

JOHN BLAIR

Associate Professor of German
Full Professor in August, 2008

Address:

Department of For. Langs. & Lits.
State University of West Georgia
Carrollton, Georgia 30118

E-Mail: jblair@westga.edu

work phone: 678 839-9593

Homepage: <http://www.westga/~jblair>

Education:

Ph.D., Indiana University, June, 1994

M.A., Indiana University, 1984

B.A., Hendrix College, 1981

Dissertation:

Authority and Transgression in "Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre," 1994

Book:

Tracing Subversive Currents in Goethe's "Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship" (Camden House, 1997, 214 pp.)

Reviewed:

by Wolfgang Bunzel (Dresden) in *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature*
by Hildburg Herbst (Rutgers University) in *The German Quarterly* 72 (1999), 83-84.

by Todd Kontje (Univ. of Chicago) in *Seminar* xxxiv (1998), 449-450.

by Gordon Burgess (Trinity College, Dublin) in *Journal of European Studies* 27 (1997), 481-482.

by Franz Futterknecht (University of Florida) in *South Atlantic Review*

by James A. Cox in *The Midwest Book Review*

Articles:

"Reading Triangles in Fassbinder's *Fontane Effi Briest*." Forthcoming in **German Studies Review**, 2010.

"Is Literature Still Central to German Studies?" With Jane Curran, Albrecht Classen, Sara Lennox, and Rolf Goebel. *The German Quarterly* 80 (Spring 2007), 139-142. (My section is on p. 141. The text is also available at <http://germanquarterly.aatg.org/forum.html>)

"Colonialism in Sternberg's *Der blaue Engel*." in *West Virginia University Philological Papers, Volume 50* (Special Issue: *Race and Racism in Literature and Film*), 2003 (2004), 53-59.

"Madness and Bliss as Ideological Categories in Mararethe von Trotta's *The*

Promise." *Journal of the Association for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Arts* 7.1-2 (Autumn 2001- Spring 2002) 91-101.

"Frédéric Melchior Grimm." *Dictionary of Literary Biography, Vol. 313: Writers of the French Enlightenment, I.* Ed. Samia I. Spencer. Thomson Gale: Detroit et al., 2005. 241-248. (5000-word article + bibliography).

"Friedrich Melchior Grimm." 600-word article + bibliography. *Dictionary of Eighteenth-Century German Philosophers.* , 2 vols. (Bristol: Thoemmes Press, 2007). General editors: Manfred Kuehn (Boston University) and Heiner Klemme (Wuppertal).(forthcoming)

Reviews:

Wilson, W.D. (ed.). *Goethes Weimar und die franzoesische Revolution. Dokumente der Krisenjahre* (Böhlau Verlag: Köln, 2004) forthcoming in *Goethe Yearbook 15* (2008)

Bennet, Benjamin. *Goethe as Woman. The Undoing of Literature* (Wayne State UP: Detroit, 2001) in *The Eighteenth-Century Current Bibliography*. Ed. by Kevin L. Cope & Robert C. Leitz, III. N. s. volume 28--for 2002. New York: AMS, 2006: 783--84.

O'Brien, Mary-Elizabeth. *Nazi Cinema as Enchantment. The Politics of Entertainment in the Third Reich.* (Columbia: Camden House, 2004) in *German Quarterly* 78.2 (2005) 258-259.

Tantillo, Astrida Orle. *The Will to Create. Goethe's Philosophy of Nature.* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2002) in *German Quarterly* 77.1 (2004) 95-6.

Martin Swales and Erika Swales. *Reading Goethe. A Critical Introduction to the Literary Work.* *Studies in German Literature, Linguistics, and Culture.* James Hardin, ed. (Columbia: Camden House, 2002) in *Seminar* xl, Number 1 ,2004, 70-72.

Hake, Sabine. *Popular Cinema of the Third Reich.* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2001) in *German Quarterly* 75.4 (2002) 450-451.

Paul E. Kerry. *Enlightenment Thought in the Writings of Goethe: A Contribution to the History of Ideas.* *Studies in German Literature, Linguistics, and Culture.* James Hardin, ed. (Columbia: Camden House, 2001) in *Seminar* xl, Number 1. 2004, 72-73.

