

Fachgruppe Anglistik und Amerikanistik
Englische und amerikanische Literatur
Sprachwissenschaft

Courses with comments
WiSe 2026/27

BA Anglistik/Amerikanistik, BA Intercultural Studies
MA Intercultural Anglophone Studies
Lehramtsstudiengänge Englisch

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Areas of Research and Teaching

For information on the different **areas of research and teaching** (incl. research focus and contact information for staff members) please see the following links:

English Literary and Cultural Studies

- [English Studies and Anglophone Literatures \(Prof. Dr. Susan Arndt\)](#)
- [English Literature \(Prof. Dr. Florian Klaeger\)](#)

American Literary and Cultural Studies

- [American Studies / Anglophone Literatures and Cultures \(Prof. Dr. Sylvia Mayer\)](#)
- [Amerikanistik / North American Studies \(Prof. Dr. Jeanne Cortiel\)](#)

Linguistics

- [English Linguistics 1 \(Prof. Dr. Susanne Mühleisen\)](#)
- [English Linguistics 2 \(Prof. Dr. Markus Bieswanger\)](#)

Fachdidaktik

- [Fachdidaktik Englisch \(Dr. Sylvia Fehling\)](#)

Types of Courses

Ü = Übung (exercise), V = Vorlesung (lecture), PS = Proseminar (lower level seminar), AS = Advanced Seminar (Hauptseminar), OS = Advanced Seminar II (Oberseminar)

Please register for all course(s) on cmlife

GENERAL COURSES

ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Habinek

Übung

Introduction to British Literary and Cultural Studies (Group I)

2 SWS, Mon 14-16, Room:

This foundational course offers an introduction to basic skills for the study of literary and filmic texts with a focus on works from Great Britain. It provides students with the scholarly terminology and methodological tools for analysing lyric, dramatic, and narrative texts, as well as film. Furthermore, we shall explore fundamental concepts such as 'genre', 'literary history', 'canon', and 'culture'. In this group, we will be focusing on the following primary texts: William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* (first performed 1606); short stories and poems by John Donne, Rudyard Kipling, Roald Dahl, and others; and Virginia Woolf's novel *To the Lighthouse* (1927).

Übung

Arndt

Introduction to British Literary and Cultural Studies (Group II)

Fr 14-17 (bi-weekly, and blocked session), Room:

This foundational course offers an introduction to basic skills for the study of literary and filmic texts with a focus on works from Great Britain (as well as, in this group, the Caribbean and Africa). It provides students with the scholarly terminology and methodological tools for analysing lyric, dramatic, and narrative texts, as well as film. Furthermore, we shall explore fundamental concepts such as 'genre', 'literary history', 'canon', and 'culture'.

In this group, we will be focusing on the following primary texts: William Shakespeare's *Othello* (first mentioned 1604); William Blake's "*Little Black Boy*" (1789-94), and Audre Lorde's "*Litany for Survival*" (1972), Fred d'Aguiar's *The Longest Memory* (1994) as well as Denis Villeneuve's *Arrival* (2016).

In addition to the texts provided in the e-learning, we will work with the following texts:William Shakespeare, *Othello* (c. 1604) – Arden Third Series, ISBN 19034364512.Fred d'Aguiar, *The Longest Memory* [1994], ISBN 9780099462217

Readings for this class will be made available in the form of a digital reader.

Übung**Klaeger****Thesis work-in-progress: BA, MA****1 SWS, Mon 13-15, Room:**

In this class, students writing their BA or MA thesis with Prof. Klaeger will introduce their thesis project and present their work-in-progress.

Vorlesung**Klaeger****Survey of British Literature: Victorian literature****2 SWS, Fri 12-14, Room:**

Modules: see module overview – SURVEY LIT

This introductory lecture surveys English literature of the Victorian period across a range of genres. We shall consider the nineteenth-century historical and cultural context, including contemporary reflections on poetics, on developments in society, the sciences, and technology, with a particular focus on colonialism and gender. Our readings will address the ecology of Victorian genres with a major focus on the novel, but also on poetry, drama, and non-fictional forms of writing. The involvement of literary authors in the project of empire will be addressed with particular regard to writings on Africa and India.

