**GERM 1020 Essay #2**

**Date: Monday, November 5 (in-class essay)**

The test consists of you writing **one** essay response to **one** of the following questions.  As with your previous essay, you must use proper essay structure. For the test, you can use your book.  The questions have already been posted on Brightspace, which gives you time to prepare your response; as a result, my expectations are higher for this test than they would be otherwise.  I encourage you to prepare notes for the essay, be it jot notes outlining your structure or even rough drafts.  For the test, you can bring in a sheet with your thesis statement (not your introductory paragraph), and your 3-4 supporting points in jot note form.  This will be handed in with the test, and part of your mark will be based on this.

When it does come to preparing, I would recommend that pick a topic that interests you, that you establish your thesis/argument, that you chart out 3-4 argumentative points that can serve as your paragraphs and help to support that thesis, and that you find the relevant passages/quotations that you will use for support in your essay.

When it comes to quoting from the text in the test, shorter passages can be quoted in their entirety, while longer passages (anything more than three lines) can be quoted with the first few words, an ellipsis, and then the last words, e.g. “I have perhaps not yet learnt enough ... now with my other eyes” (161-62).  If you use the edition of the play assigned for the class, then you do not need to include the publication information at the end of the test; however, if you do use another text or printout, you must include the publication

information (you will lose points if you do not).

Just to reiterate, you can bring your books (or printouts if you do not have a paper copy).  You can also bring your thesis statement and your 3-4 supporting points in jot note form.  While writing out extended notes and/or drafts can be helpful prior to the test, they cannot be out during the test.  Some students have requested the use of dictionaries for language reference, and this is acceptable.  Laptops and phones are not allowed; if either are out during the test, your test will be taken away and you will receive an automatic zero.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions

1. How does Brecht explore the corruption of society and the brutality of humanity?  To what ends?
2. Describe the thin (or even non-existent) line between the lawful and the unlawful in the play, and the possible reason(s) why this is so.
3. How does the play dramatize the struggle between the demands of self-interest and the duties of love?  To what ends?
4. How does the play explore (and satirize) such themes as morality, immorality, and amorality?  Likewise, in what ways are moral righteousness, moral arbitrariness, and moral ambiguity prominent in the play?  To what ends?
5. As a Marxist, Brecht was highly critical not only of the modern world but of the middle-classes and of the capitalist system more widely.  How are the flaws and crookedness of capitalist society explored in the play?  To what ends?
6. As a dramatist, Brecht was heavily intrigued by the dramatic (and political) possibilities of exploiting irony on the stage.  Discuss.