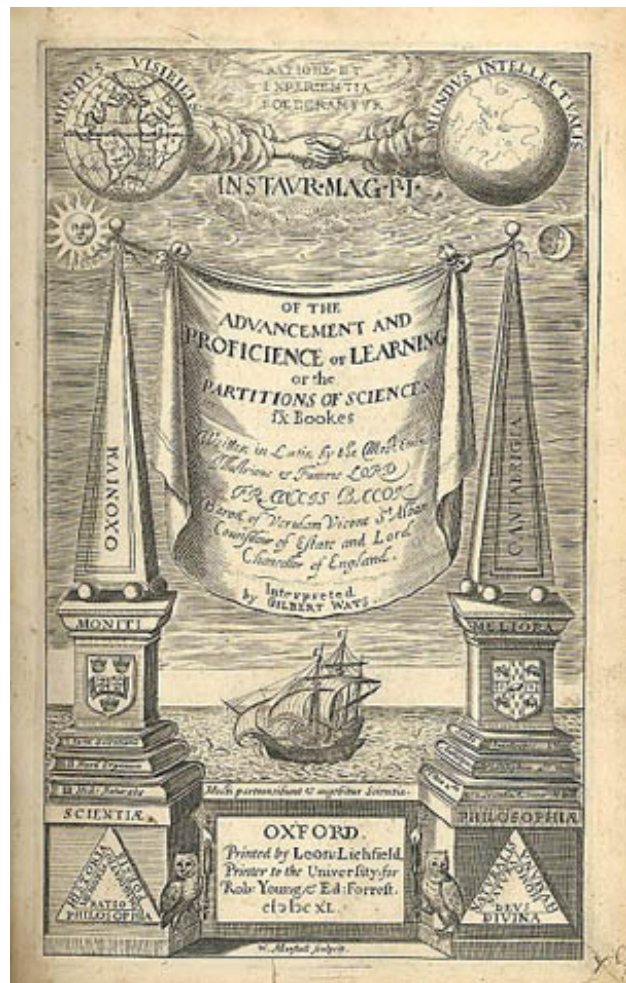


Information Booklet

Spring Semester 2010

22 February – 4 June 2010



Bacon's Advancement of Learning

English Department
University of Berne
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3000 Berne 9

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Cover illustration taken from:

<http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/libraries/rare/modernity/images/bacon2-1.jpg>

INTRODUCTION

Dear Students, dear Members of Staff,

Travelling is an often-used metaphor for intellectual discovery. In the seventeenth century, Sir Francis Bacon set up an ambitious research programme for the “advancement of learning” in which he advocated the first-hand observation of nature, independent thinking and, concomitantly, the distrust of received authorities. True learning, driven by the right kind of motivation – not the pursuit of vanity, riches (seldom within the reach of scholars of literature and linguistics, anyhow) or credit points (my words, not his), but a genuine quest for knowledge and the wish to expand one’s intellectual faculties – will engender, according to Bacon, a critical, self-reflexive, and independent mind; it “taketh away all levity, temerity, and insolency, by copious suggestion of all doubts and difficulties, and acquainting the mind to balance reasons on both sides, and to turn back the first offers and conceits of the mind, and to accept of nothing but examined and tried. It taketh away vain admiration of anything, which is the root of all weakness” (Bacon, *The Advancement of Learning* [1605], <http://www.gutenberg.org/dirs/etext04/adlr10h.htm>). As this quotation suggests, mental travelling in the pursuit of learning is often arduous, fraught with dangers, but also intensely exciting and enriching. Bacon himself chose as the cover illustration of his book the picture of a ship passing the Pillars of Hercules, i.e. the straight of Gibraltar, traditionally considered the limit of the known world beyond which dangerous monsters were lurking. When discoverers such as Christopher Columbus, Vasco da Gama, Sir Francis Drake, James Cook and others set sail for the unknown, they discovered not only new sea routes and new continents, but a new world in an intellectual sense. This excitement of cognitive discovery is captured in John Keats’ sonnet “On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer.” Here, the process of reading – reading a particularly felicitous translation of Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey* – is compared to the discovery of a continent:

MUCH have I travell’d in the realms of gold,
And many goodly states and kingdoms seen;
Round many western islands have I been
Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold.
Oft of one wide expanse had I been told
That deep-brow’d Homer ruled as his demesne;
Yet did I never breathe its pure serene
Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold:
Then felt I like some watcher of the skies
When a new planet swims into his ken;
Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes
He star’d at the Pacific—and all his men
Look’d at each other with a wild surmise—
Silent, upon a peak in Darien.

Admittedly, during his exploration – or, less euphemistically, invasion – of Mexico, Hernán Cortez killed off a significant proportion of the native population; discovery is not always sublime, nor is it harmless. And yet, this sense of venturing where no man (or woman) has gone before, seeing what one hasn’t seen before, thinking what one hasn’t thought before, that can overwhelm us when reading, for example, Shakespeare’s *King Lear*, Foucault’s *Surveiller et Punir*, or Darwin’s *On the Origin of Species*, is what makes the daily struggle with the less pleasant features of academic life worthwhile.

Excitingly, travelling, discovery, knowledge, the exploration and construction of space, processes of migration, are themes pursued from different perspectives in a wide array of courses offered in this semester: in Prof. Britain’s “This is London: The Sociolinguistics of a

Metropolis,” N.N.’s (the new Professor in Medieval Studies whose name can only be divulged once the appointment is confirmed) “Women and Space in late medieval England,” or “Postcolonialism and Beyond” jointly taught by Profs. Rippl and Znoj, to name but a few. I almost envy students that they can embark on these fascinating journeys into unknown fields.

To help students with the navigation, our study counsellors are ready to give advice. In case of need, please contact

Julia Straub who is responsible for **BA students** with surnames from **A-M** and for **MA students**,

Kellie Gonçalves who is responsible for **BA students** with surnames from **N-Z** and for **Liz students**,

Irmtraud Huber who is responsible for **transfer students**.

It is not easy to steer a ship through open waters when the crew is incomplete. I am therefore particularly happy to announce that by spring semester 2010 all the vacancies (hopefully) will be filled. At the time of writing, I can welcome on board our new Professor in Modern English Linguistics, David Britain (formerly University of Essex), and our new Assistant Professor in Postcolonial Studies, Barbara Buchenau (formerly University of Göttingen). We expect that the Professor in Medieval Studies will join us in March. It is a pleasure to thank all those who helped us weather the interim period: our “Lehrbeauftragte” in Linguistics, Andreas Jucker, Verena Haser, Dorota Smyk-Bhattacharjee, Jürg Strässler, and in Medieval Studies, Lucy Perry, Kirsten Stirling, and Fiona Tolhurst, as well as our members of staff in these fields, Beatrix Busse, Kellie Gonçalves, Franz Andres Morrissey, and Nicole Nyffenegger. Everyone in fact was extremely helpful and supportive in this period of transition. Special thanks go to our colleagues in administration, who are now faced with an extra amount of work when the new professors arrive: our librarian Fränzi Eberle-Ek, our secretaries Monika Iseli and Hilary Sharp, and our IT wizard Fayaz Ali Khan, together with their respective student assistants, Alexandra Müller, Petra Riedweg, and Ursula Wyss. Thank you all, and let’s keep the boat rocking!

Professor Virginia Richter
Head of Department

STAFF

Directors of Department

Prof. Dr. Virginia Richter Head of Department
 Modern English Literature
Prof. Dr. David Britain
 Modern English Linguistics
Prof. Dr. Thomas Claviez
 Literary Theory
Prof. Dr. Gabriele Rippl
 Literatures in English
N.N.
 Medieval English Language and Literature

Consultation Times

Tuesday 14-15:30 or by appt.
By appointment
Wednesday 15-16 or by appt.
Monday 12-14 or by appt.
Wednesday 16-17:30 or by appt.

Assistant Professors

Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau
 Postcolonial Literature
Prof. Dr. Beatrix Busse
 English Historical Linguistics

Wednesday 13-14 or by appt.

Wednesday 14-15 or by appt.

Lecturers

Stephanie Hoppeler, M.A.
 Literatures in English
Dr. Nicole Nyffenegger-Staub
 Medieval English Literature
Dr. Dorota Smyk-Bhattacharjee
 English Linguistics
Dr. Jürg Strässler
 English Linguistics

Tuesday 12-14 or by appt.

Please sign-up on office door list

By appointment

By appointment

Assistants

Lic.phil. Annie Cottier
 Literary Theory
Dr. des. Kellie Gonçalves
 Modern English Linguistics
Irmtraud Huber, M.A.
 Modern English Literature
Dr. Ursula Kluwick
 Modern English Literature
Lic.phil. Melanie Mettler
 Modern English Literature
Dr. Julia Straub
 Literatures in English

By appointment

By appointment

Tuesday 10-12 or by appt.

