they are exhibiting the same types of a supra-national mentality. It might be tough to find texts that are in the same vein - meaning adventure/exploration type texts, so it is just an idea.

Great idea.

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 15 times
Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 8:53 am
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract

[Remove Forum]
Along Stephanie's line...

Are you going to look at public reception/perception of these expeditions? It might be interesting to see if there was any "nationalistic" popular sentiment going on, or if the focus found in the team (i.e.: competence vs. national) is also reflected in popular sentiment.

Over and Out -Ann

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 14 times
Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 10:52 am
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract

[Remove Forum]
I had thought of that too, but time and materials availability would terminally limit such a study. I've got four 350+ page accounts of polar exploration, several articles, and these things took weeks to get from ILS. We don't have that many newspapers / journals from 1872-74, but I am planning on looking at the Times of London index for those years, just to see what the English thought of the Austro-Hungarian and German expeditions.
In short, I'm a bit concerned that, if I introduce too much public reception research, it might get in the way of focussing on the narratives themselves. Your point, however, is well taken - should I go further with this paper, I really do need to look at public reaction.

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times
Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 12:01 pm
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE S <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
This topic would make for a cool Master's report.
[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 12 times
Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 10:15 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
This looks like a really interesting topic. I am curious, though, if you will be dealing with the motivation and results for the various expeditions. You allude to it in the abstract, and you mentioned in class that America, Britain, and Germany were headed to the pole primarily to be the first nation there, but were there other, less nationalistic reasons?

It would also be interesting to know who sponsored the expeditions and the relationship of the chronicler to the expedition (ie what was the role of the person who wrote the chronic in the team, I take it that most of them were the expedition leaders, but that isn't entirely clear). I apologize if this sounds cheeky, but is it possible that the nationalism of the narrative was a necessary (or was considered a necessary) part of getting the money and supplies together? Also, just a reference from our German nationalism class, was the German expedition led by a Prussian?

Again, it looks like a great topic to explore. Good luck with the Fraktur ;-) 
[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 3:08 pm
Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM> Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
Lee,
Your topic sounds really fascinating. Unfortunately I don't know anything about the subject matter as such. Couldn't point you to any other works you should include in your preparations. One thing however might be interesting, to see if there are any documents reflecting the Germans' and British' view on the Austrian expedition. Did they recognize the Austrian lack of nationalistic prejudice and if yes, what was their reaction? I don't know if documents like this exist or are easy to come by, I just thought it might be interesting to see if this difference in attitude was already recognized at the time of the expedition.

***
Hi Lee!

You have to show me one of these travel narratives, they must be really cool to read!

I have many questions!

1). What is the criteria for your selection of these four narratives? Why these four and not any other four? How many Austrian expeditions were there in this time period you selected? Why did you choose the one you did, because it was the least "nationalistic," because it was the most detailed account of an Austrian expedition to the Pole, or the only one?

2) I think it is a good idea to do a close reading of these texts, so maybe you might want to consider a few things: How politicized are these narratives? I am assuming that these exploration leaders were writing for an audience, but were they in any way poetic? What other things did these men write--do you have any other texts to look by these men, especially Payer, which will give you a better idea as to their political ties?

3) The corporatism analogy for Austrian exploration is a good one. But what was the overall success of the mission with respect to the overall political backing that the expedition from Austria-Hungary had? Did Austria support the mission more than Hungary?

Good luck!

--Kevin

***

Hi,

The abstract that teaches all of us how WONDERFUL popular culture materials are, but also how difficult they are to work with.

Recurring issues:
-what the boundaries for the data are -- why this book, where it sits vis-a-vis others, who it spoke to, the general historical setting and significance?
-what can one interpret out of such a text? That is, what is really being said, within the exact historical locus of speaking you're identifying?
-how to keep this under control! Lots of stuff, no clear norms of when one is startd or finished.
To go where no man has gone before!!
well done,
katie
[Post response]
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:52 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
Does corporatism have the paradoxical effect of leading a captain to describe his crew as individuals? Is that what you meant by supra-national terms? Please give me an example of a supra-national term and of a corporatist strategy of representation. To write about the discipline and will of a crew doesn't sound to me like seeing the crew as individuals, unless wide variations in discipline and will are specifically described.
[Post response]
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 7 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:57 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
Dang - awesome topic, Lee:

Way way cool.

I'd be really interested in some of the background of the recruiting process on all of the missions. Additionally, how are the missions handled today - what has changed and has Austria stuck by their function over form approach?

What other missions - to non-frozen places - were going on at the time by each country and how/if did they differ?

Super cool.
clair
[Post response]
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 8 times
Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 11:37 am
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
Hi Lee,

It does sound really interesting and I'm already ready to read it. I am also curious how the Austrian public received this expedition, as well as who financed it.
I'm also curious about Payer's own ethnicity. Was he a "pure" German Austrian or "mixed"? And as others have alluded to, what role did politics play in his documentation?

It sounds really fresh and original. Nice work.

Jason
[Post response]
***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 7 times Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 11:52 am
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
This isn't a criticism, but I had to tell you when I first saw your title it made me think of "Muppets on Ice" or the Ice Follies. Now I'm imagining Sissi, Freud, and Franz Josef all skating to the delight of children of all ages. Thanks for contributing to this awful mental picture!
[Post response]
***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 4 times
Date: Wed Dec 4 2002 12:54 am
Author: ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E <SENGELHARDT11@HOTMAIL.COM> Subject: Re: Lee Holt Abstract
[Remove Forum]
What a great topic!
I have nothing really to contribute, except a few history questions, I don't know the answer to. When did Antartica become split up among different nations? Was the north pole split up politically at the same time? Was the Artic always viewed as "international waters" are? I know nothing about the politics of this space. I now need to go look it all up!
[Post response]
*******************************************************************************

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 28 times Date: Tue Nov 5 2002 11:40 am
Author: SMITH, VON R <DREARASH@HOTMAIL.COM> Subject: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice
[Remove Forum]
Von Smith
GER 382N Made in Austria

The Austrian School and the Problem of Economic and Social Justice

The “Austrian School” of economics refers to the activities of some of the most influential economic theorists of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, especially of Carl Menger and Ludwig von Mises. In discussions of the history of economic theory, Austrian School economics is sometimes lumped together with the ideas of English neoclassical theorists such as Stanley Jevons and Alfred Marshall, and at other discussions is presented in sharp contrast with them.
In my paper I am going to take the latter view, especially with regards to the theory of human wants. I will demonstrate that one of the most distinctive features of Menger’s theory, which in turn influenced von Mises, is that it is constructed mainly on a theory of individual *action* as the governing concept of economic behavior, whereas in Marshall and Jevons the most important concept is that of human wants and needs. I will show how one effect of focusing on the notion of wants is that the resulting theories tend to yield absolutist claims about what wants and needs humans actually have, which in turn leads to normative concepts of minimal needs and social justice, of the “right” distribution of goods and wealth among groups of people, etc., which then tend to become norms of economic policy.

I will contrast this characterization of human needs with that of Menger, who does not proceed from any a priori notions of what these needs actually are or how they operate; a want for him simply is anything that can motivate human behavior; categorical claims about people needing or wanting any particular X have no prior validity in Menger’s model. I will show how other Austrian school economists, especially Ludwig von Mises, used Menger’s concept of human economic action to construct an explicit rejection of the validity of any absolutist claims about human needs, and with it a rejection of normative claims about social justice or entitlements they saw as predicated upon them.

************
Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 16 times Date: Tue Nov 5 2002 11:48 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice
[Remove Forum]
Economics is sooo boring...

But Austrian Economics is exciting!

Another text I thought you might like is Friedrich Hayek’s Road to Serfdom. It’s being touted nowadays by free-market enthusiasts who believe that individual wants, viewed as a collective force, are capable of constituting feasible, sustainable economic (and therefore social) systems. What I personally find problematic with Hayek’s (and I assume von Mises’) thesis is its rather cavalier dismissal of the losers in a free market; if you can’t compete, or if you lose, then hey - the free market just took care of you by dumping you into the street.

On a more academic note - your thesis appears to be sound, yet I wonder what its implications are. I’d like to see how the split between the Austrian School and the English Neoclassical School was 1) significant at the time for conceptions of social justice and economic policy or 2) how it has played into modern political movements and economic theory (Cato Institute and other think tanks professing free-market theory). Another question that popped up - how strong is the link between economic theory / praxis and the legal systems establishing individual rights (i.e., the basis of social justice? Is there a strong, direct link, or is the relation a bit more tenuous?

Perhaps a bit rambling, but it is late, and your topic raises all sorts of interesting questions. Pro forma economics may be boring, but your paper will most likely be very informative.
Hi Von! I think it is very interesting that these Austrian economists focused on action as opposed to desire. Will you be including a discussion of how this approach might reflect the Zeitgeist/mentality of Austians. It might be interesting, because it appears to fit with what we discussed at the beginning of class - namely more of an emphasis on "getting the job done."

I have no suggestions for you as far as conferences are concerned, but this topic sounds like it might have multiple opportunities for presentation (Econ, History, Austria).

Aaaaaargh!!! Not the Z-word!!!

Seriously, though, Zeitgeist-spotting could be a bit problematic when writing about something that starts in the 1870s in Austria-Hungary and goes through the 1950s in the U.S. Remember that Mises, Hayek, Schumpeter et al. weren't like Wittgenstein, sitting alone in cottages spinning out answers to Continental questions no American economist cares about. The nature of their discipline required that they be more topical than that, or at least that they pretend to be.

Like Wittgenstein, however, I do think they had some characteristically Austrian baggage that Anglo-American economists who are admire them commonly ignore or misunderstand, and since their ideas have been appropriated by libertarian and libertarian-conservative thinkers about public policy, I think there is a danger of losing this Austrian context from which many of their ideas derive.

As for where Menger and the older generation might have gotten *their* ideas about individuals as agents who occasionally need stuff as opposed to needy patients who occasionally do stuff, I am still trying to decide how I want to characterize this, and this requires delving into a little more Entstehungsgeschichte then I've done to date.
Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

Von

I don't know a grat deal about economics so pardon me if my response sounds a bit lacking. A few thoughts from an economic theorist neophyte.

If Mises and Menger saw individual action as the governing concept of economic behavior, how did they see this playing out in Austria? I guess what I mean is were they theorizing in a vacuum (and from your response to Ann, they apparently were not) or did they see economics in Austria (or Europe) as reflective of their theories. And, if so, how so? Did the economic conditions in England versus Austria make for the difference in theory of the two groups. I guess as a newbie I need a frame of reference because my brain cannot compute economic theory very well. Practical applications and specific examples work best for me.

Your abstract seems sound. What exactly is your methodology - will you contrast/compare texts from the two groups?

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 13 times Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 10:45 pm Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU> Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

Von

I again have to plead my ignorance of even the most rudimentary knowledge of economics. That being said, I still think that this topic would be interesting (perhaps because this form of economics really seems somewhat less involved with the numbers and jargon that I am used to seeing as characteristics of economics as it is presented to the public).

The only question I have is as a result not about the economics. I was just curious as to why the two schools of thought had been lumped together in the first place (other than being theories of human wants and needs), that is the process that brings together the Austrian economics of 1870s with Anglo-American economics of 1950s in the textbooks. Is it simply that both examine wants and needs? It would be interesting to know the history of the textbooks that put the two groups together.

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 10 times Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 3:18 pm Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM> Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

Von

I think this is a comprehensive introduction not only to your paper topic but also to the perspective you are taking on the subject matter and your methodology of conducting research in this topic. What I, as someone not knowledgeable in this field, would be interested in is to see what kind of difference this egalitarian outlook on society and its wants and needs makes in the economic institutions in Austria or in the way they are
run. Is this kind of economic perspective still present in Austria's economics today?
Those are just some things that came to my very un-economic mind when reading your abstract. Good luck!

[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 10 times
Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 7:22 pm
Author: BOYD, KEVIN J <KJBOYD@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

Well now, your topic is by no means unapproachable! I found it very interesting, especially your excursion into the realm of social justice.

I however can only offer a few remarks and questions!

1) With regard to Menger's theory, has it been contested that his thought is not constructed mainly on a theory of individual action? I ask this because you express the need for clarification.

2) Your theorists, excluding Menger to an extent, talk of human wants and needs and I can't help but think how arbitrary such an economic view is when theory is concerned. Basic human needs (e.g. nutrition) is one thing to assume globally, but to discuss wants is to be a bit Eurocentric.

3) Economic policy and social justice cannot be separated discussions, right? Does Menger or von Mises do anything but reject normanitive claims purported by English neoclassical theorists (and why on earth are they neoclassical?)? Do they offer any suggestions for dialogue on the two issues?

Hope some of this is useful, good luck!

--Kevin

***
[Go to the previous message] [Go to the following message]
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 1:36 pm
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

Hi,

Everyone else has more or less asked my questions, but I was wondering about the backgrounds of Menger and Mises, i.e. what schools influenced them early on? Did they alter any of their theories over time? Did they ever enter politics, and were any Austrian politicians influenced by them?

You could definitely submit this to a variety of conferences, but which one would be more appealing to you personally, Economics, History or Germanistik?
I'm intrigued by the specific reasons these theorists ascribe to actions vs. needs.

Jason

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 12 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 8:33 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

[Remove Forum]

Hi,
the abstract that proves that we were all wrong in avoiding the useful arts in undergraduate school!! Economics are our friends.