Daniel J. Farrelly. *Goethe in East Germany, 1949-1989. Toward a History of Goethe Reception in the GDR* (Columbia:Camden House 1998) in *Seminar* xxxviii, Number 2, 2002, 177-178..

Christoph Lorey: *Die Ehe im Klassischen Werk Goethes* (Amsterdam/Atlanta: rodopi, 1995) in *Seminar* xxxv, Number 4, 1998, 73-74.

Textbook Reviews:

Wende. (Beginning German Text under development by Thomson/Heinle. Chaps. 4 and 7) Completed October 2006.

Cinema for German Conversation and Composition. Focus Publishing.

Developmental Review of Chapter on **Im Juli**. Completed April 2006.

Sevin et al. *Wie Geht's*, 8th edition, Thomson/Heinle. Developmental Review of

Chaps.1-4. Completed August 2005
 Terrell et al. **Kontakte**, 6th edition. McGraw-Hill. Completed Dec. 2005.

Journalistic or Service Publications:

- “New Colleague in German at the University of West Georgia.”** Das Rundschreiben. A Publication of the Georgia Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. Neue Folge, No. 21, Herbst 2006, 1 (continued on 7).
- “Total Immersion Weekend at UWG 6-8 April 2007.”** Das Rundschreiben. A Publication of the Georgia Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. Neue Folge, No. 21, Herbst 2006, 4.
- “Second Annual Ten-Week studies Abroad Program in Oldenburg.”** Das Rundschreiben. A Publication of the Georgia Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. Neue Folge, No. 21, Herbst 2006, 5.
- “New German Major at the State University of West Georgia.”** Das Rundschreiben. A Publication of the Georgia Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. Neue Folge, No. 16, Spring 2004, 6.
- “State University of West Georgia Inaugurates German Total Immersion Camp.”** Das Rundschreiben. A Publication of the Georgia Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German. Neue Folge, No. 16, Spring 2004, 22.

Presentations:

- Panel Session Organizer: **“More with Media.”** AACTFL 2008 Annual Convention, Nov. 21-23, 2008.
- “Türkisch für Anfänger – A Contemporary German Television Series as Cultural content and Language Challenge in German Conversation.”** In a Panel entitled **“Teaching Culture and Language through Film.”** AACTFL 2008 Annual Convention, Nov. 21-23, 2008.
- Commentator for German Studies of America Conference Session. **“Representative Trends in Contemporary German Cinema: The Work of Petzold, Dresen, and Weingartner.”** at the 32nd Annual GSA conference, Oct. 2-5, 2008, St. Paul, Minnesota. (This involves a paper responding substantively to the session participants.)
- “The Changing Representation of Sexuality as Rebellion in Girls’ School Films from Leontine Sagan’s *Mädchen in Uniform*“** to the Present. Masculinities, Feminities and More – An Interdisciplinary Conference on Gender in the Humanities. Carrollton, Georgia, Nov. 6-8, 2008.
- Panel Participant, **“Roundtable discussion of German Cultural Studies in German”** at The Meaning of Culture: German Studies in the 21st Century. March 29-30, Athens, Georgia.
- “Between the Potency and the Existence falls the shadow:’ Topographical Experiencne as Avoidance in Christian Kracht’s Faserland.”** 60th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, April 19-21, 2007.
- Moderater’s response paper** to the four-paper panel entitled “The ‘Style’ of Decline . Notions of Decadence in (Post)modern German Literature,” German Studies