By appointment

By appointment

Until 30.3.10: check website
After 1.4.10: Wednesday 14-16

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

Monika Iseli-Felder

Tuesday 9-10, 13:45-15:15

Wednesday 9-10

Librarian

Franziska Eberle

Tuesday 8-12, 13-17

Wednesday 8-12, 13-17

Thursday 8-12, 13-17

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

**BACHELOR STUDIES/LIZENTIAT BASIC STUDIES
LANGUAGE AND PRACTICAL COURSES**

BA Course Module: FM1/II
LIZ: Practical Course
Title: Writing Skills II
Instructor(s): M. Mace-Tessler, F. Andres Morrissey
Time(s): Tuesday 10-12 (2 courses), Thursday 10-12 (2 courses)
First Session(s): 23.02.10, 25.02.10
Level: BA: For 1st-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 3/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: 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 handed out as photocopies 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 (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: FM2/II
LIZ: Practical Course
Title: Modern English Grammar II
Instructor(s): F. Andres Morrissey
Time(s): Tuesday 8-10, Wednesday 8-10
First Session(s): 23.02.10, 24.02.10
Level: BA: For 1st-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 2.5/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: 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 find themselves involved in, and in a more detailed understanding of the subtleties and nuances of the language that have an impact on the understanding of literary texts.

Texts: The material for this course will be in the form of handouts which will be distributed in class, but also on material that can be downloaded from www.morrissey.unibe.ch.

Useful textbooks include *Rediscover Grammar* by David Crystal and McCarthy and Carter's *English Grammar* (CUP).

Aims: To develop a better insight into how English works, improve the grasp of English in spoken and written form, link the understanding of structures to aspects covered in the linguistics classes and raise the awareness of grammatical subtleties used to create specific effects in literary texts.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

Test/Exam

Oral Presentation

Evaluation at end of entire Module only

Date of Evaluation:

Throughout semester

During semester break

Other:

Written Assignment(s)

Other Class Work

Other:

Last week of semester

To be advised

BA Course Module: PTM
LIZ: Practical Course
Title: Use of English
Instructor(s): F. Andres Morrissey
Time(s): Thursday 8-10
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For all students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 2.5/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course deals with aspects of English which are not or only marginally covered by a study of grammar. This includes error recognition and correction, exploration of collocations, idioms, figures of speech, proverbs, etc. Aspects of style, clichés, and similar phenomena are part of lively English, in everyday language, in journalistic, artistic and academic writing and speech. We will also look at those areas of the English language which can trip up non-native speakers (and sometimes also native speakers), i.e. easily “confusable” words and avoidable errors based on interference from other languages. Finally, we will work towards improving word power, i.e. expanding our vocabulary.

Texts: Worksheets are handed out in the course and can be downloaded after the session from the Downloads Page www.morrissey.unibe.ch. Useful books are *Collins Cobuild English Usage*, the Penguin *Test your ...* series, the *Oxford Dictionary of Collocations for Students of English*, etc.

Aims: Familiarity with elements of language as they are covered in the course should enable the students to work towards a lively style, both in speech and in writing, but it should also help them get a better understanding of authentic English in the media, in literature and in daily usage.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Date of Evaluation: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: PTM
LIZ: Practical Course
Title: Reading Film
Instructor(s): M. Mace-Tessler
Time(s): Tuesday 14-16
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For all students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 2.5/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: 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.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
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BA Course Module: PTM
LIZ: Practical Course
Title: Oral Expression
Instructor(s): F. Andres Morrissey
Time(s): Thursday 16-18
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For all students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 2.5/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: In the course students will be working with texts of various origins, literary as well as factual, and work on an understanding of their overt meanings but also on possible subtexts, particularly in the case of texts representing speech. To lay the groundwork for this, students will be expected to read carefully the material to be dealt with prior to each session and to familiarise themselves thoroughly with its content. In class a certain amount of time will be devoted to elaborating on the content of the text and to discussing what possible elements the text may contain which hint at hidden agendas, subtexts etc. However, most of the time we will focus on the oral delivery of the passages, dialogues and speeches and on some remedial work to improve that delivery.

Texts: The texts will be made available during the course in the form of downloads and as photocopies.

Aims: The aims of the course are twofold: Firstly, to sharpen perception for the meaning of texts and to develop the ability to convey that meaning through oral delivery. Secondly, students will be encouraged to work on their pronunciation and on their accent in English, either more clearly working out the features of the variant which they are most comfortable in or to develop a variant they wish to emulate.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Date of Evaluation: | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: This course will not be evaluated with a mark.

BA Course Module: PTM
LIZ: Practical Course
Title: Time's Reflection: Analyzing Non-fiction
Instructor(s): M. Mace-Tessler
Time(s): Thursday 14-16
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For all students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 2.5/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course will examine ways in which non-fiction texts capture moments of history and moments of people's lives. We will look at short selections from a variety of non-fiction forms such as magazine and newspaper articles, diaries, autobiographies, and blogs, by writers as diverse as Virginia Woolf and Tom Wolfe, George Orwell and Hunter S. Thompson, Henry David Thoreau and Iain Sinclair. In this way, we will be able to analyze the means they have used to mirror the events and people of the times in which they lived. We will also compare their techniques to those used by filmmakers and graphic non-fiction writers when they document an event, present a phenomenon, or make an argument.

Texts: Short extracts to be read for each class will be on ILIAS. Other texts may be distributed in class.

Aims: To develop the skills of textual analysis

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
- Date of Evaluation:**
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: PTM
LIZ: Practical Course
Title: Creative Writing Workshop
Instructor(s): F. Andres Morrissey
Time(s): Thursday 12-14
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For all students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 2.5/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: 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 some 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 into account the feedback, e.g. from the rest of the group. 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).

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- Test/Exam
- Oral Presentation
- Evaluation at end of entire Module only

- Written Assignment(s)
- Other Class Work
- Other:

Date of Evaluation:

- Throughout semester
- During semester break
- Other:

- Last week of semester
- To be advised

Remarks: This course will not be evaluated with a mark.

LITERATURE COURSES

BA Course Module: Lit M2/I
Module Name: Close Reading of Literary Texts
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Black Drama
Instructor(s): B. Buchenau
Time(s): Thursday 8-10
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For 1st-year major and 2nd-year minor students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course offers a transnational approach to the dramatic work of writers of African descent in the English speaking world. Studying drama in terms of its intermedial as well as communal nature (involving texts and performances, writers, directors, actors, stage personnel, and audiences), we will look at the particularities of U.S. American, Canadian, Caribbean, and British texts and performances which contend with a long-standing western tradition of staging “blackness,” of incorporating African characters (frequently represented by actors in blackface), in order to rationalize or naturalize colonization and racialization.

Texts: Texts for the course will be made available in a reader. Participants are invited to read William Shakespeare’s *The Tempest* (available at the Bugeno) as an ‘appetizer’ for this course.

Aims: To develop and expand analytical and interpretive skills in the field of drama and to become familiar with major theoretical approaches to “Blackness” as a central category in Atlantic studies.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Date of Evaluation: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M2/I
Module Name: Close Reading of Literary Texts
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Romantic Poetry
Instructor(s): I. Huber
Time(s): Wednesday 12-14
First Session(s): 24.02.10
Level: BA: For 1st-year major and 2nd-year minor students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course introduces students to British Romantic poetry and develops their understanding of its nature through a close analytical reading of assigned texts from major poets of the period such as Blake, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Keats and Shelley. We will trace major themes and motives such as poetic inspiration, memory of past events, the sublime, the relationship between the poetic subject and nature, as well as the role played by language. A close engagement with the poems will help us further to understand the formal, aesthetic and metric innovations that mark Romantic poetry as an important turning point in English literary history.

Texts: All poems and further reading will be made available on ILIAS.

Aims: To practise close reading of poetry and to familiarize student with the aesthetic programme of an important literary period.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M2/I
Module Name: Close Reading of Literary Texts
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Coconuts, Desis and Cappuccinos: The South Asian Family in the British Novel
Instructor(s): M. Mettler
Time(s): Monday 14-16
First Session(s): 22.02.10
Level: BA: For 1st-year major and 2nd-year minor students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: In this course, we will investigate the ways in which British identities and South Asian backgrounds are being portrayed in three novels, written by the current generation of authors of South Asian descent, those born and bred in Britain. The protagonist Jas in Malkani's novel *Londonstani* addresses the problem of categorization in the following way: "People're always trying to stick a label on our scene. First we was rudeboys, then we be Indian niggas, then rajamuffins, then raggastanis, Britasians, fuckin Indobrits. These days we try an use our own word for homeboy an so we just call ourselves desis but I still remember when we were happy with the word rudeboy." The treatment of conflict, particularly within the immigrant family, is at the centre of the negotiation of new forms of British identity in the narrative texts. In a first reading, readers usually pay a lot of attention to plot and storyline. By reading the text closely, with the help of a narratological framework, narrative devices such as characterization, narrative voice, style and structure emerge and allow for exciting multi-layered analysis.

