Course: German 276/376: Franz Kafka

Time: 276/376: Tuesdays and Fridays, 1:30 – 2:40
       376: Thursdays, 1:30 – 2:40
Place: TBA
Instructor: Mr. Kruse
Office: Founders 411
Office Hours: TBA and by appointment
Carrel: I will provide resources for the course on carrel X-XX in the Clapp Library.

Texts:
For 276/376:

Kafka The Metamorphosis, In the Penal Colony, and other Stories. Simon and Schuster.

Kafka The Trial. Schocken.

Selected short texts (provided)

For 376:

Additional texts in German: TBA

Mechanics of a 200/300 course: German 276 is taught in English and meets twice a week; German 376 is taught in German and meets an additional time a week. German 276 is attended by all students enrolled in German 276/376; German 376 is attended only by the students enrolled in 376. In German 376, we will read some of the same, but mostly different and additional texts in German. German 376 students will also write their final paper in German. Students may also elect to write their short paper in German, after consultation with the instructor.

Course conference(s): I have created two course conferences. GER276-F02 will be accessible to all students enrolled in German 276/376. GER376-F02 will deal only with items of importance to German 376 students but will also be accessible to all students. All students should regularly consult and use GER276-F02. This will be the forum for information about the course, questions and answers, additional materials, web links, etc. etc. German 376 students should additionally consult GER376-F02.

Goal of the course: It is the goal of this course to provide an introduction to the work of Franz Kafka: intensive work with his texts, his context (biographic, historical, geographic), his reception, and his cultural status at the beginning of a
new century. During the first half of the semester we will study a large segment of texts published during his lifetime. During the second half of the semester we will attempt to deepen our understanding of central themes in his works by reading a selection of his posthumously published texts.

Requirements: Careful reading of all texts, regular attendance, and active participation during class discussion are of great importance. I will assign individuals or small groups to prepare short oral reports on selected issues. 276/376 students will write a short paper, a mid-term exam, and a longer final paper; German 376 students will write the final paper in German.

Grading:

Class participation: 25%
Oral report: 10%
Short paper (2-4 pages): 15%
Midterm: 20%
Final paper (10-12 pages): 30%