



THE EMERGENCE OF LITERARY HISTORY

Graduate education in German involves the teaching of literary history. Graduate seminar syllabi are structured by means of literary history (periods, genres over time, literary movements etc.), comprehensive exams test the acquisition of literary-historical knowledge, and dissertations frequently relate to standard literary-historical accounts. But historically, literary history has not been the only or dominant way of organizing literature; it is a fairly modern device.

This seminar looks at the emergence of literary history in Germany, or at the discovery of literature's historicity, in the late 18th and early 19th century, and pays attention to writings of Herder, Schiller, Friedrich and August Wilhelm Schlegel, among others.

Readings in German; discussion in English.

Fall 2018

Jakob Norberg

Wednesdays 4:40 - 7:10 PM

