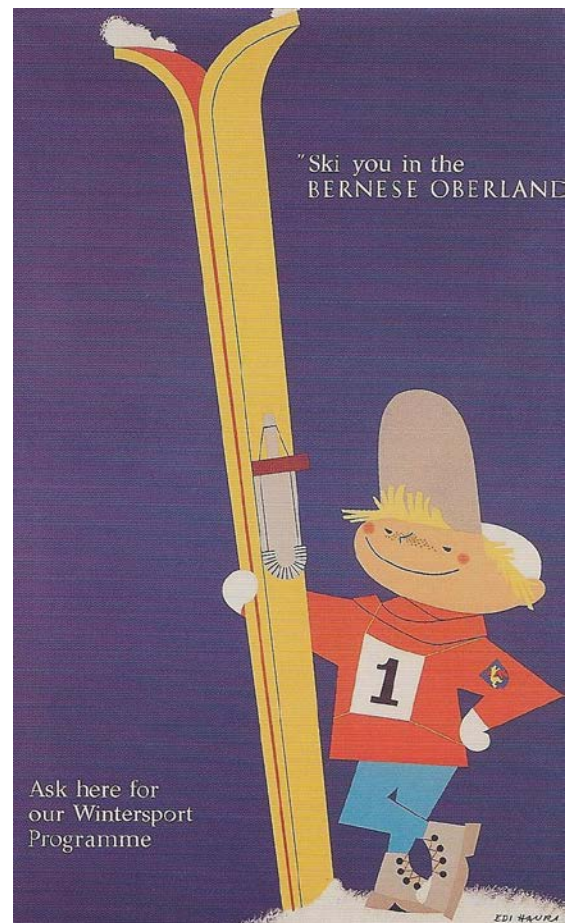


Information Booklet

Spring Semester 2012

20 February – 1 June 2012



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INTRODUCTION

Dear Students, dear Members of Staff,

The Spring Semester is upon us. As I write, the temperature outside is about 45 degrees cooler than it was when I wrote Autumn's introduction last summer. It's been snowing, and there is that beautiful white powder on the big branches and the very smallest twigs of the trees. Time, then, for some skiing (and some Glühwein, of course) to brush away all the cobwebs of too much festive partying, too many late nights, and too much turkey and Christmas pudding. Although the Swiss didn't invent skiing, it is well established that they did begin ski and winter tourism. And the Swiss Alps, especially in the Bernese Oberland, attracted many British mountain climbers in the 19th century, as well as, later, some of Europe's first package tour holidays. Today, over 8 million foreign tourists come to Switzerland every year (UNWTO 2011: 6). Bruner (2005:10) argued that tourism constitutes 'one of the greatest population movements of all time'. It is, according to Urry (2007: 4), 'the largest industry in the world, worth \$6.5 trillion and directly and indirectly accounting for 8.7% of world employment and 10.3% of world GDP'. This massive movement of people means a massive movement of languages (and dialects), as well as the host community's linguistic responses to that movement - advertising to it, selling to it, reacting (not always positively (Labov 1963)) to it. This semester's information booklet celebrates our MA seminar on discourse and tourism, taught by Dr. Kellie Gonçalves. I sincerely hope you have all had a great Christmas and have managed, during the break, to ski or indulge in whatever relaxing winter activities tickle your fancy.

As usual, the new semester brings welcomes and goodbyes. We bid farewell to Dr. Sarah Chevalier and Claudia von Wartburg Gomm as lecturers, Christina Rickli as assistant, Susanne Lachat as directors' assistant, Scott Tucker as our web administrator, Ben Imobersteg as student assistant and Cécile Müller as tutor, but welcome Dr. Simone Pfenninger as lecturer, Eva Grädel as the new directors' assistant, Dominique Bürki, Tobias Leonhardt, Simon Reber and Dorothee Weber as student assistants and Pascal Burkhard as tutor. Unfortunately, we were unable last Autumn to find a successor to Prof. Dr. Beatrix Busse as Assistant Professor of English Historical Linguistics and we will begin a new search, hopefully later in the semester. As usual, we have an exciting variety of courses on offer at all levels, including 'From *hlæfdige* 'bread-kneader' to *lady* – a history of English words'; 'What mischief made you become a bloody Muslim?: Religion and violence in Anglophone Indian novels' and 'The Five Senses in Medieval Literature'.

Below is a list of the extremely hard working people who, along with Hilary and Monika in the secretariat, deal with our day to day study concerns – please treat them nicely!:

Study counselling for BA students:

Students with surnames A-M: Irmtraud Huber

Students with surnames N-Z: Kathrin Reist

Study counselling for MA students: Dr. Julia Straub

Diploma Supplements BA/MA – “Prokura”: Irmtraud Huber

Practical module co-ordinator: Dr. Nicole Nyffenegger

International relations co-ordinator (Erasmus, Whitewater, Assistant teachers’ programme, Amity Programme, Stay Abroad): Dr. Kellie Gonçalves

On the research front, Bern plays host from 18th to 20th May, to the 23rd GNEL/ASNEL (Association for the Study of New Literatures in English) Conference, entitled “Post-Empire Imaginaries?: Anglophone Literature, History and the Demise of Empires”.

I wish you well for the Spring Semester and the arrival of long warmer days, shorter nights, daffodils, baby lambs, chocolate eggs and, of course, pancakes (dressed only with lemon juice and sugar) on 21st February.

Prof David Britain

Head of Department

References:

Bruner, E. (2005). *Culture on Tour: Ethnographies of Travel*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Labov, W (1963). The social motivation of a sound change. *Word* 19: 273–309.

UNWTO (2011). *UNWTO Tourism Highlights: 2011 Edition*. Madrid: UNWTO.

Urry, J. (2007). *Mobilities*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

STAFF

Directors of Department

Prof. Dr. David Britain, Head of Department
Modern English Linguistics
Prof. Dr. Thomas Claviez
Literary Theory
Prof. Dr. Annette Kern-Stähler
Medieval English Studies
Prof. Dr. Virginia Richter
Modern English Literature
Prof. Dr. Gabriele Rippl
North American Literature

Consultation Times

For specific times check website
and office door
By appointment

By appointment

Tuesday 14:30-15:30 or by appt.

Tuesday 16:30-18 or by appt.

Assistant Professors

Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau
Postcolonial Literature
N.N.
English Historical Linguistics

Tuesday 17:30-18:30 or by appt.

Lecturers

Dr. des. Juliane Langenbach
Modern English Literature
Dr. Simone Pfenninger
English Linguistics
Dr. Jürg Strässler
English Linguistics
Lic.phil. Nicole Studer-Joho
English Linguistics

By appointment

By appointment

By appointment

By appointment

Assistants

Patricia Bieder, M.A.
North American Literature
Lic.phil. Annie Cottier
Literary Theory
MarijkeDenger-Kähler, M.A.
Modern English Literature
Nora Anna Escherle, M.A.
Literary Theory
Dr. Kellie Gonçalves
Modern English Linguistics
Eva Grädel, M.A.
Medieval English Literature
Stephanie Hoppeler, M.A.
North American Literature
Irmtraud Huber, M.A.
Modern English Literature
Dr. Ursula Kluwick
Modern English Literature

By appointment

By appointment

By appointment

By appointment

Monday 16-18 or by appt.

By appointment

By appointment

By appointment

Tuesday 13-14 or by appt.

Dr. Nicole Nyffenegger (senior assistant)
Medieval English Literature
Kathrin Reist, M.A.
Medieval English Literature
Dr. Julia Straub (senior assistant)
North American Literature

Please sign up on office door
Tuesdays 14:15-16 or by appt.
Thursday 11-13 or by appt.

PhD Students (Projects funded by SNF)

Lukas Etter, M.A.
North American Literature
Lic.phil. Melanie Mettler
Modern English Literature

By appointment
By appointment

Teaching Staff

Dr. Franz Andres Morrissey
Dr. Margaret Mace-Tessler

By appointment
By appointment

Secretaries

Hilary Sharp

Monday 9-10, 13:45-15:15
Wednesday 9-10
Thursday 9-10, 13:45-15:15
Tuesday 9-10, 13:45-15:15
Wednesday 9-10

Monika Iseli-Felder

Librarian

Verena Breidenbach

Monday-Thursday

Information is subject to change. Please consult the notice boards and the departmental website regularly.

BACHELOR STUDIES

Language Foundation Module

Course Type:	Language Course
Title:	Writing Skills II
Instructors:	F. Andres Morrissey, M. Mace-Tessler
Times:	Tuesday 10-12 or Thursday 10-12
First Sessions:	21.02.12 or 23.02.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: This is the second part of the two-semester Writing Skills course. The emphasis this semester continues to be on acquiring and practising the skills required for academic writing, with a particular focus on incorporating secondary sources when formulating and supporting an academic argument. Students should expect to write each week, to rewrite, to work in groups, and to read each other's work critically. In the final weeks of the course, students will choose to write either a literature or a linguistics term paper for submission.

Texts: The materials needed for this course have been designed to meet the students' needs and will be made available during the course. They can also be downloaded from www.morrissey.unibe.ch.

Aims: (a) to introduce specific skills needed in academic writing and to provide practice in those skills (b) to apply those skills to a paper which requires both personal analysis and the evaluation and acknowledgment of the analyses others have carried out in secondary sources.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative written work

Grade Requirement: Evaluation of written work

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: Throughout term

Course Type: Language Course
Title: Modern English Grammar II
Instructor: F. Andres Morrissey
Time: Tuesday 8-10
First Session: 21.02.12
Credit Points: 3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: This is the second part of a two-semester module which will provide an overview of Modern English Grammar. In this part we will conclude the tour of English verb forms and extend the discussion to clause constructions.

The focus will be on exploring practical examples and then trying to deduce the grammatical rules that underlie them; in other words, a descriptive rather than a prescriptive approach. The ultimate goal is to develop an overview of Modern English Grammar that will serve as a reference for future work, be it in the study of language, in teaching, which some students will later be involved with, and in a more detailed understanding of the subtleties and nuances of the language that have an impact on the understanding of literary texts.

It is highly recommended that students attend the course sessions, but it is clear that as the course is offered only in one time slot, this may create a timetabling problem for minor students. For this reason, the entire course is also podcasted and the solutions to the practical exercises are available online (link on www.morrissey.unibe.ch). Furthermore, we offer tutorial sessions to help students work with the materials.

Texts: Useful textbooks include *Rediscover Grammar* by David Crystal, and McCarthy and Carter's *Cambridge Grammar of English* (CUP).

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: Final module exam (the exam will be held in the first week of the term break).

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: End of Spring Semester 2012

Focus Module: Language in Applied, Social and Historical Contexts

Course Type:	Lecture
Title:	Applied Linguistics
Instructor:	J. Strässler
Time:	Thursday 14-16
First Session:	23.02.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Applied linguistics is an interdisciplinary field of study that is concerned with research into language with relevance to real world problems. Whereas in the early days it just referred to applying a so-called 'scientific approach' to teaching foreign languages and later on to automatic translation, it now focuses on a huge range of areas in society in which language plays a role. Major branches of applied linguistics include bilingualism and multilingualism, first and second language acquisition, clinical linguistics, language teaching, testing and evaluation, language for special purposes, interpretation and translation, language assessment, language policy and planning, literacy issues, computer-mediated communication (CMC), forensic linguistics, conversation analysis, corpus linguistics, contrastive linguistics, sign and deaf linguistics, discourse analysis, lexicography, stylistics, pragmatics, rhetoric, etc.

In this lecture we shall look at a selection of the fields mentioned above in order to gain an overview of various themes in applied linguistics.