Note the recurring questions in the thread:
- what is the reference to context that will be pursued?
- why should the reader care? Why is noticing what you are taking about important?
- important to whom? suggestions include: as textbooks, as withon national contexts, etc.
- how you are going to go about what you are asserting is the case?
Comparing/contrasting themes, or what?

The fine art of turning a great abstract into an even greater paper. And convert us to economics . . .

-katie

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 8 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:56 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>  Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

[Remove Forum]

It must be hard to talk about motivation, if most choices and decisions are overdetermined. Can Menger be oversimplifying?

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 7 times  Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 12:04 am
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Austrian School Economics and the Problem of Needs and Justice

[Remove Forum]

von -

first of all, im pretty impressed with your knowledge about all this scary economics stuff. i know zero and i think that may be something to consider. there seem to be the lovers and the fraidys when it comes to this topic and perhaps adding some contemporary economic impact information could *buy* you a bigger audience = public in more journals. you have a chance to get really multi-discpl. and i think that could be really facinating.
My paper deals with the novel Radetzkymarsch (1932) by Joseph Roth. Disillusioned by the fall of the Monarchy and the increasingly unstable European political climate, Roth construes in Radetzkymarsch the history of Austria-Hungary as a tale of decay. In his well-known study Der habsburgische Mythos in der österreichischen Literatur, Claudio Magris groups Roth together with other writers of the “Zwischenkriegszeit” who are, says Magris, trapped by the phenomenon of the Habsburg monarchy. For the purpose of my paper it is necessary to look at Magris’ assertion that the Habsburg myth reaches its most important phase once the Monarchy fell and Austrian writers began to lament the lost paradise of pre-war stability. Although Magris presents many important insights, his analysis implies that Austrian writers—like Roth—turn away from reality (by choosing prewar subject matter) without specifying whether it was a political, economic, or psychological reality that they eluded.

As a journalist, Joseph Roth was very active politically. In my paper I will stress that the entire post-WWI experience of Roth’s Austria cannot be analyzed without considering the rise and fall of the liberal politics in the Austrian Empire from 1848 to 1914 (one of Magris’ significant omissions). In my paper I will also illustrate that, although the years 1918-1938 did not provide imaginative material for Roth’s novels, the historical turning points of this period do provide insight to the real-world political climate in which he lived and imagined the retrospectively idealized realm found in Radetzkymarsch. Turning points of particular importance for the first Austrian republic include the economic crisis of 1924/1925; the burning down of the Vienna Law Courts in 1927; the “Hirtenberger Waffenaffäre” in January of 1933 (the discovery of the transport of Italian guns through Austria to Hungary, which put Austria in the middle of an international crisis) and the
“Bürgerkrieg” of February 1934, which resulted in the abolition of all social democratic institutions, whether political or social, and the arrest of countless members of the party.

The goal of my paper is not to force the importance of the reality Magris implies that Roth shuns, but instead to use this data to better define Roth’s entirely outward and backward glance in Radetzkymarsch. I will stress the importance of considering Roth’s passion for the fable-like Habsburg Empire as a belated one. Nothing in Roth’s early writings, while living under Habsburg rule, reflects any special consideration or affection for the dynasty or its institutions. In Roth’s writings the Habsburg Monarchy did not become a subject of longing until he wrote Radetzkymarsch, a decade after the “Donaumonarchie” ceased to exist. This decade will be viewed in my paper as an incubation period of literary inspiration for Roth.

***
Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 17 times  Date: Wed Nov 6 2002 5:58 pm  
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd's Abstract 
[Remove Forum] 
I think you've got some really good ideas here, but you might want to tighten up the argument a bit. I just read it twice, and I'm not exactly sure what you're doing with Magris, Roth, and the political history of the First Republic.

Maybe it would simplify things to consider Roth's work as a case study of Magris' 'Habsburg Myth' theory. In what ways does Roth's work confirm or deny Magris' thesis? Does Roth buy into the myth all the way, or does he realize that he's creating an artificial past that is better than the actual past? What is the effect on the reader (after reading Die Buste des Kaisers, which I thought was excellent, even I felt nostalgia for Austria - how did Roth do that to an American born in the 1970s?)?

Something else that just hit me - how does Roth's take on pre-WWI Austria compare with a Weimar Germany author's pre-WWI conception of Germany? Is Magris' Habsburg Myth a purely Austrian, or perhaps also German, phenomenon? Maybe that comparative approach could keep you out of the morass of Austrian politics. :-)
[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 13 times  Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 5:51 am  
Author: SMITH, VON R <DREARASH@HOTMAIL.COM>  Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd's Abstract 
[Remove Forum] 
As much as I hate to write "me, too" posts, I have to second Lee here. After reading your abstract, I'm still unclear as to whether or not you actually disagree with Magris, or simply think his thesis needs to be clarified and refined.

One important point, of course, would be to describe the political and social realities that Roth and others actually *did* face, and try to explore in what way contemporary writers might have reacted to it. Perhaps there is more commentary on aspects of contemporary reality than Magris and others have realized up until now. ISTM that by concentrating on the history of Austrian liberalism you are playing Magris' game, and implicitly buying into his thesis that Roth is dealing mainly in escapism and nostalgia.
Hi Kevin!

I like your idea of using Roth to illustrate that there was more to the literature of that period than just nostalgia. I found one part of your abstract confusing:

"In my paper I will also illustrate that, although the years 1918-1938 did not provide imaginative material for Roth’s novels, the historical turning points of this period do provide insight to the real-world political climate in which he lived and imagined the retrospectively idealized realm found in Radetzkymarsch."

I think it would be a mistake to assume that nothing in Austrian history or politics between 1918-1938 (bwz 1932 when the work was written) provided material for Roth's novel. Aren’t you actually claiming the opposite?

-Ann

Hi, Kevin.

Looks really interesting. I would like to ride Ann's coattails, though, in reference to her question about the interwar years. I was also a little confused on that assertion.

Also be alert about passive voice (although this is the pot calling the kettle black), e.g. your last sentence.

Have fun with it!

Wow! It seems like you could have headed into a huge paper here, taking issue with Magriss' work, since it covers such a large and active period of Austria literature. I think it is a good idea to focus on one author, who both represents the period and may very well prove an exception to Magriss' thesis.
There are really only two points that I was a little unclear on

1) Does Roth really evince raw nostalgia for the days of the empire? In your abstract, it seems that the answer is both yes and no. Is that a result of the tension between the nostalgia (toward the end of the abstract) and the criticism (in Roth's biographical sketch) in Roth's work? Is it purely nostalgia, or is that nostalgia thematized as part of the work (i.e. he is implicitly condemning the nostalgia for the era by demonstrating its decline)? Which leads me into my next question.

2) You mention that the interwar period did not provide imaginative material for Roth's work (by which I assume you mean the historical content of the novel is drawn from previous eras, is that correct?), but that the events of the period are nonetheless part of Roth's purpose in writing the work. I have not actually read the work, but I was wondering if there is a possibility that Roth, like many others, used the history of different eras or places to comment on his own (this goes back deep into history, Tacitus did it with Germania, Brecht does it with basically all of his work). If your goal is to take apart Magriss' thesis, it seems to me that this is a promising path to take in order to demonstrate, that far from retreating from reality, Roth was commenting on his own society, but that this has been overlooked (a la de Man's work with Rousseau and other deconstructions of myths and traditions surrounding well known literary works).

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times
Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 3:26 pm
Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd's Abstract
[Remove Forum]
Kevin,

Your paper abstract sounds really interesting. The question of what made everybody fall into that depressive nostalgia also came to my mind when reading Roth. I just have one comment or rather a question on your paper. In your examination of historical reality vs. nostalgia in the literature of that time, are you focusing on Roth specifically, thereby drawing material out of his biography or are you focusing on the general mood of the Austrian writers of that time? Does he actually differ from other Austrian writers of that period? Those are just a few thoughts that came to my mind.

[Post response]

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 11 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 8:41 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd's Abstract
[Remove Forum]
Hi,
the unanimous thread!
Great idea, but everyone wants to know what your focus really will be:
-the Magris premise (is he fair to Roth, shoving him in that box of nostalgia?)
-the Roth question (is he nostalgic? What's his politics?)
or
-the cultural politics question on writers' reception (what's going on here, with a 30s
author and a 70s/80s critic BOTH looking backwards to a state that never existed in this
form, and purveying it to audiences in very different places?)
The answer to that question will tell what kinds of research are required!
Very neat topic that will require deft execution!
-katie

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 8 times
Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 12:00 am
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd's Abstract
So, you're reading Roth through Magris and reading Magris through Roth? Why not?
What relationship does Roth's "tale of decay" have to sociological and historical theories
of decay and degeneration in the 19th and 20th centuries?

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 8 times
Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 12:11 am
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd's Abstract
KEV:

shew! huge topic!
my main impression from last tuesday and again from reading the abstract, is that you
seem to have at least two, and perhaps three, very hefty foci. im unclear how you plan
to sew magris, roth, austira into a 20 paper. magris OR roth alone could be the 20
pager. trouble is, this is all interesting and what to leave out is always tricky. so, maybe -
and dont hit me or anything - do a precis and see where it gets you.

- clair

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 5 times Date: Wed Dec 4 2002 1:23 am
Author: ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E <SENGELHARDT11@HOTMAIL.COM> Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd's Abstract
i am fascinated with both authors. Perhaps you could read them as having competing
worldviews. Roth may really be cheering the values of aristocracy on, whereas Magris
may be commited to the values of democracy. Just defining how they each view the role
of the aristocracy would cement your paper for me.

********************************************************
In the Ego and the Id, Freud establishes the narrative of the ego, the id, and the super-ego and their manifestations in a person (patient). The ego, the id, and the super-ego represent conscious and unconscious desires, drives and experiences. A striking feature of the interaction of the ego, the id, and the super-ego is that the narrative that results is allegorical. The ego, the id, and the super-ego are all constructs that Freud developed in order to explain the pathology and experiences of consciousness (not just in patients). Thus, the ego identifies with the object chosen by the id, in order to force itself on the id as a love object. This is Freud's explanation of a change in personal characteristics that a person undergoes when they cannot have their love object. The allegorical features of the clinical narrative are obvious, but these features go even deeper. After all the ego, the id, and the super-ego also represent collections of desires, experiences, and drives that are thought to be present in the human mind, mediating between that which is unsay-able and (presumably) unknowable and that which has already occurred. This is precisely the point where the history of psycho-analysis coincides with the history of the allegory, whose origins began with a similar attempt to deal with and explain the struggle between virtue and vice (the psychomachia) in the ancient world. This struggle was most often allegorized as a battle or a journey. Freud grasps the imagery of the battle explicitly in his attempts to relate the struggle of the ego to remain in control of its own destiny against the overwhelming forces of the id and the super-ego.

Determining whether or not these allegorical features were intended by Freud or not is beyond the scope of this paper, but it is certainly intriguing that as late as the turn of the 20th century, at least one major theorist was still using allegory to explain the mysteries of the human mind, albeit a theorist who often relied on the ancient world and literary tradition to explicate his own ideas. It certainly speaks for the resilience of allegory as a rhetorical device and its ability to mediate between things which are practically beyond human explication and representations of those things, representations that are more accessible to understanding.

1) What exactly are you going to do with the idea of allegory within psychoanalysis? I see your topic, but I don’t see your method / exemplification / goal. Which texts are you going to use? Whose theories on allegory are you going to depend on (I think you plan to use Paul de Man here, but you might want to state that explicitly)?
2) Are you going to consider how Freud's training as a metaphysician defines his psychoanalytic theory? I realize this is an impossibly positivist approach - one will never know what was going in Freud's addled brain - but it might lead to other interesting questions. Why did Freud choose the allegories he did - why not anthropomorphic allegories (imagine the fun of the giraffe id, the lion ego, and the baby seal superego)? Why only three allegorical figures and not more/less?

3) Freud treads on very interesting territory: the intersection of the humanities and the sciences. Are there other sciences structured along allegorical discourses? Is it possible to produce knowledge without allegory, or does the mediation of knowledge through language demand allegorical / metaphysical devices?

4) Was allegory a particularly Austrian device - or was it used in particularly Austrian ways by Freud? That's a total shot in the dark, but it might be interesting to compare Freud's contemporary psychologists with Freud - maybe Freud wasn't the only one using allegory to explain his systems.

I think the hardest part of your paper will be limiting yourself to a confined sphere of inquiry - it's such a rich topic that you could write forever and never finish.

[Post response]

***
Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 13 times Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 2:34 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU> Subject: Re: Allegory and Psychology

[Remove Forum]

In the interests of using this forum to help us define our own topic, I am just going to respond to the comments of Lee and Stefanie, both so I can get a better grasp of the topic and so that other comments have additional material to deal with.

I will deal with the comments individually, as they were offered (cf. Lee's response).

1) Actually, I realize that a major problem with this topic right now is that it really has no goal, no end result in mind and therefore no methodology. As for the texts I will use, my first brush with this topic has revealed little literature that deals with this directly, though Professor Arens has provided me with other works to follow it up. I can say however that there are two texts I will not use. I will not use "The Allegory of Love" by C.S. Lewis as a comment on Freud, but as a reference work on the history of literary allegory. I will not use any of Paul de Man's works, though I had considered it. De Man's valorization of allegory has a very different and more advanced goal than my own and his analysis is far outside of my ability to use in the scope of this paper.