Texts: All texts are available at the Bugeno. Shlomith Rimmon-Kenan's *Narrative Fiction. Contemporary Poetics*. London and New York: Routledge, 2004; Basil, Priya. *Ishq and Mushq*. London: Black Swan, 2008; Kureishi, Hanif. *The Buddha of Suburbia*. London: Faber&Faber, 1999; Malkani, Gautam. *Londonstani*. London: Harpercollins, 2007.

Aims: The main aim of this course is for you to learn how to analyse novels by methods and tools of close reading and with the help of the theoretical framework of narratology. You will also practise creating and developing an academic argument.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance, active participation and completion of all course work. You are expected to have read all three novels by the start of the course (take notes). Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Date of Evaluation: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M2/I
Module Name: Close Reading of Literary Texts
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Fame and Fortune in Medieval English Literature
Instructor(s): N. Nyffenegger-Staub
Time(s): Tuesday 14-16
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For 1st-year major and 2nd-year minor students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: Who are the rich and beautiful, the stars and starlets of the medieval world? We will be examining representations of fame and fortune as they appear in medieval English literature and will come across good kings and fair queens, bold warriors and valient knights, virgins of exceeding beauty.... There is the other side of the coin, too (or is it in fact part of the construction of fame and fortune?): Kings are corrupted, queens abducted, warriors slain, knights defeated, virgins raped; there are demonic tricksters and cruel tyrants, evil mothers-in-law and jealous siblings.

In our reading of texts from different periods and different genres (romance, hagiography, historiography) we will focus strongly on techniques of textual analysis.

Texts: All primary and secondary texts will be available on ILIAS as of the beginning of term.

Aims: To provide students with the tools necessary for the close reading of (medieval) texts and sensitise them to the generic specificities of three major genres of medieval literature.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2. Active participation is expected.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Date of Evaluation: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
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BA Course Module: Lit M2/III
Module Name: Theoretical Perspectives on Literature
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: (Stereo)types in Literature and Popular Culture
Instructor(s): B. Buchenau
Time(s): Thursday 10-12
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
 Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: Good literature seems to be the opposite of reductive stereotypes. At its best, literature encourages us to think anew about how we conceptualize people who differ from us. Ideally, literature invites us to reflect upon the various ways in which we pigeon-hole others into certain categories. Literature, then, can make us question the categories we use, drawing attention to images and pictures which starkly reduce the potential of those who are captured by them. At the same time, literature takes an active part in the very shaping of stereotypes about people. When literature invents a temporary social world for its readers, it tends to work with generalizations and simplifications about certain people (these are stereotypes in the broadest sense) and it expands upon these in its own dependence on minor characters for the development of an intriguing plotline (these are types in the literary sense). In this course, we will take a closer look at the intricate correlations between literature, popular culture and especially ethnic stereotypes. Using scholarship on stereotyping and on literary types to form a number of hypotheses about the social impact of literature, we will concentrate on the depiction of North American Indian and African characters in a number of mainstream and marginalized texts.

Texts: Primary and secondary texts will be made available in a reader. See notice board.

Aims: To develop interpretive skills in the fields of literary and cultural analysis and to gain insights into the cultural and political work of textually produced simplifications and generalizations.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M2/III
Module Name: Theoretical Perspectives on Literature
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Postcolonialism and Cosmopolitanism in Contemporary Indian English Fiction
Instructor(s): A. Cottier
Time(s): Tuesday 10-12
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: In this course, the main aim is to acquaint students with postcolonial studies by learning about and discussing a selection of postcolonial concepts, specifically hybridity, nation, postcolonial historiography and subalternity. We will explore these issues and use them as a theoretical framework for studying the primary texts to be read for this course. Furthermore, we will discuss whether these texts, besides expressing postcolonial concerns, might negotiate issues related to the ‘global’ and the ‘local’, to cosmopolitanism and to globalisation. Both Amitav Ghosh’s *Sea of Poppies* (2008) and Salman Rushdie’s *The Enchantress of Florence* (2008) are, in their own modes, magical tales of adventure, voyage and exile. They are very recent texts which, although in subject matter firmly set in a postcolonial tradition of fictional historiography, also take into account the forming of bonds which articulate a cosmopolitan commitment that goes beyond national concerns.

Texts: *The Enchantress of Florence* (2008) by Salman Rushdie, *Sea of Poppies* (2008) by Amitav Ghosh. Students are required to read the texts before the beginning of the course. The texts will be available at the Bugeno.

Aims: To give students a thorough introduction to postcolonial studies, and to convey how to make use of theory when discussing literary texts.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M2/III
Module Name: Theoretical Perspectives on Literature
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Postmodernism and the North American Novel
Instructor(s): S. Hoppeler
Time(s): Tuesday 14-16
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: We will address questions such as “What is Postmodernism?”, “How are its tenets reflected in postmodernist novels?”, “What are the differences between “classic” postmodernist and contemporary postmodernist works?”, “What impact does postmodernism have on intermedial works, i.e. graphic novels?”, etc. We will explore the subversive forces embedded in postmodernist fiction, investigate the questioning of grand myths and scrutinize the important notion of meta-referentiality and meta-narrative. The theoretical background provided by Jean-François Lyotard, Jean Baudrillard, Fredric Jameson and Linda Hutcheon will be used to discuss the primary sources and their relevance for postmodernism.

Texts: For primary texts, we will read short US-American novels by Thomas Pynchon (*The Crying of Lot 49*) and Kurt Vonnegut (*Slaughterhouse 5*), one Canadian novel by Yann Martell (*Life of Pi*) and one graphic novel by writer Mark Waid and illustrator Alex Ross (*Kingdom Come*). All primary texts will be made available at the Bugeno well in advance. Secondary material will be provided on ILIAS.

Aims: To acquaint students with the history and features of postmodern theory and to help them develop an understanding of the US-American and Canadian postmodern (graphic) novel.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
- Date of Evaluation:**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: Students are asked to read the primary sources before the semester starts.

BA Course Module: Lit M2/III
Module Name: Theoretical Perspectives on Literature
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: “Ever since Adam and Eve” - Sex, Gender and Religion in Medieval English Literature
Instructor(s): N. Nyffenegger-Staub
Time(s): Thursday 14-16
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: Ever since Adam and Eve first served as a matrix to examine the differences between the sexes and to construct gender, religion has played an important role in discourses about men and women, maleness and femaleness, masculinity and femininity. We will be looking at such discourses as they appear in a wide range of Old and Middle English texts: From the man-eating female monster in *Beowulf* described as descending from Cain to the “man-eating” Wife of Bath who justifies her way of life with incorrect Bible quotes; from young women dying in order to preserve their virginity for Christ to the mature wife Margery Kempe who refuses to pay her ‘marital debt’; from the pagan seductress Rouwenne to Absolon, Christian cleric and would-be seducer, who, instead of kissing his beloved woman’s lips, ends up faced with a man’s bottom.

Alongside our primary texts, we will read theoretically oriented scholarly articles and reflect on the ways in which literary theory influences our reading of literature in general and medieval English texts thematising sex, gender and religion in particular.

Texts: All primary and secondary texts will be available on ILIAS as of the beginning of term.

Aims: To introduce students to some major critical theories (feminist, psychoanalytical, new historicist, deconstructionist, marxist criticism) and to examine their effect on our reading of medieval English literature.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Lit M2. Active participation is expected.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
- Date of Evaluation:**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M3/II
Module Name: Introduction to Literatures in English
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Theoretical Approaches to Literary History after 1800
Instructor(s): B. Buchenau, T. Claviez, I. Huber, U. Kluwick,
V. Richter, G. Rippl, J. Straub
Time(s): Monday 10-12
First Session(s): 22.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course is designed as an introduction to some selected chapters of the literary history of Britain, North America and other parts of the English-speaking post-colonial world.

Texts: Will be made available on ILIAS.

Aims: To lay the ground for a theoretical understanding of critical discourses about literature and to familiarize students with some concepts and problems of literary history

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluation.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

Test/Exam

Oral Presentation

Evaluation at end of entire Module only

Date of Evaluation:

Throughout semester

During semester break

Other: 31 May 2010

Written Assignment(s)

Other Class Work

Other:

Last week of semester

To be advised

BA Course Module: Lit M4
Module Name: Advanced Studies in Literature
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Classical Mythology for Beginners
Instructor(s): V. Richter
Time(s): Tuesday 16-18
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For 3rd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4.5/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: Why did Leda spring from an egg? Why was Aphrodite born from sea-foam? How did Tiresias know that a woman's share of pleasure in the act of love is nine-tenths, a man's only one-tenth? Riddles such as these may puzzle readers of modern English literature who are not well-versed in classical mythology. From Chaucer and Shakespeare to Ted Hughes and Carol Ann Duffy, English literature is saturated with more or less obscure allusions to Greek and Roman myths. Some basic knowledge of this background is indispensable for an enriched understanding of English literature. In the first part of this seminar, participants will be introduced to a Who is Who of the classical gods, heroes and their main actions, e.g. the Orpheus myth, the Argonaut's quest for the Golden Fleece, and the Trojan War. In the second part, we will consider English rewritings of and intertextual engagements with these myths, covering literary periods from early modernity to the present.