Texts: All texts will be available on ILIAS.

Aims: To gain an overview of various themes in sociolinguistics with a view to finding topics for future papers or theses.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work. Final exam.

Grade Requirement: The grade for the whole Focus Module (lecture + one seminar) is acquired in the respective seminar.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar
Title: Research Methods in Sociolinguistics
Instructors: D. Britain, K. Gonçalves
Time: Monday 14-16
First Session: 20.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: In this course we will be examining how sociolinguists go about the process of conducting fieldwork and collecting data suitable for sociolinguistic analysis. A major emphasis will be to enable students to gain both hands-on experience of linguistic fieldwork as well as a comprehensive understanding of what constitutes suitable sociolinguistic data, how to collect it appropriately and ethically, and how to manage it and store it in a format that is ready for analysis. Consequently, we examine data collection techniques for two types of data: an orally administered 'questionnaire' and a collection of narratives from native speakers of English. The course is therefore divided up into two distinct blocks, with each data collection type being dealt with in a distinct block. Each block consists of teaching sessions, data collection time and a block final conference session where students present their findings either orally or as a poster. In collecting data of this kind, we will be able to begin the process of building up a corpus of different data types that can be used for subsequent analysis.

Texts: All texts will be available on the ILIAS platform.

Aims: Students who have successfully completed this course will have acquired some understanding of how and why sociolinguists collect data for different types of linguistic analysis, and will have engaged themselves in a number of different data collection tasks.

Evaluation (pass/fail) & graded:

ALL students will be expected to:

- (a) Administer a questionnaire on US v UK lexical choice to Bernese speakers of English
- (b) Collect recordings and analyse narratives from native speakers of English

7 ECTS ('graded') students will be assessed through one oral presentation and one poster, a 3 page critical reflective report on their data collection experiences, and the submission of data based on (a) and (b) above.

4 ECTS ('ungraded') students will be assessed on the basis of the presentation of 2 posters and the submission of data based on (a) and (b) above.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): To be specified by instructor

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 28 May 2012

Timetable:

Block 1: Lexical choice in Bernese English: Americanisation in progress?

(Prof. Dr. David Britain and tutor)

February 20	Lecture (DB)
February 27	Discussion/Tutorial (DB+tutor)
March 5	Tutorial/Fieldwork
March 12	14.00-17.00 Tutorial/Fieldwork
March 19	Tutorial Fieldwork
March 26	14.00-18.00 Lexical choice conference (DB+KG+ tutor). ALL students will either present an oral report or poster on their work.

Block 2: Narratives in English conversation

(Dr. Kellie Gonçalves and tutor)

April 2	Lecture (KG)
April 9	Easter
April 16	Lecture (KG)
April 23	Tutorial/Fieldwork
April 30	Tutorial/Fieldwork
May 7	Tutorial/Fieldwork
May 14	14.00-18.00 Narratives conference (KG+DB+ tutor). ALL students will either present an oral report or poster on their work.

Course Type: Seminar
Title: An Overview of Issues in Sociolinguistics
Instructor: F. Andres Morrissey
Time: Wednesday 10-12
First Session: 22.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: This course will provide an approach to a variety of sociolinguistic themes. These will be introduced and discussed in weekly sessions by the instructor as well as a small group of participants acting as experts, who will have to present the basic ideas and moderate an activity on their topic. Furthermore, they will have to supply a glossary of key terms with definitions for the other participants.

An overview of the topics will be posted in early January; registration for the course on ILIAS and signing up for topics will need to be completed by **27 January**.

All students are expected to read the papers related to the topics (see below) and to prepare a set of questions for the “experts”.

Texts: Introductory texts will be posted on www.morrissey.unibe.ch. Further reading will be provided by the groups preparing the topics in the form of PDFs either posted in ILIAS or also on the morrissey.unibe.ch website.

Aims: To gain an overview of various themes in sociolinguistics with a view to finding topics for future papers or theses.

Evaluation (pass/fail): All students, also for the ungraded course, need to select an area of one of the topics discussed in class, supply a list of key terms with definitions and compile a short bibliography.

Grade Requirement: For a grade, students sit an exam in which they have to answer questions on a number of topics discussed in the course. The topics can be chosen from a list of all topics discussed.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): To be specified by instructor

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar

Title: From *hlæfdige* 'bread-kneader' to *lady*: A History of English Words

Instructor: N. Studer-Joho

Time: Monday 10-12

First Session: 20.02.12

Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The current online edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary* includes more than 600,000 words and each of these words has its own origin and history. Some of these words, like *podcast*, *blog* or *Wag*, were only coined recently. The word *lady*, however, was already attested in Old English, but the original compound *hlæfdige* actually meant 'bread-kneader'. And occasionally you might wear a *shirt* or a *skirt*, but did you know that both go back to exactly the same word? This seminar provides an introduction into processes of word formation, semantic change and borrowing, which have enriched the vocabulary of English from the Old English period to the present day.

Texts: Texts for each session will be available on ILIAS.

Aims: At the end of the course, students will be familiar with various types of change that have affected the English vocabulary in the course of time.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: Paper which will provide the grade for the whole Focus Module (lecture + seminar).

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): To be specified by instructor

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 19 June 2012

Course Type: Seminar
Title: Second Language Learning and Teaching
Instructor: S. Pfenninger
Time: Tuesday 16-18
First Session: 21.2.2012
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: In well over half of the countries of the world, English is taught as a foreign language (EFL) in a strictly formal, instructional setting, i.e. a classroom. It has been well-established in the research literature that formal instructional conditions lead to different results from natural exposure conditions, predominantly because of (quantitative and qualitative) differences in L2 exposure and input and because L2 learning in a classroom is embedded in special cognitive, educational and social factors, some of which will be discussed in this seminar. Topics will include (inter alia):

- How do you create a new language system (L2 syntax, morphology, lexicon, phonology) with the limited input that is provided in the classroom?
- Is it possible for classroom L2 learners to achieve the same degree of proficiency as in their native language?
- Are there any patterns typical of early learners vs. late learners? How effective is early classroom learning at all?
- What role do social-psychological factors (e.g. motivation, learner type) play in determining the success of an L2 learner?
- How is talk organized in a second language classroom (input, output, interaction, different kinds of feedback)?
- What type of instruction is most effective in a classroom?
- How and why has language teaching changed over the past few decades?

Texts: To be specified by instructor

Aims: One central aim of the seminar is to introduce the key concepts and theories that have been concerned with the questions above; the other is to 'get one's hands dirty' with attested second language learners' data in order to be able to (i) identify potential answers to the above questions and (ii) develop an understanding of the cognitive processes underlying second language learning.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: Paper will provide the grade.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): To be specified by instructor

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Focus Module: Postcolonial Studies

Please note that this FM can only be taken once; either as a Linguistics FM (if chosen with Professor Britain's seminar) OR as a Literature FM. An additional seminar in the FM can be taken as ungraded.

Course Type:	Lecture
Title:	After Empire: Approaches to Postcolonial Studies
Instructors:	V. Richter, B. Buchenau
Time:	Wednesday 14-16
First Session:	22.02.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: This lecture will attempt a critical reevaluation of various approaches in Postcolonial Studies, as well as a historical overview of the field and its impact on the study of literature and culture more broadly. We will therefore be moving between theoretical concepts such as 'colonial mimicry' and 'post-empire imaginary', and detailed readings of important primary texts. Besides providing a critical introduction into the field and its best known and most influential theorists (e.g. Edward Said, Homi K. Bhabha, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak) and literary texts (e.g. by Salman Rushdie, Amitav Gosh, Olive Senior) we want to explore the impact of ideas of empire and its demise on concepts of literature, artistic expression, social justice and individual belonging. Empire, whether as a specific historical formation, a constituent of a global economy, or as part of a nostalgic memory and yearning, has been central to Anglophone literary production from very early on and we would like to trace some of its impact. The lecture is also designed as a preparation for the international conference "Post-Empire Imaginaries? Anglophone Literature, History and the Demise of Empires" that will take place in May 2012 in Berne. Participants of both the lecture and conference will have the opportunity to earn credit points for independent studies.

Texts: Recommended reading before the beginning of term: Rudyard Kipling, *Kim* (1900/1901), E.M. Forster, *A Passage to India* (1924), Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake* (2003), Percival Everett, *Erasure* (2001), Marta Acosta, *Happy Hour at Casa Dracula* (2006).

Aims: To give students insights into recent developments within Postcolonial Studies.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: The grade for the whole Focus Module (lecture + one seminar) is acquired in the respective seminar.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar
Title: Postcolonial Englishes
Instructor: D. Britain
Time: Tuesday 14-16
First Session: 21.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: This seminar examines the development of varieties of English in post-colonial contexts, both in those contexts where English became the dominant vernacular variety – such as the US, New Zealand and Australia, but also where it came to play an increasingly important role alongside local indigenous languages, such as in Singapore, Hong Kong and India. The course examines the postcolonial vernaculars of countries such as New Zealand in light of the dialects of the migrant colonial populations and contact with indigenous languages, and contrasts the two theoretical dominant approaches to explaining how we can account for the structures of these new varieties – Trudgill’s Determinism model and Schneider’s Dynamic model. It also examines how varieties of English nativised in countries such as Singapore, the sociolinguistic and structural characteristics of such varieties, as well as different approaches to the classification of World Englishes in general.

Texts: The following two major texts:

Trudgill, P (2004) *New Dialect Formation*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Schneider, E (2007) *Postcolonial English*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

will be supplemented by other work posted on ILIAS.

Aims: To develop an understanding of how varieties of English outside the British Isles formed in the way they did.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Presentation and paper

Grade Requirement: If the relevant lecture is passed, the grade for this course is used for the 10 ECTS of the Focus Module as a whole.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): To be specified by instructor

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 8 June 2012

Course Type: Seminar
Title: Caribbean Literature
Instructor: B. Buchenau
Time: Wednesday 8-10
First Session: 22.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Speaking of Caribbean literature we soon realize the limitations and the illusions provided by this apparently straightforward and singular term: What are the languages of Caribbean literature? Who are its most important writers and readers? Do we sort literature along the lines of place of birth, country of production, prominent places of reception and consumption? How do we study texts in which traditional definitions of centre and periphery, of canonicity and popularity, appear dysfunctional? Tentatively tracing the history of literature in the Caribbean from the beginning of colonial contact to its institutionalization in academic literature programmes, this course will use excerpts from the writings of Nobel laureates V.S. Naipaul and Derek Walcott, of non-anglophone writers such as Aimé Césaire and Luis Palés Matos, of women writers such as Jamaica Kincaid, Olive Senior and Shani Mootoo to study notions of hybridity, creolity and cosmopolitan belonging. In this course we want to interrogate the specific contribution of Caribbean writings to the social functions of literature at large.

Texts: A reader with the relevant material will be available for purchase at the departmental office before the beginning of the term.

Aims: To become familiar with key features and key conflicts in Caribbean literature; to appreciate the diversity of texts captured under this label; to understand exemplary texts in their historical, political and artistic contexts.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work (including three close readings), moderation of one session.