2) The approach I take to Freud depends very much on whether or not the main focus of this paper is Freud or allegory. I am inclined to make the paper on allegory as a literary device and an unintentional one on Freud's part. I believe that this has important consequences for our understanding of the creation of psychological narratives. Really the main difficulty here is that Freud and allegory isn't so much a topic as a jumping off point into another work of far greater scope. I am having trouble controlling it and
hopefully some of the secondary sources will aid in that respect. Any suggestions as to sources on Freud's training (or other helpful sources) are most welcome.

3) This is actually what I would most like to concentrate in the paper, the idea that fascinates me about allegory's relationship to narrative, knowledge, and understanding. The problem of course lies in that, while a fascinating topic, it isn't really an Austrian topic.

4) Whether or not other Austrian psychologists of the same era were using allegory as a device in clinical narratives is an interesting possibility. In this case, I am faced with the daunting task of discovering who Freud's contemporaries were and reading something representative of their works. If that can be done efficiently (ie if any knows please tell me!!), it would be extremely interesting and the consequences of the use or non-use of allegory would have a more compelling value.

All in all I think Lee hit it on the head when he said that the hardest part would be finding something specific to write about. In many respects the hardest thing about the topic is that allegory is far from being a specifically defined rhetorical device. Medievalists and Renaissance scholars have an entirely different view of allegory than Paul de Man. It is much more restricted as a literary device and to be honest, I would like to focus more on the literary aspects of the device, precisely for the same reasons that Paul de Man did (though not in the same way), namely that there are many people who view allegory as a product of too much thought, as being too thoroughly rational, and too artificial to be useful as a literary device and that the symbol is infinitely preferable and more organic. Yet it seems to me that if allegory is artificial it is artificial in the same way that all literary language since allegory seems to be a fundamental building block of abstract narratives.

Anyway, sorry about the long post, I hope that this will help others to give comments, there is tons of fresh material here. Thanks to all who have posted and who will post (even though I know we are required to do it anyway).

***

Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 11 times Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 12:26 pm
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE S <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM> Subject: Re: Allegory and Psychology
[Remove Forum]
I think this topic sounds original and cool. My only concern is what Lee hit on - what exactly is your methodology? How specifically will you work with CS Lewis's work in relation to Freud? What texts are you looking at for examples? And, what is the implication of Freud's work being allegorical? Was this unusual for the time? Were other "scientists" using the same type of story telling to explain phenomena? What is the impact?

I think it sounds great - just tighten it up a tad.

[Post response]

***
My initial reaction was similar to both Lee and Stephanie, but your response was very helpful in understanding where you are in the process. What I'm hearing you say is that you primarily want to deal with the idea of allegory as a rhetorical means for mediation.

For purposes of length and adequate treatment, however, I think it would be difficult to have the general topic of allegory at the center. Although it is frustrating not to be able to look at lots of interesting parts of this, you will end up on the doctor's couch yourself if you don't pick something more specific.

Feeding off of Lee's reaction and your additional comments.... Why not look specifically at Freud's use of allegory and, if there is time, his attempts at legitimizing his psychoanalysis by using the allegory of other sciences (goes along with the suggestion to look at other sciences and determine whether allegory was integral there too) - OR - start with the use of allegory in Austrian science and use works to exemplify its use.

These are just suggestions, and nothing that you don't already know. I feel your pain with regard to limiting the topic! - especially with such a rich topic. Good luck.

Erin,

Having read the other responses makes it hard for me to point out something new. When I read your abstract I was also wondering (together with Lee and Ann) about the other sciences and the rhetorics they employ to communicate their research. Oh, I just thought of something new: What kind of audience was Freud addressing in his work? In other words is this official respected science-babble (actually it is way more clear to me than some of today's stuff) or was this written for an audience that wasn't necessarily schooled in psychology? Seeing how all academia seems to be borderless in Freud's Vienna (physics prof. also excelling chamber music) maybe it was necessary to phrase all academic work in a way that made it accessible to people outside one's special scientific field? And having a private practice like Freud and living off one's rich friends (who regularly send their poor wives and daughters for year-long appointments) probably makes it even necessary to use a more accessible rhetorical style. Because they also might be interested in reading about the research Freud did on them for years. I guess these comments could fall under "practical purposes of allegorical speech". Hope this was helpful.
Hi,
the prize for the largest number of REALLY BIG TOPICS taken up in one abstract. A neat topic, but watch what everyone says:
-needs a limit!! Can get too big, really quick!
-needs an explicit method -- decide if it's on allegory (it's ok if it isn't austria), on Freud, on Austrian science .. or , or , or
Todorov's History of the Symbol might be helpful.
Shows the cultural weight of such debates, as a possible way to a more precise focus.

Focus before you go on!! This is a VERY large topic with a lot of dimensions (and therefore with 1000 ways to go on data).
Definitely worth doing, however.
-katie

***

If Jung's archetypes led him astray into potential sympathy with fascism, did Freud's allegories also lead him astray? Were there any assumptions or fallacies in the id-ego-superego theory that had more to do with the theory's allegorical nature than with observation of psychological phenomena?

***

ERIN:

Im really curious about what you will choose - you have such amazing choices about what to focus on. Not an easy task. Incorporating CS Lewis and Freud is very cool and I think something that would be attractive to all different publications. Perhaps the connection is really obvious to everyone else, but I've never heard or thought about the two together and their combined popularity gets you in all different kinds of doors.

Now, this wasn't in your abstract, but here's one thing I would be mindful of......you seem pretty passionate about Freud and maybe team up with someone (Katie Arens/Lee Holt) who is willing to devil's advocate ideas with you so that you have extra solid coverage. In your responses you covered a lot of ground with your reflection so that's what I'm getting at with the suggestion.

I agree, this is a great way to tighten our topics/papers up.
You have a really amazing topic and you're the guy to write this paper. Way cool - impressive originality.
Hi Erin,

Definitely impressive (and imposing!). I don’t have much original to add, only one point that at least one of my cohorts already pointed out and that is, were other sciences/scientists using allegory as a means of explaining phenomena and/or their theories? And also, how would the clarity of scientific texts look without allegory?

I hadn’t given these topics much thought until I read your abstract. And ditto what some of the others said - tighten it up a little once you get going (but I guess you already knew that).

have fun with it,
Jason

--Kevin
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 4 times
Date: Wed Dec 4 2002 1:56 am
Author: ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E <SENGELHARDT11@HOTMAIL.COM>
Subject: Re: Allegory and Psychology
[Remove Forum]
This is soooo interesting.
I cannot help but think of Elie Wiesel's introduction to his book Gates of the Forest, where he tells a parable/allegorical piece then says: "God made man because he loves stories".

For me, Freund is telling a story about consciousness (sorry for watering down what allegory can mean to 'story with deeper meaning'). So how does this story read? Then and now? How helpful is it to understanding consciousness? What does widespread acceptance of this story tell us about us?

[Post response]
*******************************************************************************

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 28 times Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 10:28 am
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM> Subject: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Abstract for Annotated Bibliography

I will prepare an annotated bibliography on literary treatments of the emperor and the law in the literature of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and its successor state, 1848-1938. My primary goal is to survey available primary and secondary texts and describe each briefly in a bibliography. The bibliography will include some unannotated entries (those works I have been unable to look at before the deadline for handing in the bibliography), but most entries will be annotated at some length.

Example: The story "Ohne Bewilligung" by Leopold Kompert (1822-1886) reflects the author's fascination not only with the daily life of Jews in the Empire, but also with the nature of law and the role of lawyers, petitioners, officials, and the emperor, from the perspective of an ordinary citizen.

I am scanning primary literary texts, as well as secondary sources commenting both on the texts and on the social and cultural history of the period, for references, explicit or implicit, to the concepts KAISER (emperor) and GESETZ (law) and closely related terms in their word fields. Examples of terms in the word field GESETZ are Napoleonic Code, Continental System, Justinian Code, Canon Law, law of merchants (?), enforcement of contracts (how? where?), kinds of tenancy of rural land, who owned the cities, who owned the banks, who paid the police, law as urban legend vs. rural custom, relationship between citizenship and nationality.

The annotations will point toward the role played by the emperor and the law as well as toward the implicit assumptions of the authors of the primary and secondary texts. I will
show that the emperor and the law were significant themes not only for Franz Kafka, perhaps the best known writer of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and its successor state, but also of many other writers associated with that geographical space between 1848 (the year of the March Revolution and the December crowning of Emperor Franz Joseph) and 1938 (the year of the Anschluss [annexation of Austro-Hungarian territory to the Third Reich]).

I will focus on the variations in views of the emperor and of the law, uncovering a set of typical views to be discussed at greater length. After surveying these, I will develop the annotated bibliography into a theme course proposal and eventually narrow my focus to write at least one journal article and one conference presentation.

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 11 times
Date: Sat Nov 9 2002 2:56 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Are you specifically targeting the intersection of Law and the Emperer and how this intersection played out in Austrian society or are you including primary and secondary sources applicable to either/or?

It seems like you have a daunting task ahead of you, but it will provide a very nice resource. Do you have any ideas yet on where you will present or publish your work?

It will be interesting to hear more about your project. - Ann
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 11 times  Date: Sat Nov 9 2002 6:32 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU>  Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
This seems like a huge task, especially considering the richness of the time period for Austrian literature. I am amazed at the scope of the work.

I was wondering if it might be helpful to include your methodology (i.e. search engines, card catalogs, libraries, used to find the works). I know that I would find such a methodological description helpful for future reference. It might also help others who may want to follow up on the work. A list of the places searched would help there as well, allowing someone who wants to continue the work to break new ground in the search, or follow up on the unannotated works.

***

Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 10 times  Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 1:41 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
This sounds like a rather massive task. Like Erin, I think it will be interesting to see your research plan document in two weeks. I imagine there are going to be all sorts of
interesting research conundrums, keyword mishaps, and strange indices. Quite like an archaeological dig! Have fun!

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 8 times  Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 3:49 pm
Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM>  Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Margaret,
Like the other commentators I agree that this seems to be a huge topic. But interesting.
What I am wondering about is basically one thing: Are you looking for how the issues of emperor and law are dealt with and represented in literary works or are you researching those issues historically? Maybe I am misreading this, but I was just confused it this bibliography is leaning more towards literary studies or historical studies. Or are you combining these two and if yes, how?
It will probably become all clear once I see the outline. So, good luck! :)

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 10 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 8:53 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Hi,
a very different kind of project, needing a different kind of frame.
The thread is very in agreement: neat project.
For the future, and for everyone -- consider that, when you put together a bibliography, it's really good to state your rationale for so doing (why you're looking for this), and how you are defining things and executing them.
You might want to be explicit about these criteria in your final version; you'll be specifying more on the where you'll look in the next assignment!
Nice work,
katie
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 8 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:23 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>  Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Reply with thanks to all comments so far:

This bibliography is aimed at literary studies grounded in culture studies. I assume that I can't say anything reasonable about literature without seeing it in a social and cultural (yes, even economic) context. It's not really intellectual history. I am interested in taking a reading on a culture, beginning with discovering how the issues of the law and the emperor are represented in its literary works. I am not targeting the intersection of LAW and EMPEROR, so I will look for those word fields separately.
Actually, my rationale for making this bibliography is quite simply that I want to review the course readings (plus a few library books I've checked out over the last couple of months), and this was the easiest way I could think of to do it. If I were more confident about intellectual history, this might not seem the easiest way. An additional rationale is that I like to write about 20th century Jewish fiction and 20th century short prose parables, fairy tales, and fables, in which the LAW and the EMPEROR or KING loom large. This annotated bibliography gives me an excuse to read more Joseph Roth and Fritz Mauthner, to say nothing of Leopold Kompert and Franz Kafka, whom I mentioned in my abstract.

The primary texts I am including are mostly literary texts. The secondary texts I am including are mostly cultural and intellectual history, especially whatever these histories have filtered out of political and economic history as relevant to general cultural history on the topic of law and the emperor.

I am not expecting to include other people's critical response to literary treatments unless IT (the critical response) turns out to have been a major factor in the social and cultural history of the period.

My first step beyond the completed bibliography would be either a theme course proposal (representative selections from the entire bibliography), if it looks like anyone is going to let me teach a Germanic cultures course; or a very specific narrow portion of the area covered in the bibliography in the form of a conference paper, perhaps for one of the annual conferences sponsored by the Center for Austrian Studies, which I have attended twice without presenting anything.

Thank you for suggesting that I include a list of the places searched and a description of the methodology; I shall, but it is quite simple: first review the photocopies and textbooks and library books I now have in my possession; then take a look at the MLA International Bibliography; then review a couple of basic documents on how to do Germanic culture studies research or comparative literature research, to see what index or data base is mostly likely to be productive in the little bit of time that I have left. To do exactly what I propose, I will need to continue working on this annotated bibliography after the semester is over, but don't worry: I will hand in the best I can do in this amount of time, on time.

Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 6 times Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 12:27 am
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Margaret:

Very useful and interesting project. I am in agreement with most of the other comments - big, big, project. I would not have the first clue on how to begin this task but I know, I will be thanking you for your efforts some day down the road when you help make my life easier.
I'm interested in where the holes are in this information today and why isn't this currently complied in this way??

