The Department of German Presents:

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"Experimental Life Writing"

Monday January 10th, 2011
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
HG 1010

In this work in progress, Kacandes considers recent autobiographies, biographies and memoirs, with the aim of discerning their authors' attempts to work against the coherency of self, time, or traditional life writing forms. She thus takes up experiments with person of narration (like Coetzee's Boyhood); entanglement of writer and subject (like Modiano's Dora Bruder and Honigmann's Ein Kapitel aus meinem Leben); chronology (like Ch. Wolf's Ein Tag im Jahr); image and text (like Spiegelman's Maus and graphic life writing in its wake like Bechdel's and Satrapi's); and mixed genre (like Perek's W ou le souvenir d'enfance, Ondaatje's Running in the Family, or Kacandes's Daddy's War). The audience is highly encouraged to bring to bear on the discussion additional examples of experimentation.