Readings for this class will be made available digitally.

Proseminar Literary Studies**Habinek****Narrative Analysis of Asian, Southeast Asian, and Oceanic Film and Literature****2 SWS, Mon 10-12, Room:**

This proseminar will engage methodological and analytical literary practices, including literary historiography and cultural studies, to explore texts by Southeast Asian and Oceanic writers, both longer-form novels and short-form fiction. We will consider problems of identity, colonialism and postcolonialism, migration and diaspora, intersectionality, and the connection between land and narrative. Special emphasis will be placed on understanding how local mythologies, political histories, and cultural expressions inform the texture and meaning of each text. In working on each text, students will refine narrative analysis techniques developed in other introductory courses

Proseminar Literary Studies
Matzke**Illness as Metaphor: Medicine and Narrative****2 SWS, Mo 12-14, Room:**

Following the rapidly developing subject area of Medical Humanities in the Anglophone world, this course introduces students to the study of representational and cultural practices in literature concerning health care and the body. We will be looking at socio-cultural constructions of illness, well-being and medical practice in these works; at ethical dilemmas, corruption and global health issues. Set texts deal with a diversity of contexts - 20th century US, 21st century Britain, and a fictional West African country during the oil-boom years - and cover a variety of genres, amongst others crime fiction and drama.

The following texts will be considered:

Tony Marinho, *The Epidemic* (1992) (out of print, text will be provided)

Margaret Edson, *Wit* (1993)

Abraham Verghese, *Cutting for Stone* (2009)

Lucy Prebble, *The Effect* (2012)

Recommended preparatory reading:

Deborah Lupton, *Medicine as Culture*, 3rd ed. (2012)

Susan Sontag, *Illness as Metaphor* (1977)

Michel Foucault, *The Birth of the Clinic* (1976)

Additional reading assignments will be made available on the e-learning platform

Proseminar Literary Studies
Matzke**Introduction to British Drama II – 1950s to the Present****2 SWS, Tue 12-14, Room:**

This course provides an introduction to major British dramatists and plays from the 1950s to the present. We will look at texts and contexts, and trace patterns of development in British theatre over a period of almost seventy years.

The following plays will be considered:

Shelagh Delaney, *A Taste of Honey* (1958)

Peter Shaffer, *Equus* (1973)

Caryl Churchill, *Top Girls* (1982)

Sarah Kane, *Blasted* (1995)

Roy Williams, *Sing Yer Heart Out for the Lads* (2002)

Chris Thorpe, *Status* (2018)

Additional reading assignments will be made available on the e-learning platform. This is part two of a two-semester introduction to British drama. Each course can also be taken separately.

Proseminar Literary Studies
Matzke
Introduction to British Poetry I – 17th Century to the Romantic Period
2 SWS, Wed 12-14, Room:

This seminar provides an introduction to selected British poetry from the seventeenth century to the Romantic period. We will engage in close readings of these texts and look at their historical and cultural contexts. Following Billy Collins' *"Introduction to Poetry"* (1986), we will 'hold' these poems 'up to the light', 'drop' questions into them, 'walk inside their rooms and feel the walls for a light switch', perform them and read them aloud, and we will think about what reading poetry means to us today.

This is part two of a two-semester introduction to British poetry. Each course can also be taken separately. Reading assignments will be made available on the e-learning platform.

Advanced Seminar Literary Studies
Klaeger
Narrating Nature from Medieval Romance to the Gothic Novel
2 SWS, Thu 10-12, Room:

Modules: see module overview – AS LIT (Ang)

Representations of the natural world offer insight into a period's conceptions of nature and humanity's place in its environment. Examining narrated natural spaces from the Middle Ages to the late eighteenth century allows us to understand better how the pre-modern relationship between humans and their environments developed between 'theocentric' and 'anthropocentric' conceptions of nature. It also helps us perceive the importance of specific narrative forms such as romance, epic, and gothic novel, and their conventionalized concepts of nature. Examining narratives from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* (late 14th century) through Edmund Spenser's *Faerie Queene* (1590s) and John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* (1678) to Horace Walpole's *The Castle of Otranto* (1764), we will consider their representational strategies for negotiating ideologies of nature with regard to religion, gender, class, and science, among others.