Amazing project-
Clair
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 7 times
Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 11:12 am
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Wow. This sounds potentially voluminous, but more power to you. I was initially curious about how you were going to treat the LAW aspect, but your methodology clarified it for me.

Do you know yet what you will have to exclude, or is it too early to say? I guess you will have a clear delineation once you get going.

Your project sounds really impressive.

Jason
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 10 times Date: Wed Nov 13 2002 8:58 am
Author: BOYD, KEVIN J <KJBOYD@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Kafka as a writer of the A-H Empire! That thought never crossed my mind! Why are you including the first republic in the scope of your research. I only ask this because it will most likely become more difficult after the fall of the Monarchy--but someone has to find out what was going on. I look forward to seeing the results of your research!

Kevin
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 7 times Date: Wed Nov 20 2002 2:09 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM> Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Good question, Kevin! I looked at the death dates of the authors in whom I was interested, and some of them lived through part of the First Republic (by which I mean what came between the Kaiser and Hitler). They were still writing in this period. I assume they still had thoughts about empire as well as law.

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 4 times Date: Wed Dec 4 2002 2:07 am
Author: ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E <SENGELHARDT11@HOTMAIL.COM> Subject: Re: Woodruff-Wieding Abstract
Remove Forum
Impressive project!
You answered all questions I could have asked. I would really benefit from learning from your approach. I look forward to seeing more.

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 35 times  Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 11:44 am
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum
What’s Wrong with the Austrian “Everywoman?”

Abstract

Elfriede Jelinek’s Die Klavierspielerin (1983) reflects the sad existence of an Austrian „everywoman,“ that is, an average woman whose aspirations fail or remain unrealized due to a rigid social code from which there is no escape. Although Die Klavierspielerin is a work of fiction, previous biographical works by other Austrian authors will indicate that Jelinek clearly knew what she was talking about when she wrote her novel, and that the fate of her protagonist actually mirrors the bleak outlook confronting many Austrian women.

Peter Handke’s biographical Wunschloses Unglück (1972) and Brigitte Schwaiger’s semi-autobiographical Wie kommt das Salz ins Meer? (1978) will provide factual evidence that a one-sided, patriarchal society exists in Austria and often effects sad, even tragic results for its women. One finds three key repressive elements in both works: a dominant male, the media and social ritual. The occurrence of these elements will prove that similar motifs found in Die Klavierspielerin are based in fact and are not mere figments of Jelinek’s imagination.

My goal is to demonstrate that Jelinek’s at times brutal and perverse Klavierspielerin actually addresses a serious social issue. Other Austrian authors such as Handke and Schwaiger provide factual evidence in support of this argument. Austria has a high suicide rate and I believe that these three literary works are indicative of the reasons why.

Post response

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 16 times  Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 12:00 pm
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE S <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM>  Subject: Re: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum
Sounds very interesting. Some questions that come to mind:

1. What is the historical take on this, meaning how long has this social construct existed for women in Austria? All three of these works are relatively current - is there a reason why these types of works are being written in the latter half of the century and not before? Or, are there examples of Austrian works with similar motifs prior to the 1970’s. What has changed in Austria (if anything) to allow for these works to "arise."
2. Is Austria unique in the way it has treated or does treat women? Were women authors 20-30 years ago from other European countries writing addressing similar themes? What happens when you compare these works with contemporary female German authors?

I think you are working with a cool set of texts. These are just some thoughts.

Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 7 times Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 1:45 pm
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum
Hi Stephanie,

Yes, I do need to examine the time prior to the 70s-present, and your second question is part of the implication I hope to make that this type of German-language literature is relatively Austria-specific. I need to do more research, obviously, but in general I have the feel that the most significant post-war German-language authors are women (as Prof. Arens pointed out), and that although the post-war "Vaterliteratur" has become a popular genre, what about "Mutterlitaratur"? Does it exist, and to what degree? If Austrians write about the "Alltagsfaschismus" of the woman and Germans do not, then why? These are questions I hope to be able to answer. Thanks for your input.

- Jason
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 11 times Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 11:35 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU> Subject: Re: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum
Your topic seems really well chosen and you definitely seem to have a grasp on what you want to do and what texts you are going to use.

I guess my comments are more addressed to social issues in Austria and around the works, rather than comments directly on the analysis of the works. My comments are once again based on my ignorance of the topic, so I apologize if the following questions are way off base.

Does the work of these authors represent a social cry for the plight of the Austrian woman, in other words do these works want to bring to the foreground the damage being done to Austrian women by these attitudes, or does this constitute the background of the novels/biographies?

How well received are these works in Austrian society, are they widely read? Could these works have the effect of bringing Austrian women together and forming a more coherent women's movement and is there a possibility that is the purpose of these
works? Are there a number of novels like these, are they an emerging groundswell of awareness or the tip of the iceberg?

I guess my questions really come down to questions about the state of a woman's movement in Austria and the relationship these works have to that movement (or don't have as the case may be). These may not be entirely relevant to the paper as an examination of specific social conditions, but I was just wondering if there was a response to those conditions other than the works mentioned.

Post response

This sounds like a really interesting topic with lots of presentation possibilities! Go Jason!!!

Your only objection is to the inclusion of Handke and Schwaiger's works as fact sets. You allude to this twice in your abstract, but don't account for the mediation of experience through the author into a narrative; i.e., these aren't 'facts' in the empirical sense. It might be more modest to propose a comparison of the three works and their representations of media, social ritual, and dominant male. This avoids the sticky fact issue.

And to second Ann's comments: Rock on!!!

Hi Lee,
Yes I (and Prof. Arens) realized that citing these sources as "facts" is problematic. I will definitely re-work (and re-word) this part of my thesis.

Thanks for your input!

Jason
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times
Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 3:55 pm
Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: Re: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum

Jason,
This sounds really good! I remember being sucked into this deeply depressive atmosphere that Jelinek manages to create in Die Klavierspielerin. I have only one question: What sources will you use to find out about the reality side which you claim is mirrored in Jelinek’s novel? That is all I can think of right now. Good luck!
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 10 times Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 9:00 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum

Hi,
abstract writer rats out instructor!!
But the thread found out everything I did, and more.
1) use of a term like "everywoman" makes some claim about historical facts that requires research about Austria, and feminism, etc., and
2) occludes the question of "narrated truth" and the specific nature of narration.
3) Additionally, definitions of feminism, the women’s issues, "Baterliteratur" etc will be needed to engage the discussion on literary history.
Well done, on all sides!
-katie
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of AbstractsRead 11 times Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 12:09 am
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM> Subject: Re: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum

What about comparing Jelinek's Klavierspielerin with Schnitzler's "Frau Berta Garlan" (1901)? Schnitzler's heroine was an Austrian pianist too. Or is that like comparing apples and oranges?
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 7 times
Thanks for the input!

Jason
Post response

Very cool topic. I would read this paper with great interest - cool. I don't really have much to add to the other comments. Everyone seems to have given great ideas. What role does sexual orientation play here? I don't know if you want to take this tact, but a page or so could address these ideas. Also, addressing the changes in today's education, etc would be interesting then/now information.

Hi Jason!

Did you ever see the movie? Hmmm...

I have not read the novel, but HAVE seen the movie and will base a few comments on this viewing.

An everywoman? It seemed that controlled madness was the story of this woman and I wonder how common she really was. Does she live with her mother in the novel? Music and madness might not be so common. Just a thought!

Good luck!

--Kevin
Post response

I was just in the library checking out some books I needed for another paper of mine and I saw this book:
Austrian women in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries: cross-disciplinary perspectives / edited by David F. Good, Margarete Grandner, and Mary Jo Maynes. dated 1996 (not too old)

Maybe you can use it for your paper? Just a thought.
Good luck : )

Daniela
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 4 times Date: Wed Dec 4 2002 2:25 am
Author: ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E <SENGELHARDT11@HOTMAIL.COM> Subject: Re: Jasons Abstract
Remove Forum
Your topic is great!
My comments are really off-topic. The high suicide rate surprised me. Was this always the case or did this increase with the advent of modernity the way the increase in witchburning and the Renaissance go strangely hand in hand? Were options for women decreasing with the increasing freedoms of the bourgoise?
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 39 times Date: Thu Nov 7 2002 11:53 am
Author: ENGELHARDT, SUSAN E <SENGELHARDT11@HOTMAIL.COM> Attachment: ehrenfels_gestalt (21504 bytes) Subject: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum
abstract for paper (DID NOT WORK)

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 17 times Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 12:28 pm
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE S <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM> Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum
I am perhaps retarded - I can't get the atachment to open. Could you cut and paste the text into your posting? That would make me happy.

THANKS!
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 17 times
Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 11:58 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU>
Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum
The best way to view the attachment is to right click on it (or the appropriate Mac equivalent, I apologize for not knowing it) and choose: Save Link Target As... (or something similar). You will then be able to save the attachment to your computer. Just for future reference.

(Did I mention I am a computer geek?)
Post response

***
Christian von Ehrenfels, Gestalt Psychology, and the Change in the Gestalt of Austrian Culture

Christian von Ehrenfels (1859-1932) has his place in Austrian intellectual history as the father of Gestalt psychology. However, the broad implications of his work for better understanding the dramatic changes in Austrian culture at the end of the 19th century are often overlooked. His writings and teachings on Gestalt theory inspired an entire generation of thinkers, artists, and writers, including Wittgenstein, Carl Menger, Dvorák, and Kafka. His work is both a key to understanding and a reflection of the emergence of contemporary Austrian culture.

In my paper, I will explore his approach to Austria’s fin-de-siècle through his Gestalt theory. Ehrenfels began his reflections on Gestalt theory as a study of appearance and essence. His engagement in this research was strengthened as he saw how radically the world around him was disintegrating. He recognized how a foundational shift in perspective discloses the world in fundamentally different terms. His Gestalt theory led him to see the inner and outer worlds as both having complex architectures. Every person can recognize a printed word, a spoken word, and even a silent word as having the same meaning due to a Gestalt, because the whole precedes the elements. Yet, from one perspective a person will see a woman in a picture, and from another perspective a rabbit. In this essay, I will examine how Ehrenfels applied his theory to the crises of his time (end of aristocracy and the Austrian Empire, World War I, economic trials) and draw from it some of the implications of his work for understanding contemporary Austrian culture. The work will proceed on the basis of an analysis of his published writings in the light of subsequent secondary literature. This will be placed within material drawn from general studies of Austrian intellectual history.

I'm not familiar with Christian von Ehrenfels, so forgive me if this sounds really *tupid, but does he discuss in his works how he applied Gestalt theory to his surroundings? It sounds like that is what you are saying ("I will examine how Ehrenfels applied his theory to the crises of his time...")", but if he doesn't, how will you make the connection between his formulation of the theory and what was happening in fin-de-siècle Austria?
Have you decided yet which of his works you would like to include? This sounds like a really interesting topic!

Post response

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 1:35 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Susan's abstract

This sounds really interesting. My only questions were:

1. Which texts are you going to use? If he published a ton of books, which ones will you focus on, and why?

2. I think it's rather difficult to show how Ehrenfels' work is a representation of the general decline of Austrian culture (not that I'm all that familiar with Ehrenfels). If you can find a certain slice of Austrian culture and examine Ehrenfels' experience of that slice, it might work.

It sounds really interesting. If you mention specific works / events / people, it might tighten the abstract up a bit.

Post response

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 1:09 pm
Author: TURNER, STEPHANIE S <STEPHANIE_TURNER13@EXCITE.COM> Subject: Re: Susan's abstract

Very Cool. Are you going to look at specific thinkers and their works and show where specifically his influence can be seen? Or, are you going to look at Ehrenfels himself and show how his works reflect/interpret turn of the century Austria. Or, both?

Maybe you can also mention some comparisons with his contemporaries in his field of study. How was he so different - or was he? Just a random thought.

I know I still hear about this type of therapy. Maybe that can be part of your last paragraphs - his lingering legacy.

Sounds like a fun topic. If paper topics can be fun :)

Post response

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 11:50 am
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Susan's abstract

Very nice work. I hadn't thought about Gestalt theory in ages.

I'm just curious about your implication of tying his theory into contemporary Austrian society. Which aspects of society are you most concerned with? And what led you to
focus on crises? I find that really intriguing, especially since I know very little about this topic.

Good choice. Where would you present it?

Jason

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 15 times  Date: Sat Nov 9 2002 12:03 am
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU>  Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum

I have to say, that your topic looks extremely interesting. The abstract is well made and the argumentation is clear. I really don't know anything about this field, so I don't have any content comments, either. It looks like you have a very clear idea of what the paper is going to be like. I can't add anything further.

Just out of personal curiosity though, what are the works of Ehrenfels that you will be looking at?

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 12 times  Date: Sat Nov 9 2002 3:54 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>  Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum

I am very grateful to Susan for posting the abstract. I tried for about an hour and could not get a comprehensible version even when I downloaded it. Could I request that people not do attachments in the future?

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 8 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 11:36 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>  Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum

I'd like to read some quotations from Ehrenfels' writings that appear to reflect or comment on current events (1859-1932).

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 11 times  Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 4:09 pm
Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM>  Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum

Unfortunately I don't know very much about Gestalt Theory. So merely judging from the information from your abstract, I would be interested in finding out what Ehrenfels' influence on other Austrian thinkers of his time was. Was his theory enthusiastically
welcomed or rejected? Did others also see the connection to the things going on in Austria at this time?
Those are just a couple of things I thought of.