Grade Requirement: Seminar paper

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): Three shorter papers due before end of term.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar
Title: Mapping the World: Orientalism and the Postcolonial Middle Ages
Instructor: K. Reist
Time: Tuesday 10-12
First Session: 21.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: In the late fourteenth century, Sir John Mandeville presented India as Britain's exact opposite, claiming that the people of India lived under the influence of slow-moving Saturn, which made them unwilling to move, whereas the people of Britain lived under the influence of the moon, "the traveller's planet" (*The Travels of Sir John Mandeville*. C. W. R.D. Moseley (trans.) London: Penguin Books, 1983, p. 120). Such quasi-scientific presentations of the East and the West, of Asia and Europe, not only shaped and strengthened medieval constructions of the (Western) "self" as opposed to the (Oriental) "other" but also helped pave the way for later colonial and postcolonial discourses. Accordingly, recent scholarship has emphasised the necessity of approaching and re-examining the Middle Ages in the light of postcolonial studies.

In this seminar, we will look at medieval Britain as both a colonising power and itself colonised. We will explore the ways in which medieval writers mapped, explained and justified the(ir) world. Why is Jerusalem at the centre of medieval maps and whose feet are poking out at the bottom? Did Alexander the Great really meet dog-headed men? Who or what are Blemmyae? These are just a few questions we will address in the course of this seminar. Primary texts will include Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, Gildas's *Concerning the Ruin of Britain*, *The Travels of Sir John Mandeville* and excerpts from early modern travel narratives. Secondary material will be taken from such influential works as Ania Loomba's *Colonialism/Postcolonialism*, Edward Said's *Orientalism* or Jeffrey Cohen's *The Postcolonial Middle Ages*.

Texts: To be made available at the beginning of term.

Aims: This combined approach to medieval literature will introduce students to both medieval and postcolonial studies.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Based on regular attendance and active participation in class.

Grade Requirement: Regular attendance, active participation in class, a short presentation and a written paper of approximately 4'000 words.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): Regular attendance, active participation in class, a short presentation and a written paper of approximately 2'000-2'500 words.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar
Title: (Post)Colonial Waters
Instructor: U. Kluwick
Time: Tuesday 16-18
First Session: 21.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Water is not only one of the most crucial life-enabling substances, but it also has a long tradition as a cultural and literary topos, and thus carries a multiplicity of symbolic meanings. In a post/colonial context, water is key to questions of cultural contact, religious identity, and historical memory. It is, after all, the sea that made possible exploratory and colonial voyages, and which facilitated the rise of the British Empire through trade. In Derek Walcott's famous phrase, "the sea is history." Yet water also allows us to consider the increasingly important connection between postcolonial and environmental issues. This course spans the period from the beginnings of colonisation to the present and considers the meanings and usages of water at various different historical moments and for different purposes.

Texts: Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*; Amitav Ghosh, *The Hungry Tide*; Rudyard Kipling, *Kim*; Toni Morrison, *Beloved*; Michael Ondaatje, *The Cat's Table*; William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*; passages from selected poetry. **This is a very reading-intensive course. Please make sure to read these texts during the semester break.**

Aims: To arrive at a critical understanding of several historical events and theoretical concepts, such as Paul Gilroy's "Black Atlantic," and of the role of water in postcolonial writing.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work: active participation in class, moderation of at least one discussion session, two short analyses of passages from the set texts.

Grade Requirement: Paper which will provide the grade for the whole Focus Module.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): Extended outline for a paper.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar
Title: 'What mischief made you become a bloody Muslim?'
Religion and Violence in Anglophone Indian Novels
Instructor: N. Escherle
Time: Wednesday 12-14
First Session: 22.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The view that religion and violence are close relatives, even intimate friends, is assiduously debated both in and outside academia across the globe. In his monograph *When Religion becomes Lethal* (2011), the US scholar of religious studies Charles Kimball claims: "It is somewhat trite, but nevertheless sadly true, to say that more wars have been waged, more people killed, and these days more evil perpetrated in the name of religion than by any other institutional force in human history." (1)

How to assess such a sweeping claim, especially in the context of India — a region which hosts a multitude of religions and where religious practices are commonly considered a core element of every-day life? In this course, we will look at how Anglophone novels from India negotiate different positions regarding the relation between religion and violence. Due to their polyphonic nature, literary texts, and novels in particular, have the potential to simultaneously incorporate a multitude of different voices and viewpoints, thereby enabling us to problematize and negotiate all of them. Our discussions of the fictional texts will be supplemented by the reading of critical texts from science of religion, social anthropology and philosophy, which discuss the conceptual entanglement of religion and violence (e.g. William T. Cavanaugh, René Girard, Richard King, Amartya K. Sen, Peter van der Veer).

Texts: Bapsi Sidhwa's *Cracking India* (1988), Shashi Tharoor's *Riot* (2001), Kiran Nagarkar's *God's Little Soldier* (2006) and Altaf Tyrewala's *No God in Sight* (2006). Copies of the novels will be available at the Bugeno.

Aims: To familiarize students with contemporary Anglophone novels from South Asian background and to enable them to develop a critical stance towards the discourse on religion and violence, especially in the South Asian context.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Regular attendance, active participation and oral presentation in class.

Grade Requirement: Regular attendance, active participation, oral presentation in class and a paper (the paper will provide the grade for the whole FM, i.e. lecture + seminar).

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): Regular attendance, active participation, oral presentation in class and a paper project dossier (consisting of an abstract, an annotated table of contents and a 10-title bibliography).

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 15 June 2012

Focus Module: Senses and Sensation in Literature

Course Type:	Lecture
Title:	Literature and the Senses: The Five Senses, Sensations and Sensation in Literature from the Middle Ages to the Present Day
Instructor:	A. Kern-Stähler
Time:	Wednesday 10-12
First Session:	22.02.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: What do you hear when you read somebody's words? How do you transfer a nasty smell into words? How do you impart the sensation of touch? In this lecture, we will explore how literature stimulates our sensory experiences and the ways in which writers have turned sensory experiences into writing. We will look at literary texts from the medieval period to the present day, focusing on the late medieval and early modern periods, the nineteenth century (specifically the 1860s when sensation fiction was the dominant trend) and postcolonial writing.

Texts: Short texts to be prepared for each session will be provided on ILIAS. It would be helpful if students could read the following texts during term-break: Geoffrey Chaucer, "The Merchant's Tale" from *The Canterbury Tales* (you may use the modern translation, e.g. the Penguin edition); William Shakespeare, *King Lear* (preferably the Arden Shakespeare Edition) and Wilkie Collins, *Hide and Seek* (Oxford World Classics paperback), particularly chapters 1-3.

Aims: This lecture aims to familiarise students with the interplay between literature and the senses and to introduce them to different forms of expressing sense experiences in literary texts of various periods and genres.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Quiz

Grade Requirement: The grade for this Focus Module (this lecture and one seminar) is acquired in the respective seminar. Students who wish to acquire a grade for the Focus Module will also have to pass the lecture quiz.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar
Title: The Five Senses in Medieval Literature and Culture
Instructor: A. Kern-Stähler
Time: Tuesday 18-20
First Session: 21.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The medieval period is seen as a culture of sensual gratification by some, and as a time of sensual starvation by others. Probing these influential views, in this seminar we will ask the question how sense experiences are registered and evaluated in medieval literature and culture. We shall explore literary and pictorial representations of the senses, hierarchies of the senses, notions of susceptibility to the senses, animals and the five senses, the gendering of the senses, the compensation of lost senses as well as earlier conceptualizations from Greek and Roman antiquity which informed medieval views of the senses.

Texts: Texts will be made available on ILIAS. It would be helpful if students could purchase their own paperback copy of the *Riverside Chaucer* and read the following texts during term-break: Geoffrey Chaucer, "The Merchant's Tale" (modern translation: Penguin paperback edition of the *Canterbury Tales*) and "The Legend of Philomela" from Chaucer's *Legend of Good Women* (for a good modern translation see: <http://www.umm.maine.edu/faculty/necastro/chaucer/translation/lgw/lgw.html>).

Aims: The aims of this seminar are to familiarise students with the role of the human senses in medieval culture and with different forms of literary and pictorial representations of the senses, and to strengthen their skills necessary for the analysis of literary texts.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Oral presentation; short written assignment.

Grade Requirement: Seminar paper (2/3) and oral presentation and participation (1/3). Students who wish to acquire a grade for the Focus Module will also have to pass the lecture quiz.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): Oral presentation; short written assignment.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar
Title: Of Ecstasy and Excess: Senses and Sensation in Gothic Fiction
Instructor: J. Langenbach
Time: Thursday 12-14
First Session: 23.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Gothic fiction is a fiction of excess; a fiction that first and foremost indulges and challenges the senses to the utmost and in which sensation takes centre stage. Emerging in the late eighteenth century, when Enlightenment reason and rationalism prevailed, the Gothic was eager to oppose these views and attitudes by foregrounding the emotional, sensuality, voluptuousness, and (forbidden or dangerous) sexual desires in blatant ways. Besides deliberately overstepping the bounds of morality and good taste, the Gothic has also always transgressed the bounds of reality and possibility. As a highly visual mode, it has regularly featured sublime visual spectacles, ranging from awe-inspiring views of natural landscapes and scenery to uncanny illusions, terrifying visions, and unspeakable sights of horror. In this seminar, we will look at a variety of both literary and cinematic Gothic texts, read them against their respective historical contexts, and analyze and discuss the central role they assign to senses and sensation.

Texts: M. G. Lewis, *The Monk*; R. L. Stevenson, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; O. Wilde, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*; N. Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown"; E. A. Poe, "The Fall of the House of Usher", "The Pit and the Pendulum"; C. Perkins Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"; *Cat People* (1942, DVD, Dir. J. Tourneur); *The Pit and the Pendulum* (1961, DVD, Dir. R. Corman); *Sleepy Hollow* (1999, DVD, Dir. T. Burton)
Please read or watch these works sufficiently well in advance and familiarise yourself with them. We expect to discuss them in the above-stated order.

Aims: To strengthen the skills necessary for the close-reading and analysis of literary and cinematic texts and to develop an understanding of Gothic fiction, the context of particular works as well as related theoretical concepts.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work, thorough preparation of set texts, presence and active participation as well as preparation of 3 discussion questions for one of the works discussed in the seminar.

Grade Requirement: Paper which will provide the grade for the whole Focus Module (lecture + seminar); presentation (submission of hand-out/PowerPoint required); in addition, thorough preparation of set texts, presence and active participation.

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): Presentation (submission of hand-out/PowerPoint required); in addition, thorough preparation of set texts, presence, and active participation.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: To be specified in the first session.

Course Type: Seminar
Title: Drama, Baby! Staging Emotion in Literature and Film
Instructor: Julia Straub
Time: Wednesday 16-18
First Session: 22.02.12
Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The study of emotions as relevant to our understanding of literature and other media such as film has always been acknowledged as an important subject within our discipline. Yet how exactly are emotions stirred in a literary text? How far can emotions be put on display and staged? How come that we react emotionally to things we witness on the stage, on the screen or when we read a text? Which are the means writers and directors use to make an appeal to our emotional faculties? To answer these questions we will take a historical perspective and look at literary and theatrical genres that are traditionally thought of as particularly 'emotional,' such as the sentimental novel and melodrama. But we will also turn to more modern examples and include films in our discussion, drawing upon classical Hollywood cinema (e.g. *Gone with the Wind* or films by Douglas Sirk) as well as more recent films (e.g. Ang Lee's *Brokeback Mountain*). Furthermore, we will approach emotions in literature and film from a theoretical perspective by reading selected critical texts that engage with emotions and their impact on our reception of works of art.

Texts: The complete reading list will be made available towards the end of January via ILIAS. Students are advised to purchase and read the following two texts in advance:

Susannah Rowson, *Charlotte Temple*. Introduction by Cathy N. Davidson. Oxford: OUP, 1987. ISBN: 978-0195042382

Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Ed. Elizabeth Ammons. New York: Norton, 2010. ISBN: 978-0393933994

Copies of these books will be available from the Bugeno book shop as of mid-December.