In addition to the texts provided in the class reader, we will work with the following texts:

- John Bunyan: *The Pilgrim's Progress*, ed. W.R. Owens (2009, Oxford *World's Classics*, ISBN 978-0199538133)
- Horace Walpole: *The Castle of Otranto*, ed. Nick Groom (2014, Oxford UP, ISBN 978-0198704447)

Please make sure to purchase these exact editions!

Vorlesung
Klaeger
Survey of British Literature: Victorian literature
2 SWS, Fri 12-14, Room:

Modules: see module overview – SURVEY LIT

This introductory lecture surveys English literature of the Victorian period across a range of genres. We shall consider the nineteenth-century historical and cultural context, including contemporary reflections on poetics, on developments in society, the sciences, and technology, with a particular focus on colonialism and gender. Our readings will address the ecology of Victorian genres with a major focus on the novel, but also on poetry, drama, and non-fictional forms of writing. The involvement of literary authors in the project of empire will be addressed with particular regard to writings on Africa and India. Readings for this class will be made available digitally.

Vorbereitung für die Erste Lehramtsprüfung

Klaeger

Englische Literaturwissenschaft (Britische Literatur)

2 SWS, Thu 10-12, Room:

Diese Übung dient der Vorbereitung von Lehramtsstudierenden auf die literaturwissenschaftliche Klausur im Rahmen der Ersten Staatsprüfung. Literaturhistorisches Überblickswissen wird gefestigt, Instrumentarien der literaturwissenschaftlichen Analyse vertieft und der Umgang mit Klausurfragen geübt. Konkret werden anhand der vorgegebenen Epochen- und Gattungsschwerpunkte die Kompetenzen im Bereich der Analyse narrativer, dramatischer und lyrischer Texte sowie Kenntnisse der britischen Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte weiter vertieft. Gegenstand der Übung sind in diesem Kurs ausschließlich Texte der britischen und irischen Literatur bzw. die britische und irische Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte.

Proseminar Literary Studies

N.N

The Planet in Peril: Narrating Risk in the Contemporary British Novel

2 SWS, Tue 12-14, Room:

Drawing on Ulrich Beck's theory of the world risk society – an era of modern society that struggles with self-created, uncontrollable (global) risks – this seminar examines how contemporary British novels engage with 21st-century threats surrounding climate change and (bio)technological innovation. As “arguably one of the most influential works of European social analysts in the late 20th century,” Beck's theory offers a starting point for the seminar, but we will also consider theoretical frameworks that emerged later and that emphasize the complexities of risk perception related to gender, cultural contexts, and subjective experience. Employing risk as a category of literary analysis, we will read Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* (2005), Ian McEwan's *Solar* (2010), and Megan Hunter's *The End We Start From* (2017) to explore how fictional narratives “stage” uncertainties surrounding the (post)human condition, scientific progress, and environmental crisis. The goal of the seminar is to develop skills for the critical analysis of narrative texts within their literary, cultural, and historical contexts.

Texts to be purchased:

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*. Faber, 2005. [ISBN 978-0-571-25809-3]

Ian McEwan, *Solar*. *Vintage Earth*, 2010. [ISBN 978-1-784-87787-3]

Megan Hunter, *The End We Start From*. Picador, 2017. [ISBN-13: 978-1509843985]

Mayer

Vorlesung**The Literary and Cultural History of Nature: An Introduction to the Environmental Imagination in North America I****2 SWS, Mo 10-12, Room:**

The Covid-19 pandemic and global anthropogenic climate change are among the most recent manifestations of planetary-scale environmental crises that have made us recognize the inextricable connectedness of human life and history with nonhuman nature. These crises demonstrate that understanding and responding to them require not only scientific knowledge and expertise, but also attention to the larger historical, social, and cultural contexts in which they emerge. Environmental crises are always cultural crises. They result not only from specific economic and political practices but also from the concepts, values, and assumptions that shape and legitimize those practices. These concepts and values find expression in stories and images, in cultural narratives across a wide range of media and genres, in verbal and visual texts, both factual and fictional. Taken together, they constitute the environmental imagination through which societies make sense