Texts: Excerpts from classical literature (e.g. Homer, Ovid) in English translation and English rewritings will be provided in a reader.

Aims: To acquaint students with basic cultural knowledge.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluation.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
- Date of Evaluation:**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M5/II
Module Name: Topics in Literature II
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Women and Space in Late Medieval England: Enclosure, Manipulation, Transgression
Instructor(s): N.N. Professor in Medieval English Studies
Time(s): Wednesday 10-12
First Session(s): 03.03.10
Level: BA: For 3rd-year students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 3/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: The idea of the damsel in the tower, completely shut off from the outside world, still haunts our conception of the lives of medieval women. Drawing on a wide range of sources traditionally associated with the disciplines of archaeology, history and art history, this lecture will start out with discussing the practice of enclosing women by physical and mental walls. In the second part of the lecture we will consider medieval women as active users of space, enquiring into possible ways of transgressing the boundaries imposed on them and of manipulating space. The concepts of gender and space are at the centre of this lecture.

Texts: A reader will be provided.

Aims: To introduce students to medieval and contemporary concepts of space, to broaden their understanding of the lives of medieval women in England, and to provide them with an example of an interdisciplinary approach to the Middle Ages.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and a written test.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M5/II
Module Name: Topics in Literature II
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Conceptualizing Cosmopolitanism and World Literature
Instructor(s): T. Claviez
Time(s): Tuesday 12-14
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For 3rd-year students
 Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 3/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: 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 those two concepts from its 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 which will be available at the Secretariat.

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 critically familiarize students with the normative and aesthetic implications of these terms.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Lecture minutes |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Lit M5/II
Module Name: Topics in Literature II
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Representing Nature
Instructor(s): U. Kluwick
Time(s): Tuesday 14-16
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For 3rd-year students
 Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 3/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: In recent years, concern about climate change and the ecological crisis has swept into academia and renewed interest in the cultural role and representation of the natural environment. Among other results, this has led to the development of ecocriticism, a new theoretical school and critical approach to literature. This course will give an overview of various traditions of discursively rendering and capturing nature, starting with the early modern period and leading up to the present. It will investigate how our perceptions of the environment and of humanity's relationship to nature have changed, consider the shifting uses to which nature is put in literary and other cultural texts, and discuss contemporary attempts to avoid anthropocentrism.

Texts: A list of primary and secondary literature will be available on ILIAS from the beginning of January onwards. Students are expected to read at least 4 creative and 2 theoretical texts. In addition, material to be prepared for each session will also be available on ILIAS.

Aims: To familiarise students with the most important concepts, traditions, and theoretical issues pertaining to the representation of the natural environment. Critical elaboration of certain processes at work in literature and culture.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance, active participation and a written test.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Date of Evaluation: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Berner Mittelalter Zentrum Ringvorlesung
Module Name: Wahlbereich Lecture
LIZ: Lecture Medieval English
Title: Luxus und Luxuria
Instructor(s): M. Stolz und Lehrende des BMZ
Time(s): Thursday 17-19
First Session(s): 04.03.10
Level: BA: For BA students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 3/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: Die Ringvorlesung des Berner Mittelalterzentrums beschäftigt sich im Frühjahrssemester 2010 mit dem Thema „Luxus und Luxuria“. Der Begriff Luxus umfasst alles, was über die Deckung des alltäglichen Lebensbedarfs hinausgeht. Luxuria steht für den übertriebenen Luxus, die Verschwendung, die Ausschweifung und galt dem Mittelalter als Todsünde. Insofern stellt sich die Frage nach einer Abgrenzung und Bewertung von Luxus und Luxuria. Auskünfte über Einschätzungen im Mittelalter selbst können Tugend- oder Lasterlehren, weltliche und geistliche Texte, Luxusverbote im kirchlichen und profanen Kontext sowie weitere historische und kunstgeschichtliche Quellen geben. Edle Gewürze, feine Stoffe und reich verzierter Schmuck als wertvolle Handelsgüter verdeutlichen, dass Luxus im Mittelalter keinesfalls verpönt war. Gerade durch kostbare Kleidung und prachtvolle Bauwerke wurde Luxus als Symbol weltlicher wie kirchlicher Herrschaft instrumentalisiert. Ein detailliertes Programm wird per Aushang und im Internet (www.bmz.unibe.ch) bekannt gegeben.

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 zu den Vorträgen gehörenden Diskussionen.

Credit: Um die 3 KP im freien Wahlbereich zu erwerben, müssen Studierende, neben regelmäßigem Besuch von Vorlesung und Diskussion (nicht mehr als 2 Absenzen), sich einer schriftlichen, benoteten Leistungskontrolle unter der Verantwortung des Geschäftsführers (Prof. M. Stolz) unterziehen. Inhalt der Arbeit ist ein vergleichender kritischer Überblick dreier, frei wählbarer Einzelvorträge der Ringvorlesung. Der erwartete Umfang beträgt 2000-2500 Wörter. Die Arbeit muss bis spätestens 04.06.2010 bei Professor Michael Stolz eingereicht werden.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: see www.bmz.unibe.ch

BA Course Module: Collegium Generale
Module Name: Wahlbereich Lecture
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Glück
Instructor(s): Collegium Generale
Time(s): Wednesday 18-20
First Session(s): 24.02.10
Level: BA: For all students
Liz: For all students
Credit Points: BA: 3/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content:

<p>24.2.2010 Über das Glück in der Literatur Prof. Dr. Ulrike Tanzer</p> <p>3.3.2010 (Provisional) Glücksvorstellungen im Buddhismus Dr. Matthieu Ricard</p> <p>10.3.2010 Recht auf Glück? – Pflicht zum Glück! Zur ewigen Wiederkehr der Glückseligkeit in Politik und Recht Prof. Dr. Cornel Zwierlein</p> <p>17.3.2010 Zum Glück brauchen wir unser Gehirn! Prof. Dr. Jürg Kesselring</p> <p>24.3.2010 Zum Glück geboren? Glück im Lebenslauf; Glück und Charakter Prof. Dr. Willibald Ruch</p> <p>31.3.2010 Alles glücklich – oder was? Glück aus der Perspektive von Kindern Dr. Christian Alt</p> <p>14.4.2010 Hans im Glück: Glück im Märchen Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Uther</p>	<p>21.4.2010 Glück der Verliebtheit – eine evolutionäre Spurensuche Prof. Dr. Josef Reichholf</p> <p>28.4.2010 (Provisional) Familienglück, Familienleid Prof. Dr. Wassilios Fthenakis</p> <p>5.5.2010 Glück und Ökonomie Prof. Dr. Alois Stutzer</p> <p>19.5.2010 Glücklich oder bloss zufrieden? Hintergründe und Fakten zum Paradoxon des Wohlbefindens im Alter Prof. Dr. Pasqualina Perrig-Chiello</p> <p>26.5.2010 „Alt und lebensatt“: biblische Texte über das Glück Prof. Dr. Andreas Wagner</p> <p>2.6.2010 „Gross, glücklich, vollkommen“: Zwang zum Glück; Philosophie des Glücks Prof. Dr. Annemarie Pieper</p>
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Texts: Literaturhinweise werden laufend auf der Website des Collegium Generale aufgeschaltet: www.collegiumgenerale.unibe.ch.

Credit: Die Studierenden verfassen von mindestens 3 der Einzelvorlesungen eine kritische Zusammenfassung und Stellungnahme à 3000 Zeichen und 1 schriftlichen Kommentar bezogen auf die gesamte Reihe à 6000 - 10000 Zeichen (Formulare für die Texte sind auf der Website des Collegium abrufbar). Jeder Text wird mit einer Note bewertet. Dann wird durch Mittelung und Rundung die Gesamtnote gebildet. Falls diese ungenügend ist, besteht die Möglichkeit, die Texte nachträglich 1 Mal zu verbessern. 3 der eingereichten Texte müssen bestanden werden.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

<input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work
<input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Date of Evaluation:

- Throughout semester
 During semester break
 Other:

- Last week of semester
 To be advised

Remarks: see www.collegiumgenerale.unibe.ch

MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
 Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): G. Rippl
Time(s): Tuesday 16-18
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
 Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course is for students who a) intend to write their BA, MA or Liz thesis with me, or b) wish to take their final MA (and BA) exam with me. We will discuss formal matters, reading lists, and key issues in North American Studies such as literary and cultural history, genres and literary theory. Some of the sessions will be reserved for the discussion of final theses (Lizentatsarbeiten, BA theses) and PhD theses.

