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Digital Timeline: German Romanticism

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Timeline for GSST 20

The goals of this assignment are twofold:

1. To practice the vocabulary specific to a thoughtful engagement with German Studies; to work on grammar; to review and solidify knowledge acquired from the reading materials.
2. To learn how to use a digital platform (in this case Timeline JS) in order to enhance work in the humanities. In particular, students will create a review timeline, which task will involve identifying important information concerning the texts we study in class and learning how to create links to this information and associated images.

Step 1

Deadline: October 11th 2019

Students work in the designated pairs. At the beginning of the semester, topics will be assigned to each pair and students begin to research these topics, generating the first half of the timeline by the week before fall break (October 11th). Please find the topics in Moodle. Students receive training to create the online data. Each pair presents on what they wrote on October 9th; each pair goes over the text of another pair to correct the grammar and spelling.

Step 2

Deadline: December 6th

Following fall break, the pairs will be reconfigured (see new configuration and new assigned texts in Moodle). The second half of the timeline will be completed during the final full week of classes (December 4th and 6th).

Students will be expected to be able to fill in 3 rubrics for each text in the timeline, in addition to the relevant year(s):

- historical background (one or two relevant historical events);
- short bio and other relevant works for the author of the text (5-10 sentences);
- reception by the author's contemporaries as well as reactions or cultural responses to the text in the present (such as contemporary versions of a fairy tale, blogs, or online archives with digitized versions of the text).

During each "assignment week," students will bring the data they have gathered to class (on Tuesday) and workshop the language and content with colleagues from other pairs. Then the pairs will input the data into the timeline as homework for the next class. During this following class (on Thursday), each pair will present their section of the timeline (including methods used to research the information).

After all pairs have presented, the class will have fully reviewed all materials. As a group, we decide what to keep in the final timeline; students eliminate unnecessary information and review the grammar and the spelling. The information should be brief, streamlined, and briefly present the readings of the class.

Grading:

The following categories will be used to evaluate this assignment:

- Grammar and spelling
- Accuracy of information
- Vocabulary used

Additionally, each member of a pair submits a feedback form for the work that their partner has contributed to the joint assignment (see Moodle). This will ensure an equitable distribution of the grade.

Grading takes place after each stage of the process; the average of these intermediary grades is part of the class participation. No late submissions will be accepted.