Post response

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 9:09 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum

Hi,
this is the case study for: If anything can go wrong with technology, it will! Thanks for the cross post, and try to avoid using attachments in all such email and bulletin-board contexts! This kind of thing happens more often than not. Not to worry, Susan! We still love you.
This is an interesting case: look at how many people in the thread apologized for not knowing what Ehrenfels is about! This is a really cool instance of a well-crafted abstract that might not be for the specific audience.
Most of these readers want details about what text names are, what Gestalt is really about in that context, and the like.
Well done, all round. It’s important to realize that abstracts not only have to be well-crafted (as this one is), but that they have to meet their probable audience (which this one is a little less secure about)!!!
-Katie
Post response

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 7 times Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 12:41 am
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum

SUSAN:
Looks like you have a great topic - especially since so many of us clearly are needing to brush up our Gestalt knowledge....
With that, perhaps explaining more in your abstract in more descriptive words could buy you some additional audience. I know that I have you around to ask questions as I read your paper, but what about those folks that don’t - I know that we are supposed to be scholars and know all this stuff, but I couldn’t give a clear definition of this theory, etc. That information I would really love to read in addition to the topic you have skillfully outlined.
Cool-
Clair
Post response

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 6 times
Date: Wed Nov 13 2002 9:19 am
Author: BOYD, KEVIN J <KJBOYD@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Ehrenfels gestalt theory
Remove Forum

Hi Susan!
You seem to be on the right path and the topic is extremely engaging. I can't think of anything to add at the moment...good luck!

--Kevin
Post response

You seem to be on the right path and the topic is extremely engaging. I can't think of anything to add at the moment...good luck!

--Kevin

Post response

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 18 times  Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 6:58 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU>  Subject: All these interesting topics

Remove Forum

As I am commenting on these topics, I just realized that they are all really interesting and that I would actually like to read what everybody has done when this is all over with. Does anybody else think it would be a good idea to have a place to put up the entire paper for the class' consumption? I am sure there is a place for this here on Blackboard (after all attachments can be added to these discussion board messages).

Just thought I would ask.

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 11 times  Date: Fri Nov 8 2002 11:11 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@PO.CWRU.EDU>  Subject: Re: All these interesting topics

Remove Forum

Hmm, responding to my own post, that sounds suspiciously like I have nothing better to do, but alas, it is only because I thought of another reason for me to want to see all these papers. A common theme throughout my comments is: I don't really know much about this but...

I think being able to read these papers would be a great way of curing my monumental ignorance on most of these subjects, it would at least make for a start.

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts
Read 14 times  Date: Sat Nov 9 2002 3:25 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@mail.utexas.edu>  Subject: Re: All these interesting topics

Remove Forum

I think this is a really great idea. I have not been able to get the attachment prompt to work in blackboard, but if someone could enlighten me, we could post our "works" here. If not, maybe we could send attached documents via e-mail.

As always, I'm thinking like a teacher, but this is great for starting background files for lectures (and a great way to share the wealth of all the effort we expended putting the papers/projects together).

Count me in! - Ann

Post response

***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 11 times  Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 1:16 pm  
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: All these interesting topics  
Remove Forum  
Count me in too.

I'm not sure how the attachments work either - maybe there's an option to turn them off when the forum is created.

***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 12 times 
Date: Sun Nov 10 2002 4:13 pm 
Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM> 
Subject: Re: All these interesting topics 
Remove Forum 
I'll second that! 
Post response 
***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 10 times  Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 1:50 pm  
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: All these interesting topics  
Remove Forum  
Me, too. 
Post response  
***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 12 times 
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 9:18 pm 
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> 
Subject: Re: All these interesting topics 
Remove Forum  
TO ALL:

Blackboard sites may disappear at the end of a semester (which is why I don't have my course materials posted here, but on a site that's mine, and linked here). 
BUT what I can do (because I have ALWAYS heard that attachments are shaky -- I can open Susan’s but it comes out gobbledygook because it's a smarter MS-WORD than I have [8]). 
When anyone who wants to participate in this exchange turns in their final paper or project, send it to me in one WORD file (nothing later than 2000, or use .rtf). What I can do is make them into .pdf's and post them on my website (www.utexas.edu/courses/arens) for you all to download. Can also try to upload the word versions, but those downloads are shakier. When all there, I'll email you, and you can collect what you want. 
How's that for service, responding to a very good idea.

Also: does reading these sets of comments help?

Just asking, to see if you think it’s worth the time. 
***
Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 8 times
Date: Mon Nov 11 2002 10:56 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: All these interesting topics
Remove Forum
Yes, please post all the final papers on your website, for us to download. Reading these sets of comments does help.
Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 5 times
Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 4:46 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Helpful
Remove Forum
I think the feedback is really helpful. Sometimes if you look at something for too long, you don’t realize what you are missing or fill in steps in your own mind that need to be put on paper. It takes quite a bit of time to post feedback, but I was glad to have the very useful comments from others.
Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Abstracts Read 9 times Date: Tue Nov 12 2002 12:47 am
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: All these interesting topics
Remove Forum
way yes - this all helps. im pleased with how it flows so easily and like an extension of class. we need to outlaw erin being on the computer at 11 pm on FRIDAY night, but im very happy to have such helpful classmates that know so much- and seeking to learn more - about so many cool things. i agree with ann, all of this brainstorming and commenting helps us to build our base. additionally, this is teaching us a really good team skill that will make us even better scholastic compatriots....

sharing, opening up for new ideas. a good practice for us to use in all areas. i mean, who knows everyzing anyway?

clair
Post response

******************************

RESEARCH PLANS

************
Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair MEALY, CLAIR H Mon Nov 18 2002 1:56 pm
Re: Schnitzler/Film:Steph & Clair WOODRUFF-WIEDING,M S Wed Nov 20 2002 3:31 pm
[-] Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair KELLER-LALLY, ANN Sat Nov 23 2002 12:33pm
Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & ... MEALY, CLAIR H Sun Nov 24 2002 8:57 pm
Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair HOLT, LEE W Sun Nov 24 2002 8:07 pm
Starting off Points:
· Consult K. Arens about course proposal procedure
· Obtain information from Lisa Jaskolka about course proposal requirements
· Obtain similar course syllabi
  o Katie Arens: Freud’s Vienna
  o Katie Arens: Intellectual History of Austria
  o Bernd Moeller: Spring Semester Film Class
  o Sebastian Heiduschuke: Crossing Borders
  o Ann Keller-Lally: The Biology of “Difference” in 19th Century Germanic Culture

Course Materials and Information:
· Check out MLA
  o Keywords: Arthur Schnitzler, Traumnovelle, Eyes Wide Shut as Film Adaptation, treatment of the fantasy, compared to Stanley Kubrick, German Literature, Austrian Literature, 1900-1999, fiction, treatment of master-slave relations, Reigen, La Ronde, Fin de Siecle Vienna, Anatol, Daybreak, Night Games, Vienna Medical School, Freud
  o Lexis/Nexis for articles and ideas
  o Keywords: Arthur Schnitzler, Dream Story, Traumnovelle, Eyes Wide Shut, The Blue Room, David Hare, Stanley Kubrick, Reigen, La Ronde, Fin de Siecle Vienna
· Review www.imdb.com for films. Here we were able to acquire a list of all of the Schnitzler film adaptations. Along with the list were short plot summaries with video length (important for class viewing information and syllabus/schedule planning), language and subtitles, director information, etc. Also, we were able to find background films that helped to set up the historical foundation for the class (Bride of the Wind, Sunshine & Oberst Redl).
· Consult www.amazon.com for additional materials and books. Here we were able to easily find the information about the actual Schnitzler books and if they were easily available in English. Also, it was important to us to find the length of the books to help spread out the major reading assignments. Undergraduates care about how much they are made to read. We were also able to find additional books about the historical period for selected chapter readings.
· Consult our current syllabus (Intellectual History) for reading materials and their application/relevance to our course.
· Consult other undergrad syllabi for reading requirements

Cleaning Up Work:
· Ask questions around department for interesting films and possible content we have missed (Michael Conner and Sebastian Heiduschuke especially)
· Run idea by friends and other students for interest
· Read peer reviews and tightened up focus on course proposal
· Check out requirements in other departments (film, gender studies, etc)
· Talk with Prof. Moeller about his film class; would he come and speak with our class?
· Discuss team teaching approach with David Wright
· Change dates and consult with University Calendar

Hang Ups & Loose Threads
· What movies to show
· What order to do everything
· Logistical issues: getting movies, appropriate subtitles, format, etc.
· Film lengths
· Schnitzler biographies: German and out of print for the most part
· Very few Schnitzler personal narratives
· Limitations due to undergraduate course level
· Keeping reading expectations realistic
· Appointment caps for hours (possible teaching structure/team teaching not usually possible due to either over hour requirements, or under hour requirements)
· Designing a final project that appeals to all possible disciplines in course (film, gender studies, literature/comparative literature, German)
· How to prepare our students for their final project: giving them enough prep work to successfully complete project
· Stephanie is developing a Blackboard site for this course – overcoming learning curve of Blackboard, determining content, links, etc.

Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 15 times
Date: Wed Nov 20 2002 3:31 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair
Remove Forum
Thank you for submitting your research plan first. I used it as a model (not slavishly, of course). I like your project, and I am grateful for your specific mention of Lexis/Nexis and www.imbd.com, which I might have overlooked. I'm glad we are all giving Katie copies of our final projects for release to the entire class, because I can really use your project.
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 15 times Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 12:33 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair
Remove Forum
I have few suggestions for you:

1. Remember "less and well selected" is more with regard to the reading and assignments.

2. Addressing your question of "What order?":

First step might be writing the overall and specific objectives you have for the students/course. Then for ordering...do a task analysis (big fancy term for detailed list) for each objective - starting from the very basics and seemingly obvious - of all the things the students have to be able to do to get to the objective (i.e. What vocabulary will they need for this objective?, what tools do they have to have to analyze a film for metaphors, etc. etc. etc.) Collectively, the task analyses will make it really clear what needs to go at the beginning of the course and how you can build from there.

Then, when looking at the material, ask yourselves for each of these "How will this reading/film/activity prepare the student to meet the objective(s)?". This will keep you from straying too far off topic and help you select the materials that are most appropriate.

3. If you need any help with Blackboard or film editing software to link video clips to your assignments in Blackboard, please let me know. I just went through this learning process for my technology course and would be happy to save you some anguish.

Post response

***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 9 times  Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:57 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair
Remove Forum
Ann:

Very helpful feedback-you are very clearly in your groove developing these kinds of things. Thank you for your clearly written, specific tips.

Merci-
Clair
Post response

***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 10 times  Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:07 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair
Remove Forum
Another place you might try is the Social Science Abstracts and the Dissertation Abstracts - that might turn up recent Schnitzler scholarship.

I'm not exactly sure how to research for a course proposal, but it seems like you've done a good job of it. My only other suggestion would be to grab syllabi from other schools, just to get a sense of what the rest of the world is doing.

Post response

***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 6 times  Date: Mon Nov 25 2002 3:21 pm
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair
Remove Forum
Your research plan looks really well organized.
I have a biography of Kubrick at home written by his co-writer for "Eyes Wide Shut". I'll try to remember to bring it. It deals mostly with this man's experience with Kubrick while working on the film (I can't remember his name right now, although it's certainly online).

You said there isn't that much biographical info on Schnitzler, but you may want to have a look at his Tagebücher and see if anything there is pertinent to your lesson/goal.

How is learning curve for blackboard anyway? I've never used it.

Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 8 times
Date: Wed Nov 27 2002 9:01 am
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Schnitzler/Film: Steph & Clair
Remove Forum
This is a good description of the sheer organizational chaos that one HAS to go through to get a course together.
Note that the thread has specified caution about focus of the course -- there are probably enough materials here. Diss abstracts is good for vocabulary on how to talk about things, but it's way too detailed for what one needs in a practical context. What I'd like to underscore to everyone (and please read this, everyone!) is that THERE IS A LITERATURE ON HOW TO TEACH!! Putting a course together may also require research on how to teach, in this case, film. Use ERIC or MLA.
OTHER incidental comments.
Note that there are two syllabus banks for German studies, one from the DAAD, at http://www.aicgs.org/resources/daad/index.shtml and another set of teaching materials from www.aatg.org. Use them, so as not to recreate wheels.
Also, info on films at www.imdb.org ("internet movie data base"), which has info even on obscure European films. Best source for subtitled films in US that I've found is www.moviesunlimited.com, a philadelphia-based company that has been legendary for a decade. Remember, too, that east german films are available through the DEFA archive (maybe icestorm.com? I didn't look it up -- a small east-coast u bought the whole e. german back list, and is making it available). And off our home page, the people who do that House of Tyrol catalogue have a film arm that has even tv shows for rent -- and a very low rent selection of German oddities!
Post response
*******************************************************************************
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 20 times Date: Wed Nov 20 2002 3:25 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser
Remove Forum
Margaret Woodruff-Wieding
GER 382N
19 November 2002
Written Assignment 4: Gesetz and Kaiser

This annotated bibliography is aimed at literary studies grounded in culture studies. I am interested in taking a reading on the culture of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and its successor states, 1848-1938. The chief area of focus is literature and the other arts (including visual images such as cartoons). The perspective I am seeking is that of an ordinary citizen, so as time permits I will include biographical and autobiographical material as well as feuilletons and belles-lettres. Mostly, though, the viewpoint of the ordinary citizen will be filtered through that of the author of literature and the artist. My secondary focus will be whatever cultural materials are necessary to help me understand daily life in Kakanien and its successor states. I will list all sources of both primary and secondary literature that I have used in this annotated bibliography and a few notable ones that I would like to use but have not yet found.