Texts: Reading material will be made available on ILIAS.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- Test/Exam
 Oral Presentation
 Evaluation at end of entire Module only

- Written Assignment(s)
 Other Class Work
 Other:

Date of Evaluation:

- Throughout semester
 During semester break
 Other:

- Last week of semester
 To be advised
-

MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
 Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): V. Richter, N.N. (Prof. in Medieval Studies)
Time(s): Wednesday 14-16
First Session(s): 03.03.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
 Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: A few years ago, cultural theorists proclaimed the “topographical turn” in the humanities, an interest in space displacing the dominant historical paradigm. In the colloquium, we will look at key texts by theorists such as Edward Soja, Henri Lefebvre, Martina Löw and others. We will discuss how a topographical approach can be made relevant to the analysis of literary texts. The colloquium is open to all students interested in the topic. As usual, students working on their final theses (Lizentiatsarbeiten, BA theses, MA theses and PhD theses) will be given the opportunity to present their projects, irrespective of the fact whether they choose a topic related to Space or not. Students who intend to write their BA, MA or Liz thesis with Prof. Richter or the new professor in Medieval Studies, or who want to take their final exam with us, would be well advised to attend this colloquium.

Texts: Texts will be uploaded on ILIAS.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. Presentation of MA project where indicated.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

LINGUISTICS COURSES

BA Course Module:	Ling M2/I
LIZ:	Proseminar
Title:	Syntax and Semantics
Instructor(s):	J. Strässler
Time(s):	Thursday 14-16
First Session(s):	25.02.10
Level:	BA: For 1st-year major and 2nd-year minor students Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points:	BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This is the first part of a three-part module in English linguistics. The entire module Ling M2 has three aims: firstly, to deepen students' understanding of the range of work done in linguistics; secondly, to help students acquire strategies for more detailed (and relatively independent) study of linguistic topics; finally, to enable students to examine and discuss phenomena of language, linguistic theory and research results critically. In this first part of the module, we will focus on two important areas in the systematic micro-analysis of English, namely syntax and semantics. Students will be required to do preparatory reading for each session and to complete assignments on specific topics.

Texts: For syntax: Burton-Roberts, Noel. 1997. *Analyzing Sentences: An Introduction to English Syntax* (Second Edition). London: Longman. For semantics: Hurford, James, Brendan Heasley and Michael Smith. 2007. *Semantics: A Coursebook* (Second Edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Aims: To introduce students to the study of syntax and semantics.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| Date of Evaluation: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: The test will take the form of an evaluated two-hour written examination on completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

BA Course Module: Ling M2/II
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Historical Linguistics
Instructor(s): K. Gonçalves
Time(s): Monday 12-14
First Session(s): 22.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year major and 3rd-year minor students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: The focus of the second part of this three-part module Ling M2 in English linguistics aims at introducing students to the wide field of historical linguistics. In particular, we shall be examining reasons for language change, both language internal and language external. In other words we will be looking at a) different levels of the linguistic system (in this case English) to understand in what ways phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics are subject to variation, adaptation and change over time, and b) how social economic, and anthropological factors involving speakers' mobility and contact between languages and language varieties are at the heart of variation and change. Although the main focus will be on English, data from other languages will also be considered.

Texts: Reading material will be available online.

Aims: To introduce students to the historical aspects of language change and the language internal and external factors inducing that change.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: The test will take the form of an evaluated two-hour written examination on completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

BA Course Module: Ling M2/IIIa
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Pragmatics, Conversation Analysis and Discourse Analysis
Instructor(s): J. Strässler
Time(s): Monday 14-16
First Session(s): 22.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This is the last part of the three-part module Ling M2. Note that students may choose between doing either this course or Ling M2/IIIb (Macrolinguistics). In this course we will explore the dynamic aspects of communication. We will familiarise ourselves with the field of pragmatics, i.e. the study of language use in context, as well as with discourse and conversation analysis. Issues that we will explore include the interpretation of meaning in context; speech act theory; indirectness; cooperativeness and face work in conversation; and cross-cultural communication.

Texts: A reader will be made available.

Aims: To introduce students to the fields of pragmatics, discourse analysis and conversation analysis.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work, to be explained at the beginning of the course (reading assignments, active participation, oral presentation). Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: The test will take the form of an evaluated two-hour written examination on completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

BA Course Module: Ling M2/IIIb
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: Macrolinguistics
Instructor(s): D. Smyk-Bhattacharjee
Time(s): Thursday 10-12
First Session(s): 25.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This is the final part of the three-part module LingM2. Please note that students may choose between taking this course or LingM2/IIIa (Pragmatics, Discourse Analysis and Conversation Analysis). Macrolinguistics is an umbrella term used to refer to the broad field of study that focuses on the interrelationship between language and society. In this introductory course to macrolinguistics, an interdisciplinary approach is employed which examines the social, political, and cultural aspects of language. Topics such as language and identity, sociolinguistics, and discourse will be addressed and critically analyzed.

Texts: A reader will be available on ILIAS.

Aims: The objectives of this course are: firstly, to arrive at an overview of the various fields presented, secondly, to acquire the means necessary for further, relatively detailed, independent study of linguistic topics discussed in class and thirdly, to present research and critically examine the relevant literature.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work. Evaluation upon completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: The test will take the form of an evaluated two-hour written examination upon completion of all three parts of Ling M2.

BA Course Module: Ling M3/II
LIZ: Proseminar
Title: History of the English Language
Instructor(s): K. Gonçalves
Time(s): Wednesday 14-16
First Session(s): 24.02.10
Level: BA: For 2nd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 4/Liz.: 6

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course is an introduction to the history of the English language and its varieties. We will explore the linguistic characteristics of English, from Old English to Modern English, and try to understand the status of Modern English as a global language and as a lingua franca. Phonological, morphological, syntactic, and lexical as well as sociolinguistic and pragmatic characteristics in the development of English will be related to important historical events during the respective periods and to other contexts.

Texts: To be announced in January 2010.

Aims: To get an overview and understanding of the history of English.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. Test at the end of term to be evaluated.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Ling M5/I
Module Name: Survey of Selected Areas of English Linguistics
LIZ: Lecture
Title: From Then until Now: Theory and Method in Language Change
Instructor(s): D. Britain, B. Busse
Time(s): Wednesday 10-12
First Session(s): 24.02.10
Level: BA: For 3rd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 2/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Open to students Masterstudiengang Soziolinguistik (Center for the Study of Language and Society)

Content: This lecture will focus on the topic of language change from various theoretical and methodological perspectives. We shall deal with approaches as diverse as (historical) sociolinguistic, (historical) pragmatic, corpus linguistic and even cognitive linguistic. At the same time we shall provide you with a tool-kit to engage in and perform investigations of language change in the past and present.

Texts: Texts will be announced at the beginning of term.

Aims: To provide students with an understanding of language change in the past and present.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

BA Course Module: Ling M5/II
Module Name: Research Methods in Linguistics
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Research Methods in Socio-historical Linguistics
Instructor(s): D. Britain
Time(s): Tuesday 10-12
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA: For 3rd-year students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: BA: 3/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This hands-on course is designed to equip students with the necessary skills to engage in empirical research in socio-historical linguistics. We tackle the following issues: how to devise small research projects on language variation and change; sampling and approaching an unknown speech community; ethics in research; the ethical and sensitive collection of data appropriate for sociohistorical linguistic analysis; reviewing the appropriate literature in a research context; the transcription of recordings of informal conversational speech; methodologies of analysis of data in language change research; how to analyse change at different levels of the language; oral and written presentation of results of analysis; identifying the link between method and theory in socio-historical linguistics.

Texts: No specific texts; materials will be made available on ILIAS.

Aims:

- to introduce students to the skills required to sensitively design, conduct and analyse language and dialect surveys based on recordings of casual speech;
- to highlight the link between theoretical and methodological materials in the study of language variation and change;
- to highlight the reasoning behind the collection and use of data in language variation and change;
- to provide students with the opportunity to gain a range of transferable research skills

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and participation - essential in a practical, hands-on course such as this – as well as completion of all coursework and evaluations. For this module, the assessed oral and written coursework will consist of: a) An oral presentation of the results of some data analysis of a linguistic feature from a corpus of spoken informal language data in a conference format. To this end we will hold a module conference at the end of the semester at which students will present papers in a workshop format (time-limited, time for questions and so on). b) These presentations should then be written up in a short, concise, ‘conference proceedings’ format.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: English Linguistics
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): D. Britain, B. Busse
Time(s): Tuesday 16-18
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Open to students Masterstudiengang Soziolinguistik (Center for the Study of Language and Society)

Content: In this colloquium, we will discuss key theoretical and methodological approaches in English studies, as well as students' final theses (Lizentiatsarbeiten, BA theses, MA theses and PhD theses). Students who intend to write their final theses with us would be well advised to attend this colloquium.

Texts: Texts will be announced at the beginning of term.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation and presentation of research project.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

**MASTER STUDIES/LIZENTIAT MAIN STUDIES
MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN ENGLISH LITERATURE**

MA Course Module: M2/5
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Women and Space in Late Medieval England:
Enclosure, Manipulation, Transgression
Instructor(s): N.N. Professor in Medieval English Studies
Time(s): Wednesday 10-12
First Session(s): 03.03.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 4/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: The idea of the damsel in the tower, completely shut off from the outside world, still haunts our conception of the lives of medieval women. Drawing on a wide range of sources traditionally associated with the disciplines of archaeology, history and art history, this lecture will start out with discussing the practice of enclosing women by physical and mental walls. In the second part of the lecture we will consider medieval women as active users of space, enquiring into possible ways of transgressing the boundaries imposed on them and of manipulating space. The concepts of gender and space are at the centre of this lecture.