Aims: This course aims to strengthen students' skills when working with the media of literature and film. It aims to improve their analytical skills, but is also concerned with genres and their historical development.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Oral presentation

Grade Requirement: Oral presentation and essay

Reduced Grade Requirement (for first Focus Module): To be specified by instructor

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 15 January 2012

Other Courses

Course Type:	Workshop
Title:	Textual Analysis: Exploration #6, or Paths through the House on Ash Tree Lane
Instructor:	I. Huber
Time:	Wednesday 12-14, first session: 7 March
First Session:	07.03.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Welcome to the house on Ash Tree Lane. Be warned that you'll run the danger of getting lost in dark passages opening out one from the other in endless progressions of doubtful meanings and dubious ends. We'll spend our time in this workshop exploring the intricate textual labyrinth Marc Danielewski has created for his readers in his novel *House of Leaves*, a text that is both horror story and romance, academic study and Bildungsroman, adventure and psycho-trip, self-reflexive and affective, postmodern and ... what?

As a practical course in close textual analysis this workshop will be entirely based on student input who will not only be asked to engage in in-class close textual analysis and discussion but whose questions, associations and interests will play an instrumental role in the development of the schedule.

Texts: Mark Danielewski. *House of Leaves*. Students will be expected to have read the novel before the first session (!) and will be re-reading it partly or in its entirety during the semester.

Aims: The format of the workshop will allow for a closer scrutiny of a literary text than most seminars provide space for, honing those skills which are indispensable for all literary analysis: close attention to detail, a feel for ambiguities, ironies and hidden meanings, a perception not only of what is there but also of all that is absent, an exploration of the heuristic value of both context and theory, and the ability to express and communicate one's own interpretation coherently and convincingly.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Attendance and contribution to discussions will be an absolute requirement in this class. Further requirements will be specified in the first session.

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Workshop
Title: Reading Film
Instructor: M. Mace-Tessler
Time: Tuesday 14-16
First Session: 21.02.12
Credit Points: 3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: To write and speak about films with authority requires many of the same skills as literary analysis. This course provides the opportunity to exercise those skills of observation and analysis while watching some of the great works of the cinema. In order to learn to “read” films such as *Citizen Kane*, *His Girl Friday*, *Rear Window*, *American Beauty*, *Singin’ in the Rain*, and *Do the Right Thing*, we will study how each film is an interlocking system of techniques. We will use the terminology of film studies, examine how narratives are shaped and presented in films, examine mise-en-scène, cinematography, continuity, and sound in the films. We will consider how genres shape and are shaped by individual films, and we will look at the ways in which each film has its own style. A film will be introduced and shown during class one week, and the following week students will be expected to give oral presentations on an aspect of the film or to report on the critical reception of the film.

Texts: The films themselves. Written texts will be supplied in class or on ILIAS.

Aims: To develop a working vocabulary of film terminology; to hone skills of close analysis and oral presentation; to develop a sense of the film as a complex work of art.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: throughout the term

Course Type: Workshop
Title: Creative Writing
Instructor: F. Andres Morrissey
Time: Thursday 12-14
First Session: 23.02.12
Credit Points: 3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The theme of this workshop is “Formal Poetry”. We will explore a variety of traditional poetry forms and the constraints they impose on writers and the freedom(s) this creates.

The workshop is run on two levels. On the one hand, a variety of activities are explored to “get the creative juices flowing” so there will be some *in situ* text production. On the other hand, we will discuss texts written by members of the group and make suggestions for editing and redrafting, which requires being constructively critical of one’s own and each other’s work. Depending on the number of students in the group this will be done in class, e.g. in the form of regular feedback discussions or in post-it sessions. With bigger groups we will also attempt to set up a virtual classroom where texts can be posted and discussed.

Anybody is welcome to attend the workshop. As some participants come to the workshop for more than one semester, there are those whose work may be rather impressive. New participants should not be discouraged by this because with experience, one’s writing changes and often improves as a result of peer group feedback and learning how to edit. This means that all participants must be prepared to rewrite their work repeatedly, taking this into account. Writing is perhaps best summed up by Horace’s “Often you must turn your stylus to erase, if you hope to write anything worth a second reading.”

Texts: That’s what you will produce...

Aims: To tap the creative potential in students and to explore the ways along which an open mind may lead us; to improve control of language through greater precision in expressing one’s thoughts and feelings; and, finally, greater awareness of the way texts, both written by students and published writers, work (or fail to).

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work; you will be required to submit a dossier of edited work reflecting the activities covered in the workshop, which needs to be handed in as a hard copy no later than four weeks after the end of the semester.

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 29 June 2012

Remarks: Priority for places in this workshop is given to students of the English Department.

Course Type: Workshop
Title: Page to Stage
Instructor: F. Andres Morrissey
Time: Thursday 16-18
First Session: 23.02.12
Credit Points: 3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: In this course we will explore a number of excerpts from plays, both classic and contemporary, in terms of how they could be staged. Furthermore, we will also look at the performance of other genres. In order to do this, we will of course study the texts in some detail to gain a better understanding of what is being said.

However, we will also try to develop these insights into performances. This will be supplemented with activities to exercise impromptu acting, in order to promote poise and the use of movement, gesture and facial expression. Thus, participants will train both working with texts and what is required to bring them to the stage, as well as techniques to help them develop their voice, physical awareness and perform alone or in small group, skills that will be useful for presentations or public speaking.

In order to facilitate efficient work in the workshop and in the smaller ensemble groups, participants are expected to be extra conscientious as far as attendance and extracurricular work (individual rehearsal preparations, group work on scenes, etc.) are concerned.

Texts: The materials needed for this course will be made available online (www.morrissey.unibe.ch).

Aims: To develop an understanding for literary texts as oral performance, to develop techniques that will be useful for presentation and/or public speaking.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work (see Remarks)

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Remarks: Priority for places in this workshop is given to students of the English Department. Please also note that all participants need to perform a passage from one of the texts to obtain credits.

Course Type: BA Lecture/Wahlbereich Lecture
Title: Das Mittelmeer – Mare Nostrum?
Instructors: Medievalists of Berne University and guest speakers
Time: Thursday 17.15-18.45
First Session: 23.02.12
Credit Points: 3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Die Ringvorlesung des Berner Mittelalterzentrums beschäftigt sich im Frühjahrssemester 2012 mit dem Thema „Das Mittelmeer – Mare Nostrum?“. Dabei sollen unterschiedliche, jeweils disziplinär geprägte Aspekte angesprochen werden, die in Korrelation mit den verschiedenen Namen stehen, durch die das Mittelmeer seit der Antike bezeichnet wird: Vom „Grossen Grün“ im alten Ägypten zum „Mare Nostrum“ in der römischen Antike, vom „Grossen Meer“ der Juden im Mittelalter bis zum provokanten Ehrentitel „Corrupting Sea“ in der jüngeren Mittelmeerforschung bei Peregrine Horden und Nicholas Purcell. Seit Fernand Braudels umfänglicher Publikation ‚La Méditerranée et le monde méditerranéen (Das Mittelmeer und die mediterrane Welt)‘ von 1949 wurde der Mittelmeerraum als eine Einheit in der Vielfalt beschrieben. Während Braudel Historie noch als eine Geschichte "ohne Namen" verstand und die kulturellen Verflechtungen, Überlagerungen und Gegensätze der nördlichen und südlichen Anrainerstaaten des Mittelmeers aus der jeweiligen landschaftlichen und geopolitischen Situation zu erklären vermochte, neigt die jüngere Kulturgeschichte dazu, diese Entwicklungen unter sozialhistorischen und anthropologischen Gesichtspunkten zu erklären, die von Menschen und deren kulturellem Austausch handeln. Eine Kulturanthropologie des Mittelmeers verschreibt sich der Aufdeckung und Analyse von Verhaltenskulturen an den Rändern kultureller Zentren. Dabei wird ‚Rand‘ nicht als eindimensionale Grenzlinie, sondern als Summe topographisch beschreibbarer Kulturräume jenseits nationalstaatlicher Grenzen verstanden. Zudem erweist sich der Mittelmeerraum als ein postkoloniales Untersuchungsfeld par excellence, denn die Mittelmeerkultur des Mittelalters kann unter dem Blickwinkel der Emanzipation aus den ehemals kolonialrömischen Herrschaftsstrukturen betrachtet werden.

Aims: Ziel der Veranstaltung ist es, die interdisziplinäre Vernetzung der Mediävistik zu fördern und die Studierenden an einem fächerübergreifenden Gespräch zu beteiligen; diesem Zweck dienen vor allem die an die Vorträge anschliessenden Diskussionen.

Evaluation (pass/fail) and Grade Requirement:

- **As BA lecture (ungraded):** Contact Dr. Nicole Nyffenegger (nyffenegger@ens.unibe.ch) in the FIRST WEEK of term for details about the preliminary meeting. Requirements for this lecture are participation in the preliminary meeting, the lecture series, as well as three follow-up sessions (dates to be announced), essay of 2800 words to be handed in to Nicole Nyffenegger by the end of term.
- **As Wahlbereich lecture (graded):** Under the supervision of BMZ director Prof. Dr. Michael Stolz, please check:
http://www.bmz.unibe.ch/pdf/Anforderungen_Wahlbereich.pdf

Lecture Programme:

23.2.2012	Thomas Dittelbach (Kunstgeschichte, Bern)	Mare nostrum – Mare vostrum? Eine Einführung
1.3.2012	Nikolas Jaspert (Geschichte, Bochum)	Das Mittelmeer aus mediävistischer Sicht: Chancen und Gefahren eines Forschungsfeldes
8.3.2012	Jörg Richter (Kunstgeschichte, Bern)	Schätze und Wunderwerke. Mittelmeer-Reisen norddeutscher Bischöfe und deren Reflexe in der Kunst um 1200
15.3.2012	Ulrich Müller (Germanistik, Salzburg)	Mittelhochdeutsche Lieder über Mittelmeer-Reisen – Tanhuser und Oswald von Wolkenstein
22.3.2012	Stephan Conermann (Islamwissenschaft, Bonn)	Das Mittelmeer zur Zeit der Mamlukenherrschaft in Ägypten und Syrien (1250-1517) – eine globalgeschichtliche Perspektive
29.3.2012	Arnold Esch (Geschichte, Rom)	Probleme von Handel und Kommunikation im Mittelmeerraum im 15. Jahrhundert (BMZ Honorary Lecture)
19.4.2012	Cristina Urchueguía (Musikwissenschaft, Bern)	Eine musikalische Landkarte des Mittelmeers
26.4.2012	Jean-Marie Martin (Geschichte, CNRS Paris)	Sizilien und das Mittelmeer von Byzanz bis zur Zeit der Staufer (Maria Bindschedler-Gastvorlesung)
3.5.2012	Margot Hleunig Heilmann (Kunstgeschichte, Bern)	Neapel und Byzanz
10.5.2012	Michael Walsh (Architektur- gesch., Singapur)	Medieval and Renaissance Famagusta. Past, Present and Future
24.5.2012	Elena Mango (Archäologie, Bern)	Antike Büchersammlungen und Bibliotheken im Mittelmeerraum
31.5.2012	Luca Zavagno (Geschichte, Famagusta)	‚Betwixt the Greeks and the Saracens‘. Cyprus in Transition from Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages (ca. 600-800 A.D.)