1. I have added a book recommended by Dr. Arens to my Assignment 5 reading list: Leopold R.G. Decloedt, Imago Imperatoris: Franz Joseph I in der oesterreichischen Belletristik der Zwischenkriegszeit. Wien: Boehlau Verlag, 1995. With the article she also recommended, Florian Oberhubre, Reich und Kultur: Zum neu-josephinischen Kulturbegriff 1848-1918, OeZG13.2002.2, I will have my hands full, because I am planning to scan all the books listed in the bibliography for our course for Gesetz and Kaiser. Does anyone have a copy of Magris’ Habsburger Mythos? I have recalled it from the library and ordered it from IBIS, but neither has come. All I could find in the Reading Gallery was the first 39 pages, which I had already read.

2. After I have reviewed everything I already have on hand, including my entire collection on Jewish and Yiddish literature for the period in question and some additional library books already checked out by Schnitzler, Roth, Mauthner, and Kompert, I will check out the MLA Bibliography using the following keywords: das Recht, der Richter, das Gericht, das Gesetz, der Prozess, die Prozedur, die Regel, regulieren, die Verfassung, die Jurisprudenz, der Jurist, die Justiz, der Staat, die Gesellschaft, der Monarch, der Koenig, legal/illegal, die Bittschrift, and other members of the word fields around these words, including of course English and perhaps other miscellaneous language translations of these words, especially if I encounter them accidentally, say in Spanish, or French; compounds with which these words begin and end; and other forms of speech derived from them. Since I am not targeting the intersection of Gesetz and Kaiser, I will look for the categories separately.

3. Exclusions:

a. Scientific or "natural" laws.
b. Views held by the kings, emperors, and judges themselves, for the most part (I am interested in uncovering variations in a set of typical views of citizens of all social classes and occupations, but primarily from the outside looking in).
c. Academic law, theology, and philosophy as taught at universities of the time, except as I come into contact with it through the reading list for this course, which will make it cultural history rather than specialized scholarship.
4. I hope this doesn't sound disingenuous, but that mammoth nature of the project to which most of you have referred is attributable more to my ignorance than to my ambition. I can read very fast, which makes me useful as a bibliographical search tool, but I cannot think fast. Thus I usually try to get the big picture before considering publishing anything.

5. I will be very grateful for all kinds of help, including keywords to add, scathing critiques of my proposal, and suggestions for where to look for specific materials, as well as your own random thoughts on the Kaiser and the Gesetz.

Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 12 times  Date: Wed Nov 20 2002 11:08 pm
Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser
Remove Forum
I am still as impressed as ever with this undertaking. It takes a lot of searching and a lot of patience and takes the most frustrating part of doing a research paper (for me that is) and makes it the entire work! Once work has been done on it, it will certainly make the lives of many students scholars of the subject much easier.

I really only have a couple notes for you, which I think will make your life much easier.

1) When doing keyword searches (at least for computer databases like the MLA Bibliography) it is really only necessary to look for major keywords related to the ones you are most interested in, such as the two most common synonyms for Gesetz and Kaiser. The farther out you go the less likely it is that the poor soul who made the entry in the database will use that keyword.

2) Since you are looking for literature and other arts I would suggest only the most cursory look at the MLA Bibliography. The MLA is a bibliography of secondary sources not primary sources, so you may get lucky and find someone else who wrote on the topic or on an author who wrote on the topic, but that should turn up rather quickly in the database. If it doesn't, no big deal there are better places to look.

3) Like the OCLC WorldCat. This is a catalog of the actual holdings of like 41,000 libraries, plus the search interface will reward some of the more detailed searches with more directly relevant hits, like primary sources, particularly the literature you are interested in.

4) Snagging a copy of a reference work like Stoffe und Motiven der Weltliteratur by Frenzel (and Frenzel, I think - we have a copy of this in the reading gallery, they are Kröner bände) or even starting with a reference on the reference literature will be most helpful as well. There are books whose sole existence is to tell you the content of other books (talk about intertextuality...). Larry Richardson's "Introduction to library research in German studies: language, literature, and civilization," Wortman's "A guide to serial bibliographies," and Bücherkunde für Germanisten are all great places to start. (Can you tell that I am taking the Fundamentals class right now?)
5) And finally (this is longer than I thought it would be, I must really have learned something in that Fundamentals class) never underestimate the power of the obvious. the words Kaiser and Gesetz are probably going to be your best bets when searching, don't forget to include them, as well using Franz Joseph as a search term, and perhaps keeping Austria in one of the subject fields (depending on whether or not you want Hungarian and Czech, etc. literature)

I hope that helps! Viel Glück bei der Forschung!

***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 8 times  Date: Fri Nov 22 2002 5:29 pm
Author: BOYD, KEVIN J <KJBOYD@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser
Remove Forum
Hi Margaret! Magris' book has been returned (Nov 22), but I myself might need it again (I have copied what I need for now). Magris' study is a central work for my paper so if we could share usage of the book that would be great.

More later about your research plans!

--Kevin
Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 9 times  Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 5:08 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser
Remove Forum
Hi Margaret!

I think your exploring the view of the ordinary citizen is really interesting. I hope doing both Gesetz and Kaiser (not intersection of) does not prove to be too daunting.

If I understood correctly, you are wanting to evidence popular sentiment through the literature and other arts. In addition to the MLA search, you may want to try the Art Index (New York: Wilson, 1929-), which indexes periodicals and covers broad areas like art and literature and art history. There is also the Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature which has the Bibliography on the Relations of Literature and Other Arts (indexing books and articles).

Best of Luck! - Ann
Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 7 times  Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:12 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser
Remove Forum
I'm supposing that you've checked the MLA, the Social Sciences Abstracts, the Dissertation Abstracts, the Historical Abstracts, and any Law databases as well. That might lead to even wider results - like Erin suggested, however, be careful with those keywords; the more keywords, the less specific your search is likely to be.

***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 6 times
Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:37 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser

Margaret:

Wow - what a feather in your cap!
Interesting perspective of the common man and such a fascinating undertaking - do your weeks have more days in them than mine??

Certainly checking with the other serial biblos as Erin mentioned should prove helpful (fundamentals child here, too).

Looking good-
Clair
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 8 times
Date: Wed Nov 27 2002 9:06 am
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser

Margaret, the one thing you might want to be sure about is to check the ENGLISH words, too. Lots of "Germanistik" is written in English, and will be bibligraphed that way. There is, too, a whole branch of literary studies on "literature and the law", but not much of it is about german. Might be a source for methodological models, eventually. And for a topic this focused, you'll probably want, eventually, to check out Germany's bibliographies, as well. But you have nailed what you need to do for the class, for the first detailed round of collection, before one goes and chases the strays.
Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 5 times Date: Wed Nov 27 2002 7:28 pm
Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>
Subject: Re: Margaret's Study of Gesetz and Kaiser

Thank you, to those who commented on my research plan. I guess it's obvious that my last methods course was in 1966, with Dr. George Schulz-Behrend, a baroque specialist, who took us over to the stacks in the tower where we had our carrels and pointed out individual books and how they smelled. Another charming thing he did was to read aloud
out of whatever Buecherkunde we were using at the time, commenting on his opinion of the various books. I bought the textbooks for Katie's methods (fundamentals?) course this semester in order to catch up on how to do things, but you have just saved me the trouble for the end-of-semester crunch. Thank you for the tips, which will make my life much easier.

I will indeed, as time permits, check every single one of those recommended data bases and indexes. As Clair pointed out, my plan looks like I must have more days in the week than she, and of course I don't and I won't be able to do everything.

Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 19 times  Date: Wed Nov 20 2002 8:27 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Polar Exploration: Lee Holt
Remove Forum
Plan of Research

The idea started with Katie's mention of Franz-Josef-Land in the Arctic. A quick Google brought up a couple of websites on said Land, and mentioned the Payer-Weyprecht Expedition out of Austro-Hungary. Thus armed, I began the real research.

I started out by looking up some books in PCL dealing with Arctic exploration. The Arctic Grail, by Pierre Berton, discussed Payer and Weyprecht's expedition, and mentioned Karl Koldewey's German Expedition as well. Armed with some names and official expedition titles, I hit the Neue Deutsche Biografie, looking for their names. I found all three, and was also led to August Petermann, the founder of the German polar exploration program, and Count Hans Wilczek, who financially supported the Austro-Hungarian expedition.

I then proceeded to search the Historical Abstracts, the Social Sciences Abstracts, the Dissertation Abstracts, the MLA, and the History of Science, Technology and Medicine databases. Search terms: 'Franz-Josef-Land', the names of the explorers and supporters, 'polar exploration, 'Arctic', 'North Pole', trying to associate these terms with 'Austria', 'Austro-Hungary', and 'Germany'. The Historical Abstracts turned up nothing, the MLA nothing, the SSA nothing, the DAI nothing, and the History of STM turned up a few articles published in specialized polar research journals (i.e., nothing substantial). UTCAT scored, however, on a brand-new study titled "German Exploration in the Polar World." I also chased down a couple of the History of STM leads, and one of them turned up a decent summary of the Austro-Hungarian expedition ('Historical events and people in geosciences').

The real gold-mine, though, was the Library of Congress. This search turned up most of Payer, Weyprecht, Petermann, and Koldewey's works, which were promptly transferred to ILS for handling.

From the biography of Petermann, I also knew that he had published his Geographische Mitteilungen, a widely distributed and popular journal from 1855 into the early twentieth century. PCL has fairly comprehensive holdings of this journal, along with Globus and Die Gartenlaube, two very popular journals from the nineteenth century (I knew about these
from other research). I found Petermann’s revealing foreword to and Koldewey’s account of the German expedition in the Mitteilungen. A couple of weeks later, ILS delivered Payer’s account of the Austro-Hungarian expedition. I’m still looking into the Gartenlaube and Globus.

Most of my leads were dead ends, since the German polar expeditions have only inspired one book, no articles, and the Austrian polar expedition remains untreated. In the interest of time, I decided to forego a four-way comparison between German, Austrian, American, and British travelogues, since the literature on the American and British explorers was so vast. By focusing on Germany and Austria, I managed to remain in a much more limited field, yet with enough primary materials to support a paper.

***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 9 times  Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 5:23 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Polar Exploration: Lee Holt
Remove Forum
This sounds like a book opportunity just waiting to happen! You go, Lee!

It seems like you are toward the end of your searching. Have you by any chance asked Professor Hoberman about sports bibliographies that might cover sports-history-Germany/Austria. He might also have at some point run across something on mountain climbing.

-Ann
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 7 times  Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:40 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Polar Exploration: Lee Holt
Remove Forum
Lee:

This paper is very cool. You have a good flow going - one question - will you have some maps attached to your work? I’d be interested in the routes, area feature, blowout spots, etc.

I know this isn’t National Geographic or anything, but if I’m reading this paper - a map would be a certain plus.

Clair
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 6 times  Date: Mon Nov 25 2002 3:14 pm
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Polar Exploration: Lee Holt
Remove Forum
It sounds like you’ve been fairly thorough already. The only thing I can add is what you and I already spoke about, and that is check the "Wiener Zeitung" from around the time of the exploration.

Also, did the members of the expedition do anything else notable, either before or after? If you could find other articles about them taking part in unrelated expeditions, it might still prove useful (although admittedly a long shot). Were any members Jewish by chance?

That’s about all I can contribute for now, but it looks like you already have a good handle on it. Good luck.

---

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 6 times Date: Wed Nov 27 2002 12:37 pm Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Polar Exploration: Lee Holt Remove Forum

This is an exemplary documentation of what happens in research when you have a comparatively unexplored (no pun intended) project. You're lucky if you find an article with the historical facts (lee was). THEN you go and turn up the contemporary sources -- OCLC for the books (once you have the participants' names, it's always safe to assume they wrote about it!), then to contemporaneous news accounts. Beyond that (and beyond the scope of an individual paper, you might try government documents -- proceedings of the Royal Society, or the Austrian Academy of Sciences, and even the US ones. These science academies reported to each other, and may have some internal work that's of interest.

---

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 22 times Date: Wed Nov 20 2002 11:33 pm Author: TEACHMAN, GEORGE ERIN <GET@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Allegory and Psychoanalysis Remove Forum

It all started with a little light reading. I noticed in C.S. Lewis' Allegory of Love that Lewis referred specifically to modern (1936) psychology as seeming to be allegorical in nature (referring specifically to the figure of the censor, which indicated that he meant psychoanalysis). This led me to examine Freud's work itself. I considered a likely candidate for the type of personification allegory that Lewis had indicated would be Freud's Das Ich und das Ess.