Texts: A reader will be provided.

Aims: To introduce students to medieval and contemporary concepts of space, to broaden their understanding of the lives of medieval women in England, and to provide them with an example of an interdisciplinary approach to the Middle Ages.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and a written test.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |
- Date of Evaluation:**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

MA Course Module: M2/5
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
 Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Representing Nature
Instructor(s): U. Kluwick
Time(s): Tuesday 14-16
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 4/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: In recent years, concern about climate change and the ecological crisis has swept into academia and renewed interest in the cultural role and representation of the natural environment. Among other results, this has led to the development of ecocriticism, a new theoretical school and critical approach to literature. This course will give an overview of various traditions of discursively rendering and capturing nature, starting with the early modern period and leading up to the present. It will investigate how our perceptions of the environment and of humanity's relationship to nature have changed, consider the shifting uses to which nature is put in literary and other cultural texts, and discuss contemporary attempts to avoid anthropocentrism.

Texts: A list of primary and secondary literature will be available on ILIAS from the beginning of January onwards. Students are expected to read at least 4 creative and 2 theoretical texts. In addition, material to be prepared for each session will also be available on ILIAS.

Aims: To familiarise students with the most important concepts, traditions, and theoretical issues pertaining to the representation of the natural environment. Critical elaboration of certain processes at work in literature and culture.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance, active participation and a written test.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

MA Course Module: M3/4/6/9
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature
LIZ: Seminar
Title: In Chaucer's Footsteps: Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* – with “study and hiking” trip to Canterbury
Instructor(s): N.N. Professor in Medieval English Studies
Time(s): Thursday 14-16
First Session(s): 04.03.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This seminar consists of a number of seminar sessions held at Berne and a study and hiking trip to Canterbury, the destination of the pilgrims in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*.

Geoffrey Chaucer's story collection *The Canterbury Tales*, told by a crowd of pilgrims of different outlooks and from diverse levels of society, spreads across a wide spectrum of genre, theme, tone, and narration. In this seminar, we will study the Tales in their fourteenth-century literary, cultural, religious and social contexts. Drawing upon a variety of critical scholarship, we will pay particular attention to gender and genre, to courtly love and marriage, and to the nature of storytelling. After discussing the Tales, we will follow the pilgrims to Canterbury. We will hike a portion of the original pilgrims' way to Canterbury and, once there, will visit the Cathedral and pilgrims' hospital, a couple of medieval parish churches and Dover Castle, one of the finest medieval castles in England. The five-day study trip is envisaged for April or May 2010.

Texts: *The Riverside Chaucer*, 3rd. ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), paperback. Earlier editions of the Riverside Chaucer are also acceptable.

Aims: To familiarize students with Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* and with the concept of medieval pilgrimage and to introduce them to medieval art and architecture.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. Participation in the study trip is obligatory; each student will act as tour guide for one of the sights. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- Throughout semester
 During semester break
 Other:

- Last week of semester
 To be advised

Remarks: The number of participants is limited to 15. Please sign up online (ePhi).

MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
 Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): G. Rippl
Time(s): Tuesday 16-18
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
 Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course is for students who a) intend to write their BA, MA or Liz thesis with me, or b) wish to take their final MA (and BA) exam with me. We will discuss formal matters, reading lists, and key issues in North American Studies such as literary and cultural history, genres and literary theory. Some of the sessions will be reserved for the discussion of final theses (Lizentiatarbeiten, BA theses) and PhD theses.

Texts: Reading material will be made available on ILIAS.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
 Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
 Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
 Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
 Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- Test/Exam
 Oral Presentation
 Evaluation at end of entire Module only

- Written Assignment(s)
 Other Class Work
 Other:

Date of Evaluation:

- Throughout semester
 During semester break
 Other:

- Last week of semester
 To be advised
-

MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
 Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): V. Richter, N.N. (Prof. in Medieval Studies)
Time(s): Wednesday 14-16
First Session(s): 03.03.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
 Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: A few years ago, cultural theorists proclaimed the “topographical turn” in the humanities, an interest in space displacing the dominant historical paradigm. In the colloquium, we will look at key texts by theorists such as Edward Soja, Henri Lefebvre, Martina Löw and others. We will discuss how a topographical approach can be made relevant to the analysis of literary texts. The colloquium is open to all students interested in the topic. As usual, students working on their final theses (Lizentiatsarbeiten, BA theses, MA theses and PhD theses) will be given the opportunity to present their projects, irrespective of the fact whether they choose a topic related to Space or not. Students who intend to write their BA, MA or Liz thesis with Prof. Richter or the new professor in Medieval Studies, or who want to take their final exam with us, would be well advised to attend this colloquium.

Texts: Texts will be uploaded on ILIAS.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. Presentation of MA project where indicated.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

Title: Research Forum CCS
Instructor(s): T. Claviez
Time(s): Tuesday 18-20
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students in their final year
Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 0/Liz.: 0

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: The colloquium will feature presentations by both junior and senior researchers affiliated with the CCS on an irregular basis. It is open for doctoral and postdoctoral students, and advanced MA students with an interest in the respective topic.

Credit: no credits

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
 - Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
 - Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
 - Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
 - Literary and Cultural Theory
-

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURES IN ENGLISH

MA Course Module: M2/5
Master Programme: Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Conceptualizing Cosmopolitanism and World Literature
Instructor(s): T. Claviez
Time(s): Tuesday 12-14
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 4/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: 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 those two concepts from its 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 which will be available at the Secretariat.

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 critically familiarize students with the normative and aesthetic implications of these terms.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- Test/Exam
- Oral Presentation
- Evaluation at end of entire Module only
- Written Assignment(s)
- Other Class Work
- Other: Lecture minutes

Date of Evaluation:

- Throughout semester
 - During semester break
 - Other:
 - Last week of semester
 - To be advised
-

MA Course Module: M2/5
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
 Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Lecture
Title: Representing Nature
Instructor(s): U. Kluwick
Time(s): Tuesday 14-16
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 4/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: In recent years, concern about climate change and the ecological crisis has swept into academia and renewed interest in the cultural role and representation of the natural environment. Among other results, this has led to the development of ecocriticism, a new theoretical school and critical approach to literature. This course will give an overview of various traditions of discursively rendering and capturing nature, starting with the early modern period and leading up to the present. It will investigate how our perceptions of the environment and of humanity's relationship to nature have changed, consider the shifting uses to which nature is put in literary and other cultural texts, and discuss contemporary attempts to avoid anthropocentrism.

Texts: A list of primary and secondary literature will be available on ILIAS from the beginning of January onwards. Students are expected to read at least 4 creative and 2 theoretical texts. In addition, material to be prepared for each session will also be available on ILIAS.

Aims: To familiarise students with the most important concepts, traditions, and theoretical issues pertaining to the representation of the natural environment. Critical elaboration of certain processes at work in literature and culture.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance, active participation and a written test.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

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|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

MA Course Module: M3/4/6/9
Master Programme: Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Seminar
Title: Innocence and Knowledge. Children in 19th and 20th Century Fiction
Instructor(s): V. Richter
Time(s): Monday 14-16
First Session(s): 22.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: Since childhood was ‘discovered’ as a separate phase of life by educators influenced by Rousseau, children have often been represented as embodiments of innocence and goodness, such as Frances Hodgson Burnett’s improbably good “little Lord Fauntleroy.” However, in the late nineteenth century authors also started to view children as mischievous, disobedient and curious, such as Lewis Carroll’s Alice, or as downright drawn to evil, such as the children in Henry James’s “Turn of the Screw.” In all of these texts, children have a complex relation to knowledge. Precisely because they are ‘innocent,’ i.e. lacking understanding of the adult world, and sexuality in particular, they are driven by curiosity about the adults’ secrets. Observations of the grown-ups’ doings from the vantage point of a child often result in misinterpretations, sometimes with tragic results as in Ian McEwan’s *Atonement* where the young heroine Briony mistakes her sister’s sexual intercourse for a rape. In the seminar, we will discuss novels in which the relationship between innocence, curiosity and sexual awakening stand at the centre. We will compare two classics of the genre (*What Maisie Knew* and *The Go-Between*) with recently published novels, exploring the question how representations of childhood have changed between 1900 and 2000.

Texts: Henry James, *What Maisie Knew*; L.P. Hartley, *The Go-Between*; Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*; Ian McEwan, *Atonement*; John Burnside, *Glister*. The texts will be ordered at the Bugeno; additional reading will be available on ILIAS. Students are expected to have read ALL the primary texts BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF TERM.

Aims: To explore the concepts of knowledge and innocence (or ‘non-knowledge’). To give students insight into a literary period (modernist and contemporary literature) and a genre (the novel).