- Association, Pittsburgh, Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 2006.
- “Reading Triangles in Fassbinder’s *Fontane Effi Briest*.”** Trajectories: The past and Future of German Studies. Bloomington, Indiana, March 3-5, 2006
- “Nation and Myth in Tom Tykwer’s *Winterschläfer*.”** SAMLA. Atlanta, Nov. 4-6, 2005.
- “Motherhood Interrupted in Fassbinder’s *Fontane Effi Briest*.”** 29th Annual Colloquium on Literature and Film. Morgantown, West Virginia, Sept. 30- Oct. 2, 2004
- “Looking at the Past in Stefan Ruzowitzky’s *Anatomy*.”** German Studies Association Convention. Washington, D.C., Oct. 7-10, 2004
- “Real and Metaphorical Warfare in Agnieszka Holland’s *Europa Europa*.”** 28^h Annual Colloquium on Literature and Film. Morgantown, West Virginia. Sept. 18-20, 2003.
- “Friedrich Melchior Grimm’s *Correspondance littéraire* and the German Cultural Context.”** Eleventh Interantional Congress on the Englishtenment. Thirty-Fourth Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Los Angeles, August 3-10, 2003.
- “Hollywood German-Style: Stefan Ruzowitzky’s *Anatomy*.”** The Fifteenth Hollins Colloquium on German Film: “The Germans in Hollywood Today. Roanoke, Virginia, June 19-23, 2003
- Viktor Vogel: Commercial Man and The Blue Angel*.”** 56th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, April 24-26, 2003.
- “Colonialism in Sternberg’s *Der blaue Engel*.”** 27th Annual Colloquium on Literature and Film. Morgantown, West Virginia. October 10-12, 2002.
- “This old School’: Sarah Kernochan’s Renovation of Leontine Sagan’s *Mädchen in Uniform*.”** 55th Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, April 18-20, 2002.
- “Mise en scene and Memory in Margarethe von Trotta’s *The Promise*.”** Invited Speaker at the Annual Foreign Film Festival, Georgia Southern, March 5-7, 2002.
- “Reading Foreign Films: Methods and Directions.”** Invited Speaker at the Annual Foreign Film Festival, Georgia Southern, March 5-7, 2002.
- “Rebellion, Conformity, and Sexuality in Sarah Kernochan’s *All I wanna do and Leontine Sagan’s Mädchen in Uniform*.”** Parody & Imitation: 16th Annual International Conference in Literature, Visual Arts and/or Cinema. Atlanta, Georgia, November 2 - 4, 2001.
- “Authority and (Biological) Illegitimacy in Goethe’s *Wilhelm Meister’s Apprenticeship*.”** SEASECS 2001: The Eighteenth Century and the Future. Huntsvilles, Georgia, March 1-3, 2001.
- “Madness and Bliss as Ideological Categories in Mararethe von Trotta’s *The Promise*.”** Madness & Bliss:15th Annual International Conference in Literature, Visual Arts and/or Cinema. Atlanta, Georgia, November 3 - 5, 2000.
- “Collections in *Die Wahlverwandtschaften*: Appreciation, Abuse and Social Engineering.”** SEASECS 2000: New Worlds in Thought, Place & Time. Savannah, Georgia, March 2-4, 2000.
- “Die Vorzüge von kurzen Spielfilmauszügen im Anfängerunterricht”** Savannah Sprachbad 2000: Total Immersion Weekend for Teachers of German. Savannah,

Georgia, Jan. 14-16.

- "Women and Limits in Goethe's *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*."** The International Conference on Borders and Foundations in Literature and the Visual Arts, Atlanta, Georgia, October 23,-25, 1997.
- "Humor and *Hamlet* in Goethe's *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*."** Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, April 18-20, 1996
- "Projection in Kafka's *Der Prozeß*."** Kentucky Foreign Language Conference in Lexington, Kentucky, April 20-22, 1995
- "Canon and Collection in Goethe's *Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship*."** (Re)thinking the Canon: Plural Approaches. Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, March, 1994
- "The Figure of the Vulgar Clown in Goethe's *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*: A Cultural Perspective and its Impact on Interpretation."** The Annual Interdisciplinary Symposium in Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque Studies: The Comic. University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, February, 1994
- "Collections in Goethe's *Wilhelm Meisters Lehrjahre*,"** Multidisciplinary Conference on Germanic Studies, Indiana University at Bloomington, November, 1993

Grants:

- Awarded Faculty Research Grant of \$1500** (Spring 2007)
- Awarded Research Grant** (Blended Instruction Competition) of one new laptop and **\$750** for research on Hybrid teaching strategies using on-line and classroom techniques. (Fall 2006)
- Wrote **successful** Technology Fee Grant for **\$2250** to maintain service and upgrade software for Can8 in the language lab.(Spring 2005)
- Wrote **successful** Technology Fee Grant for **\$2242** to add ceiling mounted LCD projector for Cobb Hall 130. (Spring 2005)
- Wrote **successful** Technology Fee Grant for **\$8300** to upgrade lab connections to drops rather than two loud and inefficient hubs. (Spring 2005)
- Wrote Technology Fee Grant for **\$3000** man lab with student worker and extend open hours. (Spring 2005)
- Wrote Technology Fee Grant for **\$1250** to buy printer and first years license for monitoring and maintenance. (Spring 2005)
- Wrote successful Technology Fee Grant for **\$8000** to add ten Can8 liscenses to the language lab. (Spring 2004)
- Wrote successful Technology Fee Grant for **\$1500** to maintain service and upgrade software for Can8 in the language lab.(Spring 2004)
- Wrote **successful** Technology Fee Grant for the **\$1500** service and upgrade fees for Can8 software. (Spring, 2003)
- Wrote Technology Fee Grant for wiring and switch upgrade for **\$4500**. Not awarded (2004).
- Wrote **successful** Technology Fee Grant for a computer, DVD, and LCD projector station for the lab and was awarded **\$8000**. (Spring 2002)
- Wrote successful **grant** for the **\$1500** service and upgrade fees for Can8 software (Spring 2002)

I was awarded a **Dell Laptop** in Dr. Hines' on-line course proposal competition. (May, 2001)

Maintained contact with Michael Henegar, organized his yearly **\$500 travel scholarship donation**, and organized the selection of the recipient. (Spring 2003, 2004, and 2005)

Wrote Grant for "Dedicated Language Laboratory Development and Intermim Use Facility" requesting **\$20,000**. Not awarded. (11/1997)

Wrote Teaching & Learning Grant "Structural Knowledge in Lanugage Learning (SkiLL) for **\$19,775**. Not awarded (2000)

Applied unsuccessfully for Goevernor's Teaching Fellows Summer Symposium (1990)

Service:

University System Committees:

German Content Advisory Committee member for the Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators. Fall 2005-present. (full day meetings, Sept. 28, 2005, and Feb. 9-10 and Sept. 13, 2006, two day meeting: Jan. 17-18)

Institutional Committees:

Film Studies Minor Program Committee, Fall 2005-present
 Institutional Studies and Planning Committee, Fall 2004-June 2006
 Academic Policies and Procedures Committee, Fall 2003 – Spring 2004
 Chair, International Programs Advisory Committee, Fall 2004-Spring 2007
 International Programs Advisory Committee, Fall 2003 – present
 Technology Planning Committee (Fall 2001 – 2002)

College Committees:

Executive Committee, Fall 2006- present
 XIDS Committee, Fall 2003-present
 Chair, XIDS Committee, Fall 2008 - present
 Faculty Advisory Committee, 1998-2000

Departmental Committees:

Chair, Departmental Study Abroad Committee, 2008
 Departmental Budget Committee, 2008
 Spanish Search Committee, 2008
 Chair, Third-Year Review Committee: Bridgette Gunnels, 2007
 Third-Year Review Committee: Euisuk Kim, 2007
 Third-Year Review Committee: Andrés Echarri, 2007
 Tenure and Promotion Committee: Mustapha Hamil, Fall 2006
 Chair, Third-Year Review: Ioanna Chatzidimitriou, Spring 2006
 German Position Search Committee, Spring 2006
 Spanish Position Search Committee 2005-2006
 Chair, Jewell Miles Burson Fellowship Selection Committee, 1997- present
 Spanish Position (2) Search Committee, 2003-2004
 (interviewed at MLA in San Diego)
 Very active Role in Internal Evaluation Committee, 2003
 (Wrote SWOT analysis)
 Active Role in SACS Advisory Committee

French Position (2) Search Committee 2002-2003

(interviewed at MLA in New York)

Member of Strategic Assessment Committee for Program Review, 2001.