Having proven to my satisfaction that Freud's theories were allegorical in nature. I went to the MLA Bibliography, Historical Abstracts, Social Sciences Abstracts, and Dissertation Abstracts International in search of Freud and Rhetoric, Freud and Allegory, and Freud and Symbol. None of these turned up sizable numbers of hits (which is rather surprising, all things considered). I really have no idea what other keywords I can use to conduct this search. Any suggestions would be most helpful.
I then went to the paper "Bibliographie der deutschen Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft." I looked at the years 1996-2000 under Sigmund Freud and under Rhetorik (though my primary purpose in dealing with this bibliography was a different research assignment). The results were again disappointing, but a happy coincidence led me to the Historisches Wörterbuch der Rhetorik which contained a substantial entry under allegory including its definition and its reception from the Antique to the 20th century, with a number of bibliographic references, as well as a short list of recommended works.

I also followed up a suggestion from Professor Arens to read Roger Caillois and the Mask of Medusa (which was unavailable from our library, I have yet to master the procedure for interlibrary loan, but that is on my list of things to do), and Tzvetan Todorov's Theories of the Symbol. Todorov's ideas led me back to Paul de Man's essay "The Rhetoric of Temporality" (since de Man disagrees with some of Todorov's conclusions) and Allegories of Reading. Professor Arens and the Historisches Wörterbuch both referenced me to Paul Ricoeur whose books are also unavailable, this time because the ones our library has are in French.

My next step is to follow up the multitude of leads provide the Wörterbuch and to figure out how to do Interlibrary Loan, which should help to tie up most of the loose ends. My biggest hang up is that I have finally realized exactly how huge the topic of Freud and Rhetoric actually is and that the stakes of the project, ofseeing Freud as an allegorist are huge, which makes finding a niche in the scholarship and making a point worth making without being redundant rather difficult.

Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 12 times  Date: Thu Nov 21 2002 7:56 am
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>  Subject: Re: Allegory and Psychoanalysis -- on Interlibrary Loan
Remove Forum
Two choices:
online, click on the "Services" link from any UTCAT page
Go to the nice friendly office with the pet tetra in the basement of PCL and fill in a form.
Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 8 times  Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 5:37 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Allegory and Psychoanalysis
Remove Forum
Hi Erin!

I have a couple things I thought about while reading your entry:

When you are doing the on-line searches, browse through the thesauri for the lingo they like to use. Sometimes, it's just a matter of an "-ing" etc., or there is an "official" term used for something, with which you are not familiar (happens regularly to me). Also, the
order may make a difference. Perhaps you tried this already, but in the paper bibs, you may have to do allegory and then Freud or start with psychology and allegory.

You do have an enormous topic. Are you limiting your paper to Freud's "Das Ich und das Es" already, and if so, do you need to narrow further somehow? Can you stick to one aspect of allegory?

Good Luck-Ann
Post response
***

If a great deal of scholarship has been done on Freud and allegory, then you need to account for that and illustrate how you deviate from accepted standards and/or add something new. Looking for Freud-bashers might be a way to get at the literature that debunks Freud as a scientist.

Another source you might find useful: Peter Gay, Freud for Historians. He discusses the usefulness of Freud for historical inquiry, and I think he might break Freud down into discrete components for use as analytical tools.

Erin:

ILL is way easy. You can do it on the net - services - make sure that you have your ID, the one with the photo on it - because you need THAT number and not your EID.

Also, really pay attention to the dates that you are filling out. And if don't need the whole book, list that you will be fine with PDF transmission.

Your topic sounds great. You seem to have solutions for all your holes. Go, Erin, go!

Clair
Post response
***
Hi,

Well, having read what my colleagues informed you of, I really can't think of anything to add, so this message is pretty much useless. But I do like your topic proposal, and yes, ILL is easy once you do it once or twice. Ask Lee, he has become the ILL King this semester.

Jason
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 6 times  Date: Wed Nov 27 2002 12:39 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Allegory and Psychoanalysis
Remove Forum
This is classic literary research! Use the handbooks to find definitions of "allegory", etc, then go to the MLA.

Beyond that, there are two anthologies by Sue Vice, Psychoanalysis and literature, that are nice collections -- for models.

And Ricoeur is the source on this! well done
Post response
***

***************************************************
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 16 times  Date: Thu Nov 21 2002 10:35 am
Author: RICHTER, DANIELA M <RICHTERDM2002@YAHOO.COM>
Subject: Elisabeth of Austria Paper
Remove Forum
German 382N: Intellectual History: Made in Austria
Daniela Richter
21. November 2002

Paper Outline:
Sisi versus Elisabeth:
Different Representations of the Life of Elisabeth, Empress of Austria

A) Research Tools
  · Katie Arens: In Katie Arens’ office - where it all began
    In a very helpful discussion a topic for my paper was found, and I was even given several books pertaining to this topic [Death by Fame, Imago Imperatoris, Twilight of the Habsburgs - The Life and Times of Emperor Francis Joseph]. Moreover Katie gave me the names of the major bibliographies written on Elisabeth and Franz Joseph, which were Conte Corti’s works and Brigitte Hamann’s more recent and more historically correct rendition of Elisabeth’s life.
  · PCL-Catalog and PCL - Library:
    The next step was then to go to the PCL library catalogue to get Conte Corti’s and Hamann’s biographies about Elisabeth. While getting these two books, I browsed
through the books standing in immediate proximity of these two biographies. I found so many works on Elisabeth and Elisabeth and Franz Joseph combined that I could hardly carry them. At the very beginning of the shelf section devoted to Austrian history I found several books covering the history of the entire Habsburg family. I picked one of them (Vocelka, Heller: Die private Welt der Habsburger-Leben und Alltag einer Familie) for information I need on the family Elisabeth married into (especially her “infamous” mother in law and aunt Sophie) and the children she had with Franz Joseph, etc. I think this work will also become important on issues like court ceremonial, and such things.

- Online Journals Index: Gender and History, History Today: This is where I looked to find some articles on Elisabeth or maybe something on the role of an empress in general. I could not anything useful besides an article on the role of an empress during the Baroque.

- OCLC-Worldcat: frustrated with the online journals, I turned to the Worldcat and found one article there written by Walter Vandereycken (Professor of Psychiatry) and Ron van Deth (Professor of Psychology) on Elisabeth’s assumed anorexia. This will be very useful since the Elisabeth’s sporty life style is one of the issues in her life that made her stand out and get her in trouble, especially when going horseback-riding took her on month-long trips to England and Ireland. On the other hand, her physical beauty (kept in good shape by the aforementioned horseback-riding) was one circumstance which brought her immediate and widespread popularity. I also searched the Austrian History Yearbook but other than an article on “Noble Family Archives” by Rita Krueger (which could be helpful to see how accessible the kinds of material are which both Hamann and Conte Corti used), I could not find that much.

- Bibliographies in the books I had at this point: This turned out to be the major source for my research materials. Seeing what biographical sources were cited, especially in the more superficial picture-filled biographies, like the dtv-Porträt, which are not based on primary sources, like Hamann’s and Conte Corti’s biographies are. There is one article by Juliane Vogel, which I have seen mentioned in several of my books, but we do not have the journal in our library and the time is too short for interlibrary loan.

- And last and least, I finally did the smart thing, that I should have done in the very beginning, which is going to the Historical Abstracts site and search for Elisabeth of Austria. Turns out that they did not have anything that I hadn’t found myself by that time. This is due to the fact that there is a shortage or actually a complete lack of any good academic articles dealing with the phenomenon of the Sisi-cult. Therefore it really would not have helped me anyway. But this is due to my specific topic, the bibliographies of Elisabeth being on this weird borderline between historic academia and fiction/ popular culture on the other hand. I mean, Brigitte Hamann’s biography sold like any fiction-bestseller, because the topic is extremely well known throughout the Austrian and German culture and it is written in a way that is easily accessible to non-historians.

B) Preliminary Research

I did not conduct a lot of preliminary research, mostly I because my topic entails a close reading of two major bibliographies written about Elisabeth and therefore the bulk
of information lies in just that. I am already familiar with Brigitte Hamann’s biography of Elisabeth having read it several years ago. I am also roughly familiar with the kitschy rendition of Elisabeth’s life as presented in the Romy Schneider movies, of which I have seen the first one. Actually, having become aware of the intense popularity of the figure of Sissi, as Elisabeth is called lovingly by the fans and believers of the Romy Schneider films, and seeing the drastic differences in the way that the films and then Hamann describe her, caused me to get interested in this issue. I believe that the way Elisabeth is portrayed in those films is not just a case of taking liberties with historical facts. I think this distorted and glossed-over view of her was actually reflecting, to a large degree at least, the image that had been disseminated of her by official sources, like the Habsburg family. Having Hamann’s biography still somewhat present in my memory, I am curious to see what a Habsburg-commissioned rendition of her life looks like. Judging from the pictures that were commissioned to be painted of her (i.e.: the famous Winterhalter portraits), I expect nothing less than a beautifully written text about a beautiful and very young woman, whose luck it was to be chosen by the Emperor of Austria to be his wife.

I also included my bibliography as it stands right now, so you can get an idea of what is academically out there on the Elisabeth Austria topic.

Bibliography:
Sisi versus Elisabeth: Different Representations of the life of Elisabeth, Empress of Austria


Haslip, Joan. The Emperor & The Actress: The love story of Emperor Franz


***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 9 times
Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 6:00 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Elisabeth of Austria Paper
Remove Forum
Hi Daniela!

Would it be possible to integrate contemporary evidence of the Sissi cult in your research. I'm not sure if you are focusing on the Sissi cult then or the development of the Sissi cult to present. Although there hasn't been much written on the cult itself, you should be able to find recent evidence that would support the existence of the cult and its recent renaissance. If you go that route, you could try finding newspaper articles, announcements of "Sissi celebrations," or evidence of increased publications on her life - anything that reflects an increased interest. Without a lot of secondary literature on the cult, it may just be a matter of using the primary sources you have to support your argument, (which is, I think, your intent in the first place).

Best of luck-Ann
Post response
***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 7 times Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:25 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Elisabeth of Austria Paper
Remove Forum
It looks like you've done a pretty thorough job of researching the topic. My last suggestion might be to check out Lexis/Nexis for any recent mentions of your topic - that might indicate the staying power that popular culture bestows upon its heroines.
Post response
***
Bibilo and all! Tres Impressive.

I echo Ann's comments - what's the current Sisi fan club up to and why? Any Sisi sites for the 21st Century cult? Any predictions for who will be next in the royalty pedestal after Di? What's the formula for a popular female royal icon?

Clair
Post response
***

Hi Daniela,

The only thing I can possibly add to your thorough list is to check out Literaturhaus.de and Literaturhaus.at

I don't know how useful they will be, but it's worth a look. Your bibliography is already very impressive.

I suppose you could even ask Zsuzsi what the general Hungarian "feel" for Elisabeth is in the Hungarian history books. Do most Hungarians even know who she is?

--jason
Post response
***

To Jason's question: purportedly, the Hungarians loved Sisi.

This is a classic case of the research needing to be driven by the shape of the project. If you go to films, you have to go to find film reviews (current: Lexis/nexis, older in arts and humanities indes). The one thing you might also need to check on is the Historical Abstracts -- since things like "Central European History" are bibliographed there, it's important. The online journal search may not pick up everything (although quite enough for the project).
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 16 times Date: Thu Nov 21 2002 11:03 am
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Ann's Course Proposal
Remove Forum
Ann Keller-Lally
GER382N
Written Assignment 4: Research Plan

I. Research tools I will use to “get the job done” properly

A. Pedagogy

*Department Resources
a. Course Proposal Guidelines (Step 1)
b. Course Development Library/Germanic Studies Department – Has a similar course been done? (Step 1)
c. Consult with faculty who regularly teach GRC courses – Realistic goals, etc. (Entire process)
d. Work with Katie on the How-tos of developing a content course. (Entire process)

*ERIC Database/AATG Materials Center/Goethe Institut/Internet search of other institutions – Do courses or materials already exist to use as a starting point for this course development? (Step 1-optional, but recommended to save teaching prep / also indicates whether there is a need to submit for publication or publish online)

*Writing Center Materials or Writing Guide (Barbara E. Fassler Walvoord. Helping Students Write Well: A Guide for Teachers in All Disciplines. 2nd ed. New York: MLA, 1986.) – To integrate well-formed assignments for student writing development. (Step 1 or 3)

B. Content

*Wortman’s A Guide to Serial Bibliographies for Modern Literature – Find bibliographies related to the intersection of science/biology/culture and literature. (Step 1)

*Historical Abstracts - (Must go to paper / online database (DB) is from 1969.) To find literature and background literature readings. (Step 2)
(HA keyword search (in varying combinations): Cesare Lombroso, criminology, degeneration (concept), degeneracy, Austria, biology, crime & criminals, anthropology – criminal, 19th century, Germany, eugenics, racism, physical anthropology, teleology)

*MLA – (Must also go to paper / online DB from 1963-present). To find literature and background literature readings. (Step 2)

(MLA keyword search (in varying combinations): 1800-1899, biology, criminology, gender, Austria, insanity, race, film, crime novel, true crime literature, racial, racial difference, racial purity, racial stereotypes, crime, crime film, crime fiction)

*History of Science, Technology and Medicine (integrates ISIS Bib above) –(must go to paper ISIS/online DB from 1975). For background literature readings. (Step 2)

(HSTM keyword search (in varying combinations): 19th Century, biology, criminal, Austria, Germany, insanity, gender, race, criminology, Vienna Medical School, teleology, criminal-biological theory, moral insanity)

*International FilmArchive Database (FIAF) (Online DB) – (Online DB is from 1975, but provides sufficient information for background preparation of film viewing). To find film literature information. (Step 2)

(FIAF search: M and Lang)

*Film Index International (Online DB) - For film descriptions and detailed information about the films as preparation for film viewing. (Step 2)

II. Research I have completed

(Step 1) completed before conducting the bibliographic searches in (Step 2). Exact searches completed in parentheses under each item listed above. Searches were much more productive starting with general terminology such as “19th century” or “science”, which then led me to keywords that worked best (in what order) in each bibliography and to terminology relevant to my research topic. Used WorldCat and UTCat for locating the items and submitting ILL requests. Currently reviewing the literature I have collected (Step 3) and have started to select readings and enter them into general course outline.


