Turn-of-the-century Berlin, Munich and Vienna experienced an explosion of creative energies that left their mark on the music, painting, literature and film of the time. Students enrolled in this course will encounter this era's aesthetic movements including naturalism, decadence, symbolism, Jugendstil, and expressionism and investigate how such topics as the battle between the classes and generations, morality and sexual revolution, bohemianism and decadence, psychology and the desires, militarism and madness, as well as abstraction and the search for feeling played themselves out in the era's artifacts. The course will introduce students to regional differences between the Austrian, Bavarian and Prussian metropolises and their respective modernisms around 1900. Students will read authors like Sigmund Freud, Gerhart Hauptmann, Thomas Mann, Arthur Schnitzler, Frank Wedekind; see films by Paul Wegener and Robert Wiene; listen to music by Schönberg, Strauss and Berg; and visit the Ackland Museum. Readings and instruction in German.

GERM 349
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12:30 - 1:45
Dey Hall 412
Professor Richard Langston