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle): Test/Exam Oral Presentation Evaluation at end of entire Module only Written Assignment(s) Other Class Work Other:**Date of Evaluation:** Throughout semester During semester break Other: Last week of semester To be advised**MA Course Module:****M3/4/6/9****Master Programme:****Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English****LIZ:****Seminar****Title:****Postcolonialism and Beyond****Instructor(s):****G. Rippl, H. Znoj (Social Anthropology)****Time(s):**

Wednesday 14-16

First Session(s):

24.02.10

Level:

BA/MA: For MA students

Liz: For students in their main studies

Credit Points:

MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This seminar is co-taught by a literary scholar and a social anthropologist and therefore follows an interdisciplinary approach to Postcolonial Studies and recent developments within the field. From the start, scholars of postcolonialism have criticized some Western scientific and scholarly practices for their colonial implications and for indirectly perpetuating essential features of colonial discourse after the demise of the colonial period. In the course of this critique, the definition of what counts as English literature, for instance, has dramatically changed. As a consequence, studying 'English literature' nowadays includes reading English literatures of the former British colonies, revising eurocentric norms of literary quality, and re-reading the canon of classics from the perspective of the former subalterns. Social anthropology, in turn, was induced to recognize that the way colonial ethnographies had represented indigenous societies had systematically excluded the colonial context they were part of. More disturbingly, core categories like ethnic groups and culture bore the imprint of the colonial administrations' classificatory logic, and continued to do so for many years after the end of colonialism. By asking new questions and shaking old certainties in this way, postcolonial criticism opened up whole new fields of scientific inquiry and invigorated research in many disciplines. Ultimately, the disciplinary boundaries themselves – for instance, between history and social anthropology – have been recognized as forming part of the colonial paradigm, and ever since they have been crumbling under the impact of interdisciplinary practice that is so characteristic of postcolonial studies. Yet, while postcolonialism has established itself as a new paradigm, it is becoming itself the subject of criticism. To what extent has postcolonialism remained the joint project of Western academics and elites of the former colonies who subscribe to a still essentially Western academic and literary enterprise? How Indian is English Indian literature written by Western-educated writers residing in London? How postcolonial can an anthropological practice be as long as the journals, conferences, and university departments that define what anthropology is, are still those based in the West?

In our seminar we will read essential primary and secondary texts that define postcolonialism within and between the various disciplines and look at literary and ethnographic work that exemplifies postcolonial artistic and scientific practice. We will also probe the limits of postcolonialism as a paradigm and ask what is beyond it.

Texts: A list of relevant primary and secondary texts will be posted on Professor Rippl's office door and on the departmental notice board as of January. The ILIAS platform will also be used for making texts available.

Aims: This seminar will (re-)familiarize students with Postcolonial Theory and introduce them to latest developments in the field. Since this seminar is co-taught by a literary scholar and a social anthropologist, students will also learn about interdisciplinary work and approaches.

Credit: Students are required to read texts across disciplines and genres and offer short presentations, mainly from the perspective of their own discipline. Students' performance will be evaluated on the basis of their regular attendance, active oral participation, and a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Remarks: Students from both disciplines are required to register on ILIAS (www.ilias.unibe.ch). The password is *Anthropos33* (capital A at the beginning). Registration will be possible starting from 14 December 2009, around 6 p.m. until the end of January.

MA Course Module: M3/4/6/9
Master Programme: Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Seminar
Title: Seriality
Instructor(s): G. Rippl
Time(s): Tuesday 12-14
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: Since the publication of Dickens' *Pickwick Papers* in 1836/37, the serial has been the dominant mode of narration in the Western world. The inception of mass-culture in the nineteenth century has dramatically changed the way we consume texts in the widest sense. Learning that the serial form was enormously effective as a means of capturing and maintaining the audience's attention, producers used it for other fictional genres and in the twentieth century, the serialized mode eventually crossed media boundaries. This remediation has yielded today's so-called Quality-TV series (e.g. *Tarzan*, *Bonanza*, *Twin Peaks*, *24*, *Lost*, *Gilmore Girls* etc.) which are characterized by their attraction of an audience with differing social and ethnic background, their self-consciousness, i.e. their self-allusive tendency and their choice of controversial subject matter have gained the approval of viewers and critics alike.

This seminar will examine different theoretical approaches to seriality and popular aesthetics (Deleuze, Eco, etc.) and investigate resemblances of serialized works, such as the interweavement of subplots, the use of large casts of characters, the deferral of closure and the relevance of current cultural, political or social issues. Furthermore, we will discuss the audience's influence and the role of the market place. All of these will be analyzed in connection with a variety of primary sources such as serialized fiction, photograph-series, prints as well as comic strips and graphic novels.

Texts: Herman Melville's short story "Bartleby, the Scrivener"; Henry James' novel *Roderick Hudson*; prints by Andy Warhol; photographs by Margaret Cameron and Robert Cameron; excerpts from graphic novels and comic strips.

Aims: To familiarize students with the concept of seriality in different media.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle): Test/Exam Oral Presentation Evaluation at end of entire Module only Written Assignment(s) Other Class Work Other:**Date of Evaluation:** Throughout semester During semester break Other: Last week of semester To be advised**MA Course Module:****M3/4/6/9****Master Programme:****Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English****LIZ:****Seminar****Title:****Genre and Recent Narrative Fiction****Instructor(s):****B. Buchenau****Time(s):**

Wednesday 16-18

First Session(s):

24.02.10

Level:

BA/MA: For MA students

Liz: For students in their main studies

Credit Points:

MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: In recent literature, generic affiliations are increasing hard to decipher. Narrative texts, once identified by Virginia Woolf as literary “cannibals” which feed on elements from all of the four major literary genres (poetry, drama, fiction, and non-fiction), can be grouped into numerous subgenres, each following certain rules and raising specific and specifiable expectations. Whereas narrative genres such as the historical novel, the sentimental novel, and the picaresque novel have tended to prescribe settings, plotlines, characters (and even audiences) to an astonishing degree, they have also been subject to significant subversions and dramatic changes throughout time. Arguably, generic conventions are subverted and changed most extensively in texts written by authors who live and work at the fringes of the literary marketplace and who use their respective distance to the literary establishment towards a productive redefinition of the generic confines within which a particular literary world can be imagined. In this seminar, we will approach questions of genre from two vantage points. We will set out by defining fiction and some of its major subgenres, identifying the most important scholarly debates which have been sparked by these generic categories. In a next step, we will turn to recent narrative texts which play with the definitions explored before, analyzing these in terms of their expansions and subversions of generic expectations. It is here that the discussions in the seminar will profit from your own reading experiences in postcolonial literature since you will be invited to suggest texts to be incorporated into our course work.

Texts: Salvador Plascencia’s *The People of Paper* (2005) and Edward P. Jones’ *The Known World* (2003) - the texts which need to be read before the beginning of the term - can be purchased at the Bugeno. Additional material will be made available on ILIAS as we jointly develop the corpus to be studied.

Aims: Students will be made familiar with the theoretical debates about central narrative genres such as the historical novel, the sentimental novel, and the picaresque novel. Exploring the importance of generic form in literature, we will develop expertise in a form-conscious critical reading of contemporary literature.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
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MA Course Module: M3/4/6/9
Master Programme: Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Seminar
Title: The Short Story in American Literary History
Instructor(s): T. Claviez
Time(s): Wednesday 10-12
First Session(s): 24.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: The seminar will follow the evolution of what has been termed the most “American” of all genres from its beginnings in the early Republic through the relevant literary eras – Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, Modernism, Neo-Realism, and Postmodernism – to the “ethnic turn” and the Cyber Story.

Texts: All short stories will be collected in a reader that can be obtained at the Secretariat. Most of them, however, can also be accessed online. Among the short stories read are N. Hawthorne’s “Young Goodman Brown,” H. Melville’s “Bartleby, the Scrivener,” F.S. Fitzgerald’s “The Ice Palace,” W. Faulkner’s “A Rose for Emily,” and S. Alexie’s “A Drug Called Tradition.”

Aims: The seminar will familiarize the students with the main eras of American literary history, as well as introduce them to a variety of methods of textual analysis and strategies of close reading.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
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MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): G. Rippl
Time(s): Tuesday 16-18
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: This course is for students who a) intend to write their BA, MA or Liz thesis with me, or b) wish to take their final MA (and BA) exam with me. We will discuss formal matters, reading lists, and key issues in North American Studies such as literary and cultural history, genres and literary theory. Some of the sessions will be reserved for the discussion of final theses (Lizentiatarbeiten, BA theses) and PhD theses.