French Search Committee, Spring, 2000

Departmental Committee on the Homepage, 1998

Spanish Search Committee, 1998

Other Service:

Interviewed student contestants for Georgia German Student of the Year (at the German State High School Convention in Covington, Jan 2006.

Week-long exploratory visits to Oldenburg, Germany to discuss studies abroad opportunities, 2004 and 2005

Organizing 11-week Overseas Program, Fall 2005.

Organized and managed (with Dr. Cormican) Total Immersion Weekend for 18 students of German.

Revision of course offerings in preparation for Application for German Major Definition and application to BOR for German Major (18-page document)

Freshman Advising at the Excel Center (20 hours per year, 2000 – Fall 2002

German Studies Coordinator, 1999-present

Foreign Language Lab Director, 1999-present

Departmental Webmaster, 1998-present (designed dept. homepage and ongoing revisions of same)

Internship and Overseas Study Mediator: one student in Summer 2000; seven, Spring and Summer 2001; six, Summer 2002; three, Summer 2003; seven, Summer 2004

Organized (with Dr. Cormican) and attended “Kaffeestunde,” German dinners, German picnic, and German film series 1997- present

Organized Dr. Günter Seefeldt's campus visit to speak on Overseas internship opportunities. Fall, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002.

Moderated a panel at the "International Conference on Madness and Bliss in Literature and the Visual Arts, Including Cinema," Nov. 3-5, 2000

Organized Panel (“Eighteenth- and Twentieth-Century Dialogues with the Margins”) for SEASECS conference, March 1-3, 2001.

Organization (with Dr. Cecilia Lee) of the Foreign Language Honor Society Initiation, Spring, 1998-present

Graded Graduate Reading Exam, Jan. 2001.

Moderated two panels at the "International Conference on Utopia and Dystopia in Literature and the Visual Arts, Including Cinema," Nov. 1999.

Interviewed High School Students for Nomination for AATG Trip awards (with Horst Kurz), 1999.

Creation and submission of one Honors course (accepted), 2000.

German Picnic series for enthusiastic and interested students 1999-2000

Creation and submission of four XIDS courses (accepted), 1998-1999

Translation of three letters for the dean's office, 1998

Evaluation of German application materials for admissions (Ernest Oppong; 2/9), 1998

Grading Graduate Reading Knowledge Exams (3), 1998
 Translation of adoption papers for Immigration Service application, 1998
 Refereed article for *Colloquia Germanica*, 1998
 Attended Savannah Sprachbad, a total immersion, pedagogical conference for Georgia teachers. 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006
 Attended State High School German convention in Covington, 1998, 2004, 2006
 Declamation contest: chose all poems for German and evaluated student performances, 1997
 Hands-on Workshop for the Foreign Languages and Literatures Department on the Construction of a Home Page (late in the Fall semester, 1996)
 Revision of the departmental homepage, University of Nevada (Reno), 1996-1997
 Coordination of first- and second-year German, University of Nevada (Reno), 1994-1997
 Refereed articles for publication in *German Quarterly*, 1995-1996, 2005
 Delta Phi Alpha faculty advisor (Fall, 1994-1997)
 German Film Series Organizer (Spring, 1995-1997)
 "Kaffeestunde," (Spring, 1995-1997)
 Supervision of assistant instructors teaching third- and fourth-semester German, Indiana University (Bloomington), 1993-1994

Research Interests:

18th Century and "Goethe-Zeit"
 Kafka
 Literary Sociology, Freud, Stereotypes
 Shakespeare (esp. *Hamlet*) in Germany
 Carnival, Marketplace, "Hanswurst" traditions
 Collections and Museums in the 18th and 19th centuries
 German Film

Fellowships:

Oskar Seidlin Fellow, 1987-1988
 DAAD Fellow, 1986-1987
 Heart of Germany Fellow, 1986
 Max Kade Fellow, 1985-1986
 Indiana University Fellow, 1983

Foreign Experience:

Krefeld Sommerakademie, June and July, 1997
 Freie Universität Berlin, 1986-1987
 Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München, 1979-1981
 Research Trip Berlin and Oldenburg, May and June, 2004

Teaching Experience:

Contemporary German Cinema, Spring 2004
 Advanced Languages Skills (GRMN 4170), Fall 2003

Mysteries and Horror in German Literature and Film (GRMN 4240), Spring 2002
(honors course)

German Civilization (GRMN 4300 / 5300), a culture course predominately for graduate students, Summer, 2000 and 2001

German History through Film and Art (XIDS 2100, large lecture section), Spring 2000 and Fall 2002, Summer 2003, Fall 2004, Summer 2004 (on-line), Fall 2006.

The Fin de Siecle in Germany and Austria (XIDS 2100), Fall, 1998

German Culture through Film, State Univ. of West Georgia, Spring, 1998

German Composition (GRMN 3102), State Univ. of West Georgia, 1997-2005

German Conversation (GRMN 3101), State Univ. of West Georgia, 1997-2006

German Literature and Culture of the Fin de Siècle (FLL430/630, crosslisted with English 480/680), University of Nevada (Reno), Spring, 1997

Short Forms in German Literature, University of Nevada (Reno), Spring, 1995 and 1996

Western Traditions (Old Testament through Dante), University of Nevada (Reno), Fall, 1995

Third-Year Conversation, University of Nevada (Reno), 1994-1996, State Univ. of West Georgia, Fall, 1998-2000.

German I, II, III, and IV, State Univ. of West Georgia, 1997-2006; University of Nevada (Reno), 1994-1996; Indiana University (Bloomington), 1982-1985

German 330 (Mittelstufe II), Indiana University (Bloomington) 1991, 1993, 1994

Language Concepts, a unit in the Indiana University Groups Program, Summers, 1983-1985, 1991, 1992

Language for Reading Knowledge I and II, Indiana University (Bloomington), 1988-1990, 1992

German Language and Culture Instructor for a Summer Enrichment Program at Shoals Elementary School in Shoals, Indiana, Summer 1991

Major Themes in Western Literature, Indiana University (Bloomington), Comparative Literature, 1988

Major Characters in Western Literature, Indiana University (Bloomington), Comparative Literature, 1987

Guitar, Tuba, and Singing, Arkansas Children's Colony, Conway, Arkansas, 1977-1978

Additional Occupational Experience:

Associate Professor of German, University of West Georgia, 2004-present.

Assistant Professor of German, State Univ. of West Georgia, 1997-present.

Translator of technical documents for a court case on two- and four-stroke engines and the effects of their emissions on aquatic environments (six texts with a total of 15,644 words)

Lecturer, University of Nevada, Reno, 1994-1997

Part-Time Lecturer, Indiana University at Bloomington, 1993-1994

Correcting and indexing *Intertextuality: German Literature and Visual Art from the Renaissance to the Twentieth Century* (Columbia: Camden House, 1993), ed. Ingeborg Hoesterey and Ulrich Weisstein

Editing and proof-reading assistance on *Zeitgeist in Babel: The Post-Modernist Controversy* (Bloomington: Indiana UP, 1991), ed. Ingeborg Hoesterey

Various jobs in Germany, Book-binding factory, fruit warehouse, shock-absorber factory,

word processing, minor non-technical assistance in making a film

Affiliations:

Goethe Society of North America
 Modern Language Association
 South Atlantic Modern Language Association
 American Association of Teachers of German
 American Association of University Professors
 Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
 Association for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Arts

Languages:

German, near native
 English, native
 Dutch, reading knowledge, some speaking
 French, reading knowledge

Letters of Recommendation:

Indiana University at Bloomington:
 Peter Boerner (for direct inquiries: 812 336-1749)
 Ingeborg Hoesterey
 Breon Mitchell
 Terence Thayer (Departmental Teaching Summary)
 University of Nevada at Reno:
 John C. Pettey (for direct inquiries: 702 784-6055)
 Frank Tobin (for direct inquiries: 702 784-6055)
 Judith Whitenack (for direct inquiries: 702 784-6055)