Course Type: Wahlbereich Lecture

Title: Im Herzen der Macht? Hauptstädte und ihre Funktion

Instructors: Collegium Generale

Time: Wednesday 18-20

First Session: 22.02.12

Credit Points: 3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Hauptstädte (Capital Cities) spielen eine wichtige Rolle für die kulturelle, soziale und politische Identität eines Landes. Sie gelten als Schaltzentralen und ihre Macht drückt sich nicht nur in ihrem repräsentativen Stadtbild aus, sondern auch in der Art und Weise, wie sich diese Städte in nationalen und internationalen Netzwerken positionieren. Städte wie Washington D.C., Berlin oder Wien stellen sich einem zunehmenden Standortwettbewerb und entwickeln Strategien, um Herausforderungen wie staatlichem Wandel und Globalisierung zu begegnen. Die Vorlesungsreihe hat neben ihrer allgemeinen Relevanz auch einen konkreten lokalen Aktualitätsbezug. Die Bundesstadt Bern stellt sich derzeit die Frage nach ihrer Rolle im schweizerischen Städtesystem. Stadt, Kanton sowie Bund diskutieren Konzepte und Ideen für eine sogenannte Hauptstadtregion Schweiz. Die interdisziplinäre Vorlesungsreihe soll Studierenden, Universitätsangehörigen und einem weiteren interessierten Publikum wissenschaftliche Hintergrundinformationen und den aktuellen Forschungsstand zum Thema Hauptstädte vermitteln, die HörerInnen in die aktuelle Diskussion einführen und einen Vergleich mit anderen Hauptstädten ermöglichen.

Texts: Literaturhinweise werden laufend auf der Website des Collegium Generale aufgeschaltet: www.collegiumgenerale.unibe.ch

Grade Requirement: Die Studierenden verfassen von mindestens dreien der Einzelvorlesungen eine kritische Zusammenfassung und Stellungnahme à 1000 Wörter (2-3 Seiten) und einen schriftlichen Kommentar bezogen auf die Leitidee der gesamten Reihe à 1000 Wörter (2-3 Seiten). Jeder Text wird mit einer Note bewertet. Danach wird durch Mittelung und Rundung die Gesamtnote gebildet. Falls diese ungenügend ist, besteht die Möglichkeit, die Texte nachträglich noch ein Mal zu verbessern. 3 der eingereichten Texte müssen bestanden werden.

Grade: Bitte melden Sie sich in ILIAS für den Kurs an. Bitte für die Abfassung der Texte die dafür vorgesehenen Formulare verwenden, sie sind auf der Lernplattform ILIAS beim entsprechenden Kurs abrufbar.

Abgabefrist für die Texte: Abgabefrist für die Texte ist der 15. Juni 2012. Sie können die Texte auch laufend während der Vorlesungsreihe einreichen. Korrigiert werden sie erst am Schluss. Die Zusammenfassungen und der Kommentar sind in Einzelarbeit abzufassen (Kopieren/Abschreiben gilt nicht) und im WORD-Format einzureichen (keine PDF-Dateien).

Prüfende: Prof. Dr. Heike Mayer (Geographisches Institut), Dr. Anna Minta (Institut für Kunstgeschichte), Prof. Dr. Fritz Sager (Kompetenzzentrum für Public Management)

Allfällige Nachfragen zur Leistungskontrolle (während und nach der Durchführung der Vorlesungsreihe) sind zu richten an Frau Sara Zwahlen (zwahlen@cg.unibe.ch).

Lecture Programme:

22.2.2012	Prof. Dr. Martin G. Täuber, Werner Luginbühl, Alexander Tschäppät, Andreas Rickenbacher, Claude Nicati, Einführung: Prof. Dr. Heike Mayer und Prof. Dr. Fritz Sager	Bern im Zentrum der Hauptstadtregion Schweiz
29.2.2012	Prof. Dr. André Holenstein, Historisches Institut, Universität Bern	Ein Erinnerungsort für die Bundesideologie. Das Bundeshaus als Nationaldenkmal der Bundesstadt Bern
7.3.2012	Dr. Maria Lezzi, Direktorin, Bundesamt für Raumentwicklung, Bern	Raumkonzept Schweiz und die magische 3+1 Formel
14.3.2012	PD Dr. Dieter Schnell, Berner Fachhochschule, Hochschule für Architektur, Holz und Bau	Die konservierte Bundesstadt: Zur Bedeutung von Baudenkmalern
21.3.2012	Dr. Walter Schenkel, Partner bei synergo und Geschäftsführer der Metropolitankonferenz Zürich	Die Metropolitankonferenz Zürich: Gefahr oder Chance für den Föderalismus?
28.3.2012	Prof. Dr. Reto Steiner, Kompetenzzentrum für Public Management, Universität Bern	Berns Zukunft als Hauptstadtregion Schweiz
4.4.2012	Prof. Dr. Heike Mayer, Geographisches Institut, Universität Bern	Was produzieren Hauptstädte? Zur Rolle und Funktion von Hauptstädten
18.4.2012	Prof. Dr. David Gordon, School of Urban and Regional Planning, Queen`s University, Ottawa, Canada	Ottawa: Lumber town to federal capital
25.4.2012	Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Sonne, TU Dortmund	Hauptstadtplanungen um 1900. Die Repräsentation des Staates in der Stadt
2.5.2012	Prof. Dr. Elmar Kulke, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin	Funktion und Entwicklungstrend der Hauptstadtregion Berlin-Brandenburg
9.5.2012	Dr. Anna Minta, Institut für Kunstgeschichte, Universität Bern	Hauptstädte: Politische Repräsentation und Inszenierung machtvoller Präsenz
23.5.2012	Prof. Dr. Carl Abbott, School of Urban Studies and Planning, Portland State University (USA)	Washington DC: Provincial Town or World Capital?
30.5.2012	Einführung: Prof. Dr. Heike Mayer, Geographisches Institut, Universität Bern Anschliessend Podium mit: Donald S. Beyer, Jr., Dr. Terry Holzheimer, Georg Tobler, Harriet Tregoning	What can Bern learn from Washington DC?

Bachelor Colloquia

Course Type: Colloquium

Title: Linguistics Colloquium

Instructor: D. Britain

Time: Monday 20 February 10-12
Monday 2 April 10-12
Monday 7 May 8-12

First Session: 20.02.12

Credit Points: 2 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The Research Colloquium will give students who are in the process of writing their BA thesis the chance to present their work and to get feedback on their ideas both from professors and from peers. In addition, key theoretical and methodological approaches will be discussed where they prove relevant for students' work.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Students will present, in conference format, their BA research to the rest of the group at a Forum conference towards the end of the semester. The award of ECTS points for the Colloquium is linked to the presentation at this conference, as well as participation through the semester.

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: Forum conference towards end of semester.

Course Type: Colloquium
Title: Literature Colloquium
Instructors: A. Kern-Stähler, V. Richter
Time: Wednesday 16-18 (fortnightly)
First Session: 22.02.12
Credit Points: 2 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The Research Colloquium will give students who are in the process of writing their BA thesis the chance to present their work and to get feedback on their ideas both from professors and from peers. In addition, key theoretical and methodological approaches will be discussed where they prove relevant for students' work.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Colloquium
Title: Literature Colloquium
Instructors: G. Rippl
Time: Wednesday 14-16 (fortnightly)
First Session: 22.02.2012
Credit Points: 2 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: The Research Colloquium will give students who are in the process of writing their BA thesis the chance to present their work and to get feedback on their ideas both from professors and from peers. In addition, key theoretical and methodological approaches will be discussed where they prove relevant for students' work.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: Throughout term

MASTER STUDIES

Specialisation Linguistics

Course Type:	Lecture
Title:	Applied Linguistics
Instructor:	J. Strässler
Time:	Thursday 14-16
First Session:	23.02.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Course Description: Applied linguistics is an interdisciplinary field of study that is concerned with research into language with relevance to real world problems. Whereas in the early days it just referred to applying a so-called 'scientific approach' to teaching foreign languages and later on to automatic translation, it now focuses on a huge range of areas in society in which language plays a role. Major branches of applied linguistics include bilingualism and multilingualism, first and second language acquisition, clinical linguistics, language teaching, testing and evaluation, language for special purposes, interpretation and translation, language assessment, language policy and planning, literacy issues, computer-mediated communication (CMC), forensic linguistics, conversation analysis, corpus linguistics, contrastive linguistics, sign and deaf linguistics, discourse analysis, lexicography, stylistics, pragmatics, rhetoric, etc.

In this lecture we shall look at a selection of the fields mentioned above in order to gain an overview of various themes in applied linguistics.

Texts: All texts will be available on ILIAS.

Aims: To gain an overview of various themes in sociolinguistics with a view to finding topics for future papers or theses.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work. Successful performance in final exam.

Grade Requirement: Grade achieved in final exam.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Seminar

Title: Analysing Phonological Change

Instructor: D. Britain

Time: Tuesday 21 February 10-12
Tuesday 28 February 10-12
Tuesday 13 March 10-12
Tuesday 20 March 10-12
Tuesday 27 March 10-12
Tuesday 3 April 10-12
Tuesday 8 May 10-12
Tuesday 22 May 8-12

First Session: 21.02.12

Credit Points: 7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Course Description: This course trains students to engage in the analysis of phonological variation and change from a contemporary corpus of spoken language data from Southern England. We begin by examining the nature of phonological variation and the methodological and theoretical issues involved in the analysis of phonological data. We then look at 4 frequently occurring phonological variables in depth, and examine the extensive literature on them, assessing the social and linguistic contexts which seem to shape their variability. We then extract the examples of these features from the corpus of data, analyse them in their linguistic and social contexts, and assess the extent to which the results of the analyses match the findings of work from other locations in which these variables have been studied.

Students will then choose one of these variables to focus on in more depth, conduct further analysis and present their results at a one-day mini-conference in May.

Texts: Will be provided on ILIAS

Aims: To provide an opportunity for students to engage in an empirical analysis of phonological variation and change, and present the results in a formal format.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative coursework

Grade Requirement: Graded: short presentations of 2 articles on different phonological variables; analysis of 4 phonological variables from one speaker, analysis of one variable in greater depth from a larger number of speakers; conference presentation on the results of the analysis, written version of presentation. Ungraded: short presentations of 2 articles on different phonological variables; analysis of 4 phonological variables from one speaker; short written report on data analysis of the four variables from this one speaker.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 22 May 2012

Course Type:	Seminar
Title:	Discourse and Tourism
Instructor:	K. Gonçalves
Time:	Monday 12-14
First Session:	20.02.12
Credit Points:	7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Course Description: Tourism is regarded as the biggest industry in the world, generating over \$750 billion worth of international tourism receipts in 2005, which reached approximately \$900 billion in 2010 (Adey 2010: 2). Moreover, Adey claims that the industry is worth some \$8 trillion or 5.2 trillion euros and employs around 240 million people a year (World Travel and Tourism Council) (ibid.). In this course we will be looking at various types of discourses, namely, spoken, written and visual and analyse how these discourses both shape and create tourism as a globalized industry (Thurlow & Jaworski 2010). More specifically, we will be scrutinizing travel writing and guidebooks from a diachronic and stylistic perspective, travel and tourism brochures and advertisements from a multi-modal perspective within a CDA framework and finally analyzing the speech of tourists from a CA and DA perspective. As a result, this course is divided into three blocks. Each block consists of teaching sessions, theoretical and methodological discussions, data collection time and a conference session where students present their findings orally. An excursion to a local Swiss town is also planned for the weekend of May 4-6 2012.

Texts: Reading material will be available on the ILIAS platform.