Texts: Reading material will be made available on ILIAS.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. For MA students evaluation of a written paper of approximately 6,000 words.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- Test/Exam
- Oral Presentation
- Evaluation at end of entire Module only
- Written Assignment(s)
- Other Class Work
- Other:

Date of Evaluation:

- Throughout semester
 - During semester break
 - Other:
 - Last week of semester
 - To be advised
-

MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: Medieval and Early Modern English Literature or
 Modern and Contemporary Literatures in English
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): V. Richter, N.N. (Prof. in Medieval Studies)
Time(s): Wednesday 14-16
First Session(s): 03.03.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
 Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: A few years ago, cultural theorists proclaimed the “topographical turn” in the humanities, an interest in space displacing the dominant historical paradigm. In the colloquium, we will look at key texts by theorists such as Edward Soja, Henri Lefebvre, Martina Löw and others. We will discuss how a topographical approach can be made relevant to the analysis of literary texts. The colloquium is open to all students interested in the topic. As usual, students working on their final theses (Lizentiatsarbeiten, BA theses, MA theses and PhD theses) will be given the opportunity to present their projects, irrespective of the fact whether they choose a topic related to Space or not. Students who intend to write their BA, MA or Liz thesis with Prof. Richter or the new professor in Medieval Studies, or who want to take their final exam with us, would be well advised to attend this colloquium.

Texts: Texts will be uploaded on ILIAS.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation. Presentation of MA project where indicated.

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
- Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
- Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
- Literary and Cultural Theory

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

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|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |

Title: Research Forum CCS
Instructor(s): T. Claviez
Time(s): Tuesday 18-20
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students in their final year
Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 0/Liz.: 0

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Content: The colloquium will feature presentations by both junior and senior researchers affiliated with the CCS on an irregular basis. It is open for doctoral and postdoctoral students, and advanced MA students with an interest in the respective topic.

Credit: no credits

Fields Covered by this Course:

- Old and Middle English Literature
 - Early Modern to Nineteenth Century Literature
 - Early Modern English Literature / Colonial American Literature
 - Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Literature
 - Literary and Cultural Theory
-

ENGLISH LINGUISTICS

MA Course Module: M2/5
Master Programme: English Linguistics
LIZ: Lecture
Title: From Then until Now: Theory and Method in Language Change
Instructor(s): D. Britain, B. Busse
Time(s): Wednesday 10-12
First Session(s): 24.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
Liz: For students in their basic studies
Credit Points: MA: 4/Liz.: 3

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Open to students Masterstudiengang Soziolinguistik (Center for the Study of Language and Society)

Content: This lecture will focus on the topic of language change from various theoretical and methodological perspectives. We shall deal with approaches as diverse as (historical) sociolinguistic, (historical) pragmatic, corpus linguistic and even cognitive linguistic. At the same time we shall provide you with a tool-kit to engage in and perform investigations of language change in the past and present.

Texts: Texts will be announced at the beginning of term.

Aims: To provide students with an understanding of language change in the past and present.

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

Test/Exam
 Oral Presentation
 Evaluation at end of entire Module only
 Written Assignment(s)
 Other Class Work
 Other:

Date of Evaluation:

Throughout semester
 During semester break
 Last week of semester
 To be advised
 Other:

MA Course Module: M3/4/6/9
Master Programme: English Linguistics
LIZ: Seminar
Title: From Pamphlets to Blogs
Instructor(s): B. Busse
Time(s): Wednesday 8-10
First Session(s): 24.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Open to students Masterstudiengang Soziolinguistik (Center for the Study of Language and Society)

Content: This seminar will explore the linguistic history and development of as well as similarities and differences between genres which, in the past and today, have aimed at informing the reader and, at the same time, establishing interpersonal relations. For example, pamphlets of the Early Modern period represent one of the earliest means of printed news coverage for a public readership.

In our attempt to explore diachronically and synchronically the variety of linguistic features of genres as diverse as pamphlets, (early) newspapers, letters as well as modern blogs and e-mails, we shall address methodological issues and situate their rise within their historical, political and/or cultural contexts. The seminar will draw on approaches from corpus linguistics, historical pragmatics and sociolinguistics, and text-linguistics.

Texts: Texts will be provided at the beginning of term.

Aims: To acquire comprehensive knowledge of English-speaking news coverage and interpersonal communication today and in the past; to acquire a methodological tool-kit

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations. Students are required to give a presentation in class as well as to produce a written term paper.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
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MA Course Module: M3/4/6/9
Master Programme: English Linguistics
LIZ: Seminar
Title: This is London: the Sociolinguistics of a Metropolis
Instructor(s): D. Britain
Time(s): Monday 14-16
First Session(s): 22.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For MA students
 Liz: For students in their main studies
Credit Points: MA: 6/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Open to students Masterstudiengang Soziolinguistik (Center for the Study of Language and Society)

Content: John Wells, back in 1982, argued that London was probably the most linguistically influential anglophone city in the world. London itself has generated a diverse, salient and ever-changing dialect, but it is also reported to be and to have been the source of vigorous linguistic innovations which have affected many if not all of the other dialects of England. Furthermore, London is a highly multilingual city, with hundreds of different languages being spoken on its streets. This module therefore explores the sociolinguistics of this metropolis, examining, amongst other topics: its demographic history and the influences of this demography on language; the development of ‘Cockney’; the representation of London dialect in literature; the rise of ethnic varieties of English in London; the influence of London dialects on the rest of the south of England and beyond; the development of a regional south-eastern levelled dialect, centred on London, popularly referred to as “Estuary English”, the geography and history of multilingualism in London and its effect on local Englishes; language maintenance and shift in London, and the relationship between London Englishes and the Standard varieties of English spoken in the British capital city.

Texts: There is no one set text, but materials will be made available on ILIAS

Aims: To examine the linguistic implications of demographic change on language and dialect use in an influential urban centre

Credit: Credits for the course are based on regular attendance and completion of all course work and evaluations. Students are required to give a presentation in class as well as to produce a written term paper.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
- Date of Evaluation:**
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
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MA Course Module: M8
Master Programme: English Linguistics
LIZ: Colloquium
Title: Research Colloquium
Instructor(s): D. Britain, B. Busse
Time(s): Tuesday 16-18
First Session(s): 23.02.10
Level: BA/MA: For BA and MA students in their final year
Liz: For students in their final year, PhD students
Credit Points: MA: 7/Liz.: 7

Open to students as Wahlbereich? Yes No

Open to students Masterstudiengang Soziolinguistik (Center for the Study of Language and Society)

Content: In this colloquium, we will discuss key theoretical and methodological approaches in English studies, as well as students' final theses (Lizentiatsarbeiten, BA theses, MA theses and PhD theses). Students who intend to write their final theses with us would be well advised to attend this colloquium.

Texts: Texts will be announced at the beginning of term.

Credit: Regular attendance and active participation and presentation of research project.

Evaluation (Leistungskontrolle):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Test/Exam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written Assignment(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Class Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation at end of entire Module only | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Date of Evaluation:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Throughout semester | <input type="checkbox"/> Last week of semester |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> During semester break | <input type="checkbox"/> To be advised |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: | |
-

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

D. Britain: Language variation and change (esp. in 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, romanticism, cultural theory, epistemology, minority studies (theories, practices, pedagogies), historical fiction, travel writing, early scholarship and its arts, stereotypes (in words, pictures, and sounds), religious typology.

B. Busse: History of English, Early Modern English, historical pragmatics, corpus linguistics, systemic functional grammar, Shakespeare studies, stylistics, narratology, cognitive linguistics, ecolinguistics as well as e-learning and e-teaching; Member of the committee of the *Poetics and Linguistics Association* (PALA).

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: British, Canadian and American literature 1700 to the present, gender studies, postcolonial studies, intertextuality, literature and history.

K. Gonçalves: Discourse Analysis, English as a Lingua Franca, the history of English, 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: Nineteenth and twentieth century literature, comparative perspectives, gender studies, postcolonial theory, intermediality, intertextuality, metafiction, narratology.

U. Kluwick: Contemporary literature (especially fiction), postcolonial literatures and cultures, ecocriticism, non-realist forms of writing (especially magic realism and the fantastic), eighteenth- and nineteenth-century writing on water.

M. Mace-Tessler: Twentieth century literature written in English, comparative literature, narrative structure, ethics in literature; Principal Examiner for the International Baccalaureate Org.

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

N. Nyffenegger-Staub: 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.

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, esp. the beach as an in-between space.

G. Rippl: Literary and cultural theory; early modern, nineteenth and twentieth century American and British literature and culture; intermediality (esp. the interrelation between literary and visual culture); gender studies; postcolonial studies; the reception of classical literature in Anglo-American literature; the history of the media; literature and anthropology.

D. Smyk-Bhattacharjee: Morphology, new media language, language change, especially present-day lexical change, corpus linguistics, sociolinguistics, language acquisition as well as e-learning and e-teaching.

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

J. Straub: British and North American literature 1800-present, literature and philosophy, internationalism in literature, intertextuality, intermediality, gender theory.

STUDENTS' COMMITTEE

Website: <http://www.sub.unibe.ch/fs/anglistik>
<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 obligatory 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

Gino Brenni	ginobrenni@gmail.com
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Chris Schenk	cesche@students.unibe.ch

Check our website regularly!