

Lehrveranstaltungen der Abteilung Literatur im WS 2019/20

A. Bachelor-Studiengang

Lehrveranstaltung	Titel	DozentIn
GK 32000-W19	BA-UNA-A-VL	Sebastian Jobs, Christina Meyer, Birte Wege Fr 10-12, 14-16

Disziplinäres Orientierungsmodul Literatur:

Lehrveranstaltung	Titel	DozentIn
PS 32200-W19 (Einführung in die LitWiss, Grundlagen lit.wiss. Arbeitsweisen)	Introduction to Literary Studies I	Thomas Dikant Do 16-18, 201
<p>In this seminar, students will be introduced to the basic terms and methods for analyzing and interpreting literary texts. We will read classic works of 19th and 20th-century American literature, focusing on short stories, poems, and plays, and will discuss how narrative works, how to do close readings of prose as well as poetry, and how to analyze drama. This seminar provides a better understanding of how literature works and offers students a toolbox to be used throughout their studies.</p>		

Vertiefungsmodul A: Literarische Epochen

Lehrveranstaltung	Titel	DozentIn
VS 32201-W19	We the People? The “We” Narrative Voice in Postmodern and Contemporary US Fiction	Anke Sharma Di 10-12, 203
<p>This seminar, open to BA students, explores the “we” narrative voice by engaging with theoretical accounts on the “we” ranging from narratology to postcolonial and decolonial theory to feminist and queer theory. Central to</p>		

these accounts are questions of narrative conventions, representation, community, and individualism. We will then place these theories in dialogue with readings of short stories and novels that employ “we” narration. The aim of this seminar is to familiarize participants with the variety of “we” fiction in postmodern and contemporary US fiction, and to provide them with the theoretical foundations to reflect on this form in their own readings. Students are strongly advised to buy (used) copies of the following novels that will be discussed: John Barth, *Sabbatical*; Joshua Ferris, *Then We Came to the End*; Toni Morrison, *The Bluest Eye* (“we” section); Julie Otsuka, *The Buddha in the Attic*.

VS 32202-W19

The Politics and Poetics of Intimacy in Post-postmodernist Fiction

Rabeb Ben Hania
Di 14-16, 201

Intimate matters have, since antiquity, been associated with the apolitical and private sphere while the public has been deemed to be unemotional and impersonal. In a postmillennial context of “emotional capitalism”, numerous postpostmodernist narratives started to question and revise this relation in depth and redefine the politics and poetics of intimacy (Eva Illouz, 2007). In contemporary fiction, intimacy is explored from a different angle and is no longer viewed uniquely from the realm of the private nor identified in exclusion with the inner personal life of the individual. It is rather asserted as a sociocultural force moving by and within “external” factors as much as internal feelings. In this course, we focus on the impact of the transformation of intimacy on the private-public dichotomy as well as on the self and community by studying texts published in post2000s (Margaret Atwood, Marilynne Robinson, Zadie Smith, Rachel Cusk). Some of the questions this course addresses are: how is intimacy depicted in postpostmodernist women literature and in what ways does the postmillennial context affect the intimate bonds? What are the implications of the transformation of the aesthetic of intimacy on the public-private dualism? In what ways is the revivalism of interest in intimate matters significant in contemporary literary context?

**BA-Colloquium
C 32203-W19**

Tobias Jochum
Fr 12-14, 203

B. Master- Studiengang

Lehrveranstaltung	Titel	DozentIn
VL Modul A (Literaturgeschichte) VL 32210-W19	This is awkward: of Misfits and Miscommunications	Sonja Schillings Mo 10-12, 203
<p>In this seminar, we are interested in the ways in which literature portrays awkwardness, and associates certain aesthetic functions with it. Relatedly, we ask how and why literature itself may create awkward situations, and how this reflects on the social function of literature. Since awkwardness is a subjective and elusive “social feeling,” we will discuss very different aesthetic treatments of awkwardness in texts across the ages and genres. At the same time, we will consistently reflect on our own, possibly awkward, interpretive situation as contemporary critics.</p>		
Seminar Modul C (Textanalyse) HS 32211-W19	Frontera Fictions: Literature and the US- Mexico Border	Tobias Jochum Do 14-16, 203
<p>This course will provide an overview of writing from and about the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, considered vis-à-vis with the region's transnational history of colonial subjugation, neoliberal expansion, militarization, migration, and political resistance. Aiming for a truly hemispheric approach, we will engage with a wide range of literatures and cultural productions from both sides of the line in order to gain a nuanced grasp of the real and imagined border as multiple and mutable, immersed in a continuous process of reinvention through (re)negotiations of space, class, gender, sexuality, and race. Our primary readings include seminal texts by Chicana authors (Oscar Zeta Acosta, Gloria Anzaldúa, Sandra Cisneros), a selection of short stories by canonical Mexican authors (Juan Rulfo, Carlos Fuentes) and contemporary border writers (Rosario Sanmiguel, Eduardo Antonio Parra, Benjamin Alire Sáenz), as well as celebrated recent novels by Roberto Bolaño (2666), Yuri Herrera (Signs Preceding the End of the World), and Valeria Luiselli (Lost Children Archive). These texts will be supplemented with urgent journalistic and academic works by, among others, Susan Sontag, Leslie Jamison, Oscar Martínez, Dawn Paley, Achille Mbembe, Sayak Valencia, and Rossana Reguillo, as we grapple with the challenges of representation and explore the complex ways in which the border speaks to our contemporary moment of global crisis.</p>		

GV Modul B (Literaturtheorie – Positionen der LitWiss/Positions in Literary Studies) GV 32213-W19	Methods in Literary and Cultural Studies	Thomas Dikant(Wilfried Siemerling Mo 16-18, 319
<p>In this seminar, we will explore a wide range of theories and methods which have been relevant to twentieth-century literary and cultural studies. These include critical theory, formalism, structuralism, poststructuralism, new historicism, reception aesthetics, postcolonial studies, black studies, and gender studies, among others. The aim of this seminar is both to provide an overview of various critical practices and to foster a historically informed understanding of the methods and theories relevant to the study of literature and culture. The first half of this seminar (Oct. - Dec.) will be co-taught by Prof. Winfried Siemerling (University of Waterloo)</p>		
Interdisz. Studium 1 - Seminar 32616-W19		Wege/Kienscherf Do 12-14, 340
<p>In this interdisciplinary seminar, we will examine some of the diversity of anarchist thought and action, in the US and beyond, from both a sociological and a literary perspective. We will discuss some of the ideas of anarchist thinkers, probe the influence of these ideas on past and present social movements, and analyze how anarchist thought and action has inflected cultural products. Furthermore, we will look at possible intersections between anarchism, feminism, indigenism, and postcolonialism. The primary focus will be on two distinct periods: the turn of the 19th century, and the 1970s-present.</p>		

C. Ringvorlesung, WS 2019/20:

Ringvorlesung V 32000-W19	Popular Culture, Media, and Politics in the US	Curd Benjamin Knüpfer, Christina Meyer, Mi 18- 20, 340
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