Aims: To familiarize students with the latest research in discourse and tourism studies from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students will be aware of how to collect various kinds of data and analyse these utilizing different theoretical frameworks. In doing so, students are expected to conduct their research projects ethically while simultaneously being critical of the diverse approaches presented in class.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Students will be assessed on the quality of their data, oral presentations, a 6,000-word paper and excursion participation.

Grade Requirement: 7 ECTS – collection of 3 types of data, 3 presentations, a 6,000-word essay and excursion participation. 4 ECTS – collection of 3 types of data, 3 presentations and excursion participation.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 4 June 2012

Specialisation Literature

Course Type:	Lecture
Title:	After Empire: Approaches to Postcolonial Studies
Instructors:	B. Buchenau, V. Richter
Time:	Wednesday 14-16
First Session:	22.02.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Content: This lecture will attempt a critical reevaluation of various approaches in Postcolonial Studies, as well as a historical overview of the field and its impact on the study of literature and culture more broadly. We will therefore be moving between theoretical concepts such as ‘colonial mimicry’ and ‘post-empire imaginary’, and detailed readings of important primary texts. Besides providing a critical introduction into the field and its best known and most influential theorists (e.g. Edward Said, Homi K. Bhabha, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak) and literary texts (e.g. by Salman Rushdie, Amitav Gosh, Olive Senior) we want to explore the impact of ideas of empire and its demise on concepts of literature, artistic expression, social justice and individual belonging. Empire, whether as a specific historical formation, a constituent of a global economy, or as part of a nostalgic memory and yearning, has been central to Anglophone literary production from very early on and we would like to trace some its impact. The lecture is also designed as a preparation for the international conference “Post-Empire Imaginaries? Anglophone Literature, History and the Demise of Empires” that will take place in May 2012 in Berne. Participants of both the lecture and conference will have the opportunity to earn credit points for independent studies.

Texts: Recommended reading before the beginning of term: Rudyard Kipling, *Kim* (1900/1901), E.M. Forster, *A Passage to India* (1924), Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake* (2003), Percival Everett, *Erasure* (2001), Marta Acosta, *Happy Hour at Casa Dracula* (2006).

Aims: To give students insights into recent developments within Postcolonial Studies.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work.

Grade Requirement: Successful performance in quiz.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type:	Lecture
Title:	Cosmopolitanism and World Literature
Instructor:	T. Claviez
Time:	Tuesday 12-14
First Session:	21.02.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Course Description: The lecture will cover theoretical approaches to cosmopolitanism and world literature from Erich Auerbach, Martha Nussbaum, Jacques Derrida, David Damrosch, Franco Moretti, Pascale Casanova, Homi Bhabha, Pheng Cheah, and others, in order to sketch the trajectory of these two concepts from their inception to the most recent approaches. It will ask how the function of literature changes according to different conceptualizations of “the world,” and will address closely connected questions of canonization, imperialism and universalism.

Texts: The texts will be collected in a reader that can be obtained at the Copy Shop.

Aims: The aim of the lecture is to provide an overview of the highly heterogeneous approaches to the concepts, to gauge their explanatory and analytical potentials, and to familiarize students critically with the normative and aesthetic implications of these terms.

Evaluation: Cumulative Course Work, Lecture Notes

Grade Requirement: Written Exam

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type: Lecture

Title: Das Mittelmeer – Mare Nostrum?

Instructors: Medievalists of Berne University and guest speakers

Time: Thursday 17.15-18.45

First Session: 23.02.12

Credit Points: 3 ECTS

Open to students from other departments as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Course Description: Die Ringvorlesung des Berner Mittelalterzentrums beschäftigt sich im Frühjahrssemester 2012 mit dem Thema „Das Mittelmeer – Mare Nostrum?“. Dabei sollen unterschiedliche, jeweils disziplinär geprägte Aspekte angesprochen werden, die in Korrelation mit den verschiedenen Namen stehen, durch die das Mittelmeer seit der Antike bezeichnet wird: Vom „Grossen Grün“ im alten Ägypten zum „Mare Nostrum“ in der römischen Antike, vom „Grossen Meer“ der Juden im Mittelalter bis zum provokanten Ehrentitel „Corrupting Sea“ in der jüngeren Mittelmeerforschung bei Peregrine Horden und Nicholas Purcell. Seit Fernand Braudels umfänglicher Publikation ‚La Méditerranée et le monde méditerranéen (Das Mittelmeer und die mediterrane Welt)‘ von 1949 wurde der Mittelmeerraum als eine Einheit in der Vielfalt beschrieben. Während Braudel Historie noch als eine Geschichte "ohne Namen" verstand und die kulturellen Verflechtungen, Überlagerungen und Gegensätze der nördlichen und südlichen Anrainerstaaten des Mittelmeers aus der jeweiligen landschaftlichen und geopolitischen Situation zu erklären vermochte, neigt die jüngere Kulturgeschichte dazu, diese Entwicklungen unter sozialhistorischen und anthropologischen Gesichtspunkten zu erklären, die von Menschen und deren kulturellem Austausch handeln. Eine Kulturanthropologie des Mittelmeers verschreibt sich der Aufdeckung und Analyse von Verhaltenskulturen an den Rändern kultureller Zentren. Dabei wird ‚Rand‘ nicht als eindimensionale Grenzlinie, sondern als Summe topographisch beschreibbarer Kulturräume jenseits nationalstaatlicher Grenzen verstanden. Zudem erweist sich der Mittelmeerraum als ein postkoloniales Untersuchungsfeld par excellence, denn die Mittelmeerkultur des Mittelalters kann unter dem Blickwinkel der Emanzipation aus den ehemals kolonialrömischen Herrschaftsstrukturen betrachtet werden.

Aims: Ziel der Veranstaltung ist es, die interdisziplinäre Vernetzung der Mediävistik zu fördern und die Studierenden an einem fächerübergreifenden Gespräch zu beteiligen; diesem Zweck dienen vor allem die an die Vorträge anschliessenden Diskussionen.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Contact Dr. Nicole Nyffenegger (nyffenegger@ens.unibe.ch) in the FIRST WEEK of term for details about the preliminary meeting. Requirements for this lecture are participation in the preliminary meeting, the lecture series, as well as three follow-up sessions (dates to be announced), essay of 2800 words to be handed in to Nicole Nyffenegger by the end of term.

Grade Requirement: Evaluation of course work

Lecture Programme:

23.2.2012	Thomas Dittelbach (Kunstgeschichte, Bern)	Mare nostrum – Mare vostrum? Eine Einführung
1.3.2012	Nikolas Jaspert (Geschichte, Bochum)	Das Mittelmeer aus mediävistischer Sicht: Chancen und Gefahren eines Forschungsfeldes
8.3.2012	Jörg Richter (Kunstgeschichte, Bern)	Schätze und Wunderwerke. Mittelmeer-Reisen norddeutscher Bischöfe und deren Reflexe in der Kunst um 1200
15.3.2012	Ulrich Müller (Germanistik, Salzburg)	Mittelhochdeutsche Lieder über Mittelmeer-Reisen – Tanhuser und Oswald von Wolkenstein
22.3.2012	Stephan Conermann (Islamwissenschaft, Bonn)	Das Mittelmeer zur Zeit der Mamlukenherrschaft in Ägypten und Syrien (1250-1517) – eine globalgeschichtliche Perspektive
29.3.2012	Arnold Esch (Geschichte, Rom)	Probleme von Handel und Kommunikation im Mittelmeerraum im 15. Jahrhundert (BMZ Honorary Lecture)
19.4.2012	Cristina Urchueguía (Musikwissenschaft, Bern)	Eine musikalische Landkarte des Mittelmeers
26.4.2012	Jean-Marie Martin (Geschichte, CNRS Paris)	Sizilien und das Mittelmeer von Byzanz bis zur Zeit der Staufer (Maria Bindschedler-Gastvorlesung)
3.5.2012	Margot Hleunig Heilmann (Kunstgeschichte, Bern)	Neapel und Byzanz
10.5.2012	Michael Walsh (Architektur- gesch., Singapur)	Medieval and Renaissance Famagusta. Past, Present and Future
24.5.2012	Elena Mango (Archäologie, Bern)	Antike Büchersammlungen und Bibliotheken im Mittelmeerraum
31.5.2012	Luca Zavagno (Geschichte, Famagusta)	‚Betwixt the Greeks and the Saracens‘. Cyprus in Transition from Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages (ca. 600-800 A.D.)

Course Type:	Seminar
Title:	Postmodernity as Cultural Paradigm: Theory, Literature, Film, Architecture, Music
Instructor:	T. Claviez
Time:	Wednesday 16-18
First Session:	22.02.12
Credit Points:	7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Content: The seminar will inquire into philosophical approaches, theoretical definitions and artistic manifestations of postmodernity and postmodernism in different spheres of culture, such as architecture, literature, film, music, and video. Starting off with attempts to capture and investigate the decisive differences of modernism/postmodernism and postmodernity/postmodernity, we will try to trace these definitions in philosophical texts as well as a variety of artistic productions, media, and genres.

Texts: Literature: Paul Auster: *The New York Trilogy*. The main theoretical texts, as well as some of the primary texts and examples will be provided in a reader.

Aims: The aim of the lecture is to familiarize the students with the main aspects of the phenomenon of postmodernism, and to enable them to apply semiotic readings to a host of different representative strategies and media.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Presentation in the seminar

Grade Requirement: Presentation in the seminar (1/3) and a written assignment (2/3).

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type:	Seminar
Title:	Multicultural Literature and Film
Instructor:	B. Buchenau
Time:	Wednesday 18-20
First Session:	22.02.12
Credit Points:	7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Content: It has been two decades since multiculturalism hit the mainstream. When conservative scholar Nathan Glazer noted that “We Are All Multiculturalists Now,” his essay set the tone for a parodic and often sarcastic turn on multiculturalism. Certainly multiculturalism has lost much of its lustre and public appeal today, but the anti-multiculturalist backlash in Europe and North America seems to have sparked a remarkable new interest in the fields of literature and film. Ever since the 1970s multiculturalism had been a public policy in Canada, an educational goal in the U.S.A. and a popular North American “export good”, but it did not translate into literature and film, the two fields that were more ordinarily arranged along lines of ethnic affiliation, until multiple legal measures after the 9/11 attacks turned diversity into a threat to be monitored and patrolled rather than an asset to be fostered and refined.

The aim of this course is to follow multiculturalism’s journey from the public into the aesthetic realm, asking how Canadian and U.S. American multicultural theories and practices have affected the production and consumption of literature and film in North America in the last two decades. Combining the study of theoretical texts and public policies with a critical reading of Canadian and U.S. American ethnic fiction and film, we will probe the usefulness of the “multicultural” for an understanding of literature and film.

Texts: The following texts should be purchased at the Bugeno and read prior to the beginning of the term: Sherman Alexie, *Flight*, 2007, and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian*, 2007; Toni Morrison, *A Mercy*, 2008; Thomas King, *A Coyote Solstice*, 2009; George Elliott Clarke, *George and Rue*, 2005; Marta Acosta, *Happy Hour at Casa Dracula*, 2006.