III. Hang-ups, loose threads and deadends
A. The Schatzberg bibliography listed above is checked-out and is due back 1/13/03. I am not recalling it, but will need to look at it before submitting this proposal for publication.

B. Still need to check the writing center for guidelines on teaching writing.

C. Still waiting on ILL sources, but have enough material already

D. From here, I need to finish selection of readings, complete planning for criminal typing unit; and complete components required in the course proposal guidelines. Step 4 will be reviewing the entire “package” for logical progression and making sure I am meeting my objectives for the course.

***

Go to the previous message
Go to the following message

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 6 times
Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:30 pm
Author: HOLT, LEE W <LEEHOLT@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal
Remove Forum
Errr...a thorough job as always, Ann.

You only missed one thing - the resource of all resources, Dr. Hoberman. Don't forget to tap that resource! I shudder to think how many primary sources on nineteenth-century medicine he has stashed away in those files.

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 6 times
Date: Sun Nov 24 2002 8:50 pm
Author: MEALY, CLAIR H <CHMEALY@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal
Remove Forum
Ann:

Well done. Your proposal is so interesting and helpful. You really have worked your project from all angles. Diverse research methods, excellent utilization of department resources, and clear focus on the student's needs.

Impressive and professional.

Clair

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 4 times
Date: Mon Nov 25 2002 3:26 pm
Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal
Remove Forum
Ann,
It sounds like you have a solid grasp on it. My only suggestion for search terms might be: phrenology and physiognomy, and Richard Krafft-Ebing. And also look through the bibliographies from any related articles from Hoberman's class last semester.

Looks good!
Post response
***
Current Forum: Posting of Research PlansRead 5 times Date: Wed Nov 27 2002 12:47 pm Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <KARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Ann's Course Proposal
Remove Forum
An optimal and maybe even overly conscientious lit search! Well done outline of what to approach. FYI, there are also syllabus guides for the History of Science and Teachnology, put out by the History of Science Society. I'm not sure they're on line.

Key for others to note: most big professional societies now have some kind of course materials, worth looking for. Many are on-line. History of Science Society, SHOT (soc for hist of tech), etc. all do.
***
******************************************************************************
Current Forum: Posting of Research PlansRead 19 times Date: Thu Nov 21 2002 4:29 pm Author: WILLIAMSON, JASON <JASKWILLIAMSON@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Jason's Research Plan
Remove Forum
Research plan for Jelinek’s Die Klavierspielerin

I have altered my topic slightly since watching the film version of Jelinek’s Die Klavierspielerin for the first time Tuesday night. I now want to focus more on this film adaptation, but my original proposal of exploring “Alltagsfaschismus” and the victimization of the average Austrian woman is still the same since the film deals with exactly those subjects. In order to do this, I will analyze two-three scenes of the film as indicative of this “Alltagsfaschismus” and its consequences, for example Erika’s voyeuristic journeys or the brutal confrontation between Erika and Walter at the end.

Since I just saw the film for the first time, my research thus far has focused more on the novel itself. From MLA I found a variety of articles and books, and from its bibliographies I was able to find even more. Most useful thus far was an article wherein the author incorporated Laura Mulvey’s seminal work on film “Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema” as part of her analysis of the “gaze” of the characters in the novel. That gave me the idea to apply the same principles to the film version. Therefore, I would like to analyze Erika’s “gaze” in (at least) one scene and contrast it with that of Walter. As with any film adaptation, I am also interested in what the director added, left out, or otherwise enhanced.

That said, here’s what I’ve done so far or still need to do:
- MLA database: many (and varied) results, but only for the novel; Searches: Jelinek and Klavierspielerin; piano player; Haneke and piano player or pianiste;
- Film Abstracts (?): 1 review from Cineaste but I need to check it again more thoroughly
- Lexis/Nexis: nothing on either the film or the novel – am I doing something wrong?
- Dissertation Abstracts Int’l
- ERIC
- OCLC
- the site “Literaturhaus” looks promising, but this is the first time I’ve tried to navigate through it. Any hints?
- Gender & History (never heard of it, but I saw it on Daniela’s posting)
- Film journals: Film Quarterly, Film Review, Film Dienst, etc.
- Internet Movie Data Base: the basics, but nothing new
- I suppose the psychology database (Psych.Lit.?) might have something also. Besides “Jelinek,” other useful search parameters might be: voyeurism, fetish(ism), psychoanalysis, sado-masochism and Austria; any other suggestions?
- Google

I also need to look at the director’s (Haneke’s) previous films on patriarchy, and do a little more research on Jelinek’s biographical information, as well as read up on the composer Schubert, whose music plays an important role in the film.

Here are some of my hang-ups:

- the film is in French! Any ideas where I can get a copy (in French, I suppose) of the script, since the film is still relatively new?
- I have to reconcile the fact that the novel’s audience is primarily German-speakers, whereas the film’s audience is international
- not much has been written about the film yet, but I view this more as an opportunity than as a huge disadvantage
- Should I try to incorporate, or at least mention, the works of Handke and Schweiger or is that really going beyond my scope? Because the content of those works runs parallel to Die Klavierspielerin and is furthermore (auto)biographical, I find it very useful. Perhaps Wunschloses Unglück and Wie kommt das Salz ins Meer would be most practical in my conclusion/closing argument. Thoughts?
- After what I’m sure will be many revisions, I would like to submit this essay for publication and/or present it if I feel reasonably proud of it, so I will need to pay careful attention to deadlines and special forums.

Post response

***

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans Read 10 times
Date: Thu Nov 21 2002 7:03 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Jason’s Research Plan -preliminary report

Remove Forum

when I typed Jelinek into Lexis-Nexis, I got 452 items for a two-year window -- mostly movie reviews. Did you spell it right?

more later
Post response
Hi Jason!

Even though the film is relatively new and there doesn't seem to be much written on it, I would try the International FilmArchive Database (FIAF)(Online). Although I'm working on older films, it worked well for the secondary literature on the films.

It seems like you have enough on your plate already just doing Jelinek. Maybe just integrate the works of Handke and Schweiger where they would strengthen your arguments.

Your ideas to look at Haneke's previous films on patriarchy and the significance of Schubert are really great. (I haven't done much with film before, so I don't think that deeply - schon wieder was gelernt!)

Bestens - Ann
Post response

Also check the works cited of any awesome articles you find - that will often lead to some good sources.

Some of your research direction depends on your theoretical orientation towards the material. If you're doing something with the 'gaze', you need to read the requisite Foucault and get a firm grasp on that term, its definition, and its application. I think Birth of the Clinic is the work - somebody correct me if I'm wrong.

Otherwise, it looks like you hit all the major DBs. Good luck on staying focused...

I don't think you should add Handke or anyone else, but that's because you want to keep this paper under control. Just tracking the differences between novel and film in Die Klavierspielerin would be enough for a paper; otherwise, you're entering Geistesgeschichte territory when you begin asserting that Alltagsfaschismus is a disease playing out in Germany and Austria - or something.
L/N should turn up some good stuff. I tried and it came up with a bunch, too. We used this for our project and it gave us some good general information about reception, etc.

Now I really want to see this movie - something interesting has got to be there since you've switched your topic around.

I'd ask Sebastian or Prof. Moeller if they know how to get the scripts.

Can't wait -
Clair

---

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 6 times Date: Wed Nov 27 2002 12:50 pm
Author: ARENS, KATHERINE M <K.ARENS@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Re: Jason's Research Plan
Remove Forum
See my earlier post on reviews. USE LEXIS NEXIS and even get the european ones. Major source.
For a new topic like this (e.g. for a new film), OCLC and Diss abstracts will be largely useless -- they lag because disses take a long time to do.
Look up director in the various arts dbases, AND in the www.imdb.com, to figure out film names that you can pop into Lexis/nexis.
ERIC is education DB -- Don't go there at all for a topic like this.

---

Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 16 times Date: Fri Nov 22 2002 10:36 pm
Author: BOYD, KEVIN J <KJBOYD@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU> Subject: Kevin Boyd's Research Plans
Remove Forum
First let me take this opportunity to make the intentions of my paper/research clearer (for myself and others). Claudio Magris' groundbreaking thesis Der habsburgische Mythos in der österreichischen Literatur unjustly labels many Austrian writers of the "Zwischenkriegszeit" (1918-1938) as being under the spell of the "habsburgischer Mythos." Authors such as Joseph Roth and Robert Musil, says Magris, look backward rather than to the present or future for imaginative material in their work. I will look at particular works of one of these authors, Joseph Roth, in order to test Magris' thesis. What I will show is that Magris ignores both the history of the first Austrian republic and Roth’s own. A closer look at Roth’s time and literary works compels us to reconsider Roth and change our view of Magris' thesis.

The two literary works by Roth that I will consider in my paper are the novel Radetzkymarsch (1932) and the short story Die Büßte des Kaisers (1934). I will also be reading letters and journalism written by the author between 1918 and 1938. The databases I will continue to consult include the MLA Bibliography, Arts and Humanities Index, Historical Abstracts and Dissertation Abstracts International. I have had much success with these research tools. Examples of key terms which have provided many...
citations include “Joseph Roth and Austrian Literature,” “Zwischenkriegszeit and
literature,” “Radetzkymarsch,” “Büste des Kaisers,” “Austrian literature and dreissiger
Jahren,” “Joseph Roth and Austria,” “first Austrian republic,” “first Austrian republic and
literature,” as well as “Joseph Roth.” All of these combinations reflect an attempt to
gather general and specific information about the author, the literary texts and the
historical time period I am looking at.

There is an essay that I want to read by Wendelin Schmidt-Dengler that addresses my
topic and is found in Österreich: Die Erste Republik (Weinzerl, ed.). I requested this book
through interlibrary loan. I have also found useful articles in journals like Modern Austrian
Literature and Österreich in Geschichte und Literatur. Other mentionable finds include
books such as Austria in Literature (Danald 2002), Co-Existant Contradictions: Joseph
Roth in Retrospect (Chambers 1991), Weltbürger-Textwelten (Bodi 1995) and Literatur
der inneren Emigration aus Österreich (Holzner, ed. 1998).

My next step is to finish reading Judson’s Exclusive Revolutionaries in order to get a
better understanding of liberal politics in Austria until 1914. In both Radetzkymarsch and
Die Büste des Kaisers one could interpret an element of criticism of liberal politics by the
narrator and various figures in both works. The liberals did not disappear after 1914 and
this type of research might lead me to other insights related to Roth’s literary works and
the historical time period in which they were written.

***
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 8 times  Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 11:23
am Author: WOODRUFF-WIEDING, M S <MWIEDING@AUSTIN.RR.COM>  Subject: Re: Kevin
Boyd’s Research Plans
Remove Forum
Kevin, thank you very much for returning the book. Of course we can share. If I'm not in
class, please feel free to email or call 474-1396 if I haven't gotten it to you soon
enough. More later. Margaret
Post response
***
Go to the previous message
Go to the following message
Current Forum: Posting of Research Plans
Read 9 times
Date: Sat Nov 23 2002 6:43 pm
Author: KELLER-LALLY, ANN <KELLERLALLYA@MAIL.UTEXAS.EDU>
Subject: Re: Kevin Boyd’s Research Plans
Remove Forum
Hi Kevin!

It sounds like you are satisfied with the materials you have access to. Are you still
looking for anything? Are you having any difficulties or hang-ups?

If you are still looking, you might want to do a search in the Modern Austrian Literature:
Journal of the International Arthur Schnitzler Research Foundation (compiles list of NA
dissertations on Austrian Literature). Your Diss Abstracts Int'l search might have
completely covered this already, but maybe not.

Viel Glueck!-Ann
Kevin:

Sounds like you have tightened up the scope and well on your way. I'd check the
diss/abstracts international to see what else is out there. maybe lexis/nexis for
responses to magris....
Bestens-
Clair
Post response

It sounds like you might need to tighten your focus even more. The goal in a
bibliographic search is to get less results, not more; if you get tons of hits, then you're
writing in an over-saturated field. So you might try keywords that turn up less hits.

Joseph Roth seems to have been a very popular author, with a great deal of scholarship
written on him. Make sure to keep very tight rein on your searches!

It seems like you’ve searched in all the right places - now it’s just a matter of marshalling
that data.
Post response

Really classic lit/history lit search, well described.
The issue will be in the writing -- the era REFERRED to is not the era WRITTEN IN. So you
may need to situate Roth historically, as well as the action of the novels.
Well done.
Post response