Aims: To analyze recent literary and cinematic explorations of multiculturalism as a public and governmental ideal; to discuss differences in Canadian and U.S. American approaches to multiculturalism.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work (may include short pieces of writing), oral presentation

Grade Requirement: Seminar paper

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type:	Seminar
Title:	Romancing War – The Case of Chaucer’s <i>Troilus and Criseyde</i>
Instructor:	N. Nyffenegger
Time:	Thursday 14-16
First Session:	01.03.12 (second week of term!)
Credit Points:	7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Content: “Of harmes two the less is for to chose.” Choosing (tragic) love as the lesser of two evils, Geoffrey Chaucer decided to ‘romance’ war in his *Troilus and Criseyde* and to present the experience of war in the form of a tragic love-story. We will put his masterpiece at the center of this course and supplement our reading of it by a variety of texts: primary and secondary, medieval and modern, historical and theoretical. In doing so, we will explore the connections of love and war, challenge constructions of masculinity and identity and probe generic boundaries. We will think about different ways in which medieval literary and historical texts (of the crusades and the Hundred Years War in particular) as well as modern theoretical, historical and philosophical texts (e.g. Elaine Scarry’s *Body in Pain*) can be employed in the scholarly analysis of medieval works and we will attempt to each develop our own approach to the topic.

This course description as well as the programme are left very open on purpose; I expect the participants of this course to have read *Troilus and Criseyde* (Riverside edition) by the beginning of term, to have consulted the list of possible supplementary reading materials on ILIAS and to bring to the first session their own ideas as to how these could be employed productively for a reading of our base text.

Texts: A pdf of *Troilus and Criseyde* (Riverside edition) is available on ILIAS, inexpensive copies of the Riverside Chaucer can be purchased from the Bugeno. Please note that the base text for all discussions will be the Middle English one, but that you are of course welcome to consult translations in your preparation.

Aims: To work intensively on just one text for a semester, embedding it in its historical and literary context. To explore the potential of bringing modern theoretical texts to the reading of a medieval one. To learn to prepare materials for academic discussion, to develop independent and original ideas and, finally, to bring them into written form.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Attendance in all sessions, active participation, preparation of set text before the beginning of term, input presentations and moderation of one session.

Grade Requirement: 6000 words paper

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: Throughout semester, for paper: 1 July 2012

Course Type:	Seminar
Title:	Ghosts
Instructor:	V. Richter
Time:	Tuesday 16-18
First Session:	21.02.12
Credit Points:	7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Content: It is generally assumed that the heyday of the ghost story was the Victorian era, with its fog, its dim gaslight, its gloomy houses, its tensions between industrialisation and a semi-feudal society. However, if we look around we become aware that today, ghosts seem again to be omnipresent: they appear both as a metaphor in critical theory, in particular in relation to economics (Derrida, *Specters of Marx*, Vogl, *Das Gespenst des Kapitals*), and as figures in popular literature and culture, including highly acclaimed literary texts such as Sarah Waters's novel *The Little Stranger* (shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2009). In the seminar, we will discuss classical ghost stories by Charles Dickens, Sheridan Le Fanu, Vernon Lee and others, as well as recent versions of the genre, including the film *The Others* (dir. Alejandro Amenabar, 2001) which is loosely based on Henry James's ghost story *The Turn of the Screw*. While the focus will be on Victorian and contemporary literature, a knowledge of earlier texts (e.g. the ghost scenes in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*, the story of the Bleeding Nun in Matthew Lewis's *The Monk*) is highly desirable.

Texts: To be purchased and read before the beginning of term: Henry James, *The Turn of the Screw* (in: H.J., *The Turn of the Screw and The Aspern Papers*, ed. Anthony Curtis, Penguin Classics, 1984); Audrey Niffenegger, *Her Fearful Symmetry* (Jonathan Cape, 2009); Sarah Waters, *The Little Stranger* (Virago, 2009). All three will be ordered at the Bugeno. Additional primary and theoretical texts will be made available on ILIAS.

Aims: To analyse representations of ghosts in literature and film; to inquire into the cultural function of ghosts in relation to epistemological and economic approaches.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work, oral presentation.

Grade Requirement: Seminar paper.

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Course Type:	Seminar
Title:	Constructions of Classical Antiquities in Anglo-American Literature
Instructors:	G. Rippl, S. Rebenich
Time:	Tuesday 14-16
First Session:	21.02.12
Credit Points:	7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Content: Many Anglo-American writers have been infatuated with classical antiquity and ancient myth. We will read plays, novels, shorter fiction and poems by Shakespeare, Gibbon, Pater, Swinburne, Hilda Doolittle, Wilder and others which refer back to the Greek and Roman roots of our Western culture. While the classics constituted a set frame of reference for Anglo-American literature up to the first decades of the 20th century, a drastic shift seems to have taken place over the last fifty years. Our discussions will aim to differentiate the specific characteristics of the reception/construction of antiquity over different periods of literary and cultural history – the Renaissance, the Victorian period, Modernism and Postmodernism. To understand the fascination of Anglo-American writers with historical characters such as Caesar, mythical figures such as Odysseus, Dionysus and Theseus as well as Jewish-Christian figures such as Moses we will discuss in depth the literary texts listed below.

Texts: The primary texts will be made available either as electronic documents (shorter texts) on the ILIAS platform or ordered through the Bugeno (longer texts).

Recommended reading (secondary sources): Articles on the reception of classical antiquity in anglophone countries (GB, USA and Canada) in *Brill's New Pauly*; Werner Frick, 'Die mythische Methode'. *Komparatistische Studien zur Transformation der griechischen Tragödie im Drama der klassischen Moderne*, Tübingen: Niemeyer, 1998, "Einleitung", pp. 1-41.

Aims: This seminar will familiarize students with the long reception history of classical antiquity in Anglo-American literature and at the same time introduce them to interdisciplinary approaches in the humanities.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Regular attendance and active participation (oral presentation for 4 ECTS; oral presentation plus written paper of approximately 5'000 words for 7 ECTS).

Grade Requirement: Oral presentation plus written paper of approximately 5'000 words

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 31 July 2012

Course Type:	Seminar
Title:	American Literature and the Idea of Mobility
Instructor:	J. Straub
Time:	Thursday 10-12
First Session:	23.02.12
Credit Points:	7 ECTS (ungraded 4 ECTS)

Content: The theme of being on the move has been running through US-American literature from its earliest days. One may want to think of foundational early American texts such as Mary Rowlandson's captivity narrative, where enforced deracination in an environment that is unknown and strange is experienced as traumatic. Or one could think of Sarah Kemble Knight's travel diary from the early eighteenth century, where the author's adventurous mobility on horseback allows her to draw a sharp profile of her society's customs and habits. In our own time, the American road movie has become a phenomenon deeply reflective of American mentalities and self-images. It has its literary equivalents: Jack Kerouac's novel *On the Road* being probably the most famous example of mobility coming close to being a lifestyle or even a life philosophy. Enforced or self-chosen: mobility is the foil underlying much of US-American cultural as well as literary history. This seminar seeks to explore selected US-American literary works from the eighteenth century onwards which depict various facets and experiences of 'mobility,' as a social, but also deeply individual experience. It also seeks to achieve a theoretically informed understanding of mobility in the light of the recent interest taken by scholars in aspects of spatial and cultural mobility.

Texts: A complete reading list will be made available towards the end of January on ILIAS. To prepare for the class, students are encouraged to read the following lengthy texts during the semester break:

Sarah Kemble Knight, "The Journal of Madam Knight." in: Wendy Martin and Susan Imbarato, eds. *Colonial American Travel Narratives*. London: Penguin, 1994. ISBN: 978-0140390889

John Steinbeck. *The Grapes of Wrath*. Introduction by Robert DeMott. London: Penguin, 2000. ISBN: 978-0141185064

Jack Kerouac. *On the Road*. Introduction by Ann Charters. London: Penguin, 2007. ISBN: 978-0141182674

Cormac McCarthy. *The Road*. London: Vintage, 2007. ISBN: 978-0307386458

Copies of these titles will be available from the Bugeno book store as of mid-December.

Aims: This course aims to introduce students to an important aspect of American literary and cultural history. It aims to strengthen students' abilities to historicize literary texts and to theorize their textual analyses.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Oral presentation

Grade Requirement: Oral presentation and essay

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: 30 June 2012

Course Type:	Workshop
Title:	Textual Analysis: Exploration #6, or Paths through the House on Ash Tree Lane
Instructor:	I. Huber
Time:	Wednesday 12-14, first session: 7 March
First Session:	07.03.12
Credit Points:	3 ECTS

Course Description: Welcome to the house on Ash Tree Lane. Be warned that you'll run the danger of getting lost in dark passages opening out one from the other in endless progressions of doubtful meanings and dubious ends. We'll spend our time in this workshop exploring the intricate textual labyrinth Mark Z. Danielewski has created for his readers in his novel *House of Leaves*, a text that is both horror story and romance, academic study and Bildungsroman, adventure and psycho-trip, self-reflexive and affective, postmodern and ... what?

As a practical course in close textual analysis this workshop will be entirely based on student input who will not only be asked to engage in in-class close textual analysis and discussion but whose questions, associations and interests will play an instrumental role in the development of the schedule.

Texts: Mark Z. Danielewski. *House of Leaves*. Students will be expected to have read the novel before the first session (!) and will be re-reading it partly or in its entirety during the semester.

Aims: The format of the workshop will allow for a closer scrutiny of a literary text than most seminars provide space for, honing those skills which are indispensable for all literary analysis: close attention to detail, a feel for ambiguities, ironies and hidden meanings, a perception not only of what is there but also of all that is absent, an exploration of the heuristic value of both context and theory, and the ability to express and communicate one's own interpretation coherently and convincingly.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Attendance and contribution to discussions will be an absolute requirement in this class. Further requirements will be specified in the first session.

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

Master Forums

Course Type:	Colloquium
Title:	Master Forum
Instructor:	D. Britain
Time:	Monday 27 February 10-12 Monday 12 March 10-12 Monday 23 April 10-12 Monday 14 May 8-12
First Session:	20.02.12
Credit Points:	4 ECTS

Course Description: The Master Forum is a continual course over the duration of three semesters. Students stay in the same Forum during the first three semesters of their MA Studies. The Forum is a problem-oriented research colloquium in which students will have the chance to talk about their work and their problems, discuss theories and methodologies and peer-review their written work and presentation skills. Its format is variable (fortnightly, block-sessions) and will be announced by the conducting professors at the beginning of term.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Students in first semester of MA Forum: class participation; students not in the first semester of the Forum will be required to give a presentation of their MA research, in whatever stage of development, to the rest of the group.

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: A Forum conference towards the end of the semester.

Important: Participants should be aware that Professor Britain is on sabbatical leave in the Spring Semester of 2013 and will be unable to supervise or grade theses during this time.

Course Type:	Colloquium
Title:	Master Forum
Instructors:	B. Buchenau, V. Richter
Time:	Monday 16-18
First Session:	20.02.12
Credit Points:	4 ECTS

Course Description: The Master Forum is a continual course over the duration of three semesters. Students stay in the same Forum during the first three semesters of their MA Studies. The Forum is a problem-oriented research colloquium in which students will have the chance to talk about their work, discuss theories and methodologies and peer-review their written work and presentation skills. In this semester, we will focus on key theoretical texts from literary and cultural studies.

Evaluation (pass/fail): Cumulative course work

Grade Requirement: Ungraded

Deadline for Submission of Assignment/Evaluation: tba

PhD Colloquium Linguistics

Course Type:	Colloquium
Title:	PhD Colloquium
Instructor:	D. Britain
Time:	Monday 16-18
First Session:	20.02.12

Course Description: This colloquium is for doctoral and post-doctoral researchers who are working on a PhD thesis or a Habilitation. The aim of the colloquium is to provide a forum for the discussion of written work, upcoming conference and workshop presentations and other professional development activities.

PhD Colloquia Literature

Course Type:	Colloquium
Title:	Doctoral Colloquium
Instructor:	A. Kern-Stähler
Time:	tba
First Session:	tba

Course Description: The doctoral colloquium allows doctoral students in Medieval Studies to discuss new trends in the field and to receive feedback on their research.

Course Type: Colloquium
Title: PhD Colloquium
Instructor: V. Richter
Time: tba
First Session: tba

Course Description: This colloquium is for PhD students and post-doc researchers working on a PhD thesis or their second book (Habilitation). We will discuss our own work-in-progress as well as interesting recent theoretical publications. If you wish to join the colloquium, please contact Prof. Richter.

Course Type: Colloquium
Title: PhD and PostDoc Colloquium North American Literature
Instructor: G. Rippl
Time: Tuesday 18-20
First Session: 21.02.12

Course Description: This colloquium is for PhD students and post-doc researchers who are working on a PhD thesis or their second book (Habilitation). We will discuss our own work-in-progress as well as interesting recent theoretical publications.

STAFF RESEARCH INTERESTS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

F. Andres Morrissey: Creative writing, performing poetry, dialects in rock vocals, minority languages; Member of NAWA (National Association of Writers in Education) and EFL consultant for Cambridge University Press.

D. Britain: Language variation and change, English dialectology (esp. of Southern England, East Anglia and the Anglophone Southern Hemisphere), sociophonology, dialect contact, new dialect formation and second dialect acquisition, language and dialect obsolescence, the emergent dialects of diaspora communities, and the interface between dialectology and human geography; Associate Editor of the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*.

B. Buchenau: Colonial literary and cultural history of North America; Atlantic and inter-American studies; minority studies (theories, practices, pedagogies); historical fiction; travel writing; early modern scholarship and its arts (esp. cartographical maps and representational engravings); stereotypes (in words, pictures, and sounds); religious typology.

T. Claviez: Literary theory, aesthetics and ethics, 19th and 20th century American literature, American film, ecocriticism, native American literature, American history of ideas, postcolonial theory, representations of cosmopolitanism, hospitality and otherness.

A. Cottier: Postcolonial literatures, contemporary British and North American literatures, historiography, history and politics, autobiography, narratology, gender studies, literary theory.

M. Denger-Kähler: Contemporary postcolonial literatures, postcolonial theory, ritual, hauntology, concepts of time, concepts of space, concepts of community, concepts of identity (construction), postmodern narrative strategies.

N. A. Escherle: South Asian anglophone literatures and cultures, religion and/in literature, conceptions and the staging of the other/alterity in literature, postcolonial literature and theory, cosmopolitanism, fictional and meta-fictional biography, intermediality, utopian and dystopian literature, satire.

L. Etter: Intermediality, comics and graphic novels, classical and postclassical narratology, interrelations of literature and contemporary fine arts.

K. Gonçalves: Sociolinguistics, discourse analysis, English as a Lingua Franca, the history of English, historical linguistics, language change, language and gender, discourse and identity construction, narrative studies.

S. Hoppeler: Contemporary American and Canadian literature, comics and graphic novels, intermediality, narratology, gender studies.

I. Huber: Fantastic literature, literary anthropology, gender studies, postcolonial studies, narratology, literary theory, comparative perspectives.

A. Kern-Stähler: Medieval literature and culture; concepts of space; concepts of authorship; text and image; gender studies; interrelations between science and literature and between bioethics and literature; fundamentalism and literature; Victorian literature; postmodern literature; British-German relations.

U. Kluwick: Postmodern fiction, postcolonial literatures, historiographic metafiction, magic realism, literary theories, ecocriticism, Victorian literature.

J. Langenbach: Gothic literature and art, Gothic and horror cinema, film studies (film history and theory), visuality and visual culture, American literature and culture, American drama.

M. Mace-Tessler: Twentieth century literature written in English, comparative literature, narrative structure, film and film adaptations, ethics in literature.

M. Mettler: Cosmopolitanism, second generation South Asian diaspora, the transcultural family, hermeneutics, narrators and storytelling, identity creation, gender studies, the (post)modern and the contemporary novel.

N. Nyffenegger: Medieval literature and history, especially questions of (authorial) identity, cultural contacts (e.g. travel and migration narratives), founding myths, representations of “self and other”, historiography.

S. Pfenninger: Language acquisition (second language acquisition and learning, bilingualism, multilingualism); Psycholinguistics; grammaticalization (both from a synchronic and diachronic perspective); verbal constructions; contrastive linguistics of early Germanic languages (German/English); youth language.

K. Reist: Medieval and early modern literature, especially Reformation and post-Reformation literature, Protestant martyrology, hagiography, early modern print culture, concepts of author- and readership, gender studies.

V. Richter: British literature and culture in the Restoration and the Long Eighteenth Century; Victorianism; modernity; contemporary literature and film; literary and cultural theory; gender studies; postcolonial studies/cosmopolitanism; literature and science, especially Darwinism; literary representations of animals; literature and the environment, in particular the beach as an in-between space.

G. Rippl: Intermediality (text-image relations, ekphrasis in particular), graphic novels, cultural studies, literary theory, interculturality and postcolonialism, cosmopolitanism, transculturalism, history and anthropology of the media, literature and anthropology, early modernity (frühe Neuzeit), 19th and 20th century women writers in English, semiotics, autobiography research, feminist literary theory, transculturalism.

J. Strässler: Syntax, especially lexically-driven parsing, generative grammar, computer linguistics, phonetics and phonology, forensic linguistics, time-tense relationships.

J. Straub: Victorian literature, literature and photography, literature and philosophy, autobiography, contemporary British and American fiction.

N. Studer-Joho: Old and Middle English (especially morphology and phonology), historical dialectology, language change, historical sociolinguistics, scribal variation.

STUDENTS' COMMITTEE

Website: <http://www.englishstudents.ch>

e-mail: fsanglistik@sub.unibe.ch

The Students' Committee is a group of students within the English Department acting as the students' representatives at a departmental level. We maintain regular contact with the staff and professors, as well as other university departments and the SUB, communicating the voice of the student body to the department.

Among other things, we call General Assemblies once each semester. This is when all the students of English are asked to meet and discuss topics of general concern, and to provide feedback about past activities and other matters.

It is our responsibility to assist you in study matters and, therefore, we organize information meetings about various topics – such as your stay abroad – to give you the opportunity to gather information. Check the notice boards as well as our website for announcements. However, you can always contact us if you need any kind of assistance concerning your English studies.

We meet regularly to keep up to date with what is going on. If you have any suggestions or complaints, talk to one of us or feel free to e-mail us.

Feel free to join the Committee, or if you are interested in finding out what the Students' Committee is all about, contact one of the current members and/or join in at one of our meetings.

Members of the Students' Committee

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Check our website regularly!

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TIMETABLE SPRING SEMESTER 2012

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8-10		Morrissey: Modern English Grammar II (<i>Language Foundation Module</i>)	Buchenau: Caribbean Literature (<i>FM Postcolonial Studies, Seminar</i>)		
10-12	Studer-Joho: From <i>hlæfdige</i> 'bread-kneader' to <i>lady</i> : A History of English Words (<i>FM Language in Applied, Social and Historical Contexts, Seminar</i>) Britain: Bachelor Colloquium for specific dates see below Britain: Master Forum for specific dates see below	Mace-Tessler/Morrissey: Writing Skills II (<i>Language Foundation Module</i>) Reist: Mapping the World: Orientalism and the Postcolonial Middle Ages (<i>FM Postcolonial Studies, Seminar</i>) Britain: Analysing Phonological Change (MA Seminar) for specific dates see below	Morrissey: An Overview of Issues in Sociolinguistics (<i>FM Language in Applied, Social and Historical Contexts, Seminar</i>) Kern-Stähler: Literature and the Senses: The Five Senses, Sensations and Sensation in Literature from the Middle Ages to the Present Day (<i>FM Senses and Sensation in Literature, Lecture</i>)	Mace-Tessler/Morrissey: Writing Skills II (<i>Language Foundation Module</i>) Straub: American Literature and the Idea of Mobility (MA Seminar)	
12-14	Gonçalves: Discourse and Tourism (MA Seminar)	Claviez: Cosmopolitanism and World Literature (MA Lecture)	Escherle: 'What mischief made you become a bloody Muslim?' Religion and Violence in Anglophone Indian Novels (<i>FM Postcolonial Studies, Seminar</i>) Huber: Textual Analysis: Exploration #6, or Paths through the House on Ash Tree Lane (<i>BA & MA Textual Analysis Workshop</i>)	Morrissey: Creative Writing (<i>Workshop</i>) Langenbach: Of Ecstasy and Excess: Senses and Sensation in Gothic Fiction (<i>FM Senses and Sensation in Literature, Seminar</i>)	
14-16	Britain/Gonçalves: Research Methods in Sociolinguistics (<i>FM Language in Applied, Social and Historical Contexts, Seminar</i>) for specific dates see below	Mace-Tessler: Reading Film (<i>Workshop</i>) Britain: Postcolonial Englishes (<i>FM Postcolonial Studies, Seminar</i>) Ripp/Rebenich: Constructions of Classical Antiquities in Anglo-American Literature (MA Seminar)	Richter/Buchenau: After Empire: Approaches to Postcolonial Studies (<i>FM Postcolonial Studies, Lecture/MA Lecture</i>) Ripp: Bachelor Colloquium Literature (fortnightly)	Strässler: Applied Linguistics (<i>FM Language in Applied, Social and Historical Contexts, Lecture/MA Lecture</i>) Nyffenegger: Romancing War – The Case of Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde (MA Seminar)	
16-18	Richter/Buchenau: Master Forum Britain: PhD Colloquium Linguistics	Pfenninger: Second Language Learning and Teaching (<i>FM Language in Applied, Social and Historical Contexts, Seminar</i>) Kluwick: (Post)Colonial Waters (<i>FM Postcolonial Studies, Seminar</i>) Richter: Ghosts (MA Seminar)	Straub: Drama, Baby! Staging Emotion in Literature and Film (<i>FM Senses and Sensation in Literature, Seminar</i>) Kern-Stähler/Richter: Bachelor Colloquium Literature (fortnightly) Claviez: Postmodernity as Cultural Paradigm: Theory, Literature, Film, Architecture, Music (MA Seminar)	Morrissey: Page to Stage (<i>Workshop</i>) 17.15-18.45: BMZ: Das Mittelmeer – Mare nostrum? (<i>BA Lecture/Wahlbereich Lecture/MA Lecture</i>)	
18-20		Kern-Stähler: The Five Senses in Medieval Literature and Culture (<i>FM Senses and Sensation in Literature, Seminar</i>) Ripp: PhD and PostDoc Colloquium North American Literature	Buchenau: Multicultural Literature and Film (MA Seminar) Collegium Generale: Im Herzen der Macht? Hauptstädte und ihre Funktion (<i>Wahlbereich Lecture</i>)		

Key: Classes in **bold** are for master students

Single events and block sessions:

Bachelor Courses

Britain: Research Methods in Sociolinguistics (*Seminar*)
Monday 14-16
Exceptions: 12 March, 14-17; 26 March, 14-18; 14 May, 14-18
Britain: Bachelor Colloquium
20 February, 10-12; 2 April, 10-12; 7 May, 8-12

Master Courses

Britain: Analysing Phonological Change (*MA Seminar*)
21 & 28 February, 10-12; 13, 20, 27 March, 10-12; 3 April, 10-12;
8 May, 10-12; 22 May, 8-12
Britain: Master Forum
27 February, 10-12; 12 March, 10-12; 23 April, 10-12; 14 May, 8-12

PhD Colloquia

Richter: Colloquium (Block Seminar)
Kern-Stähler: Colloquium (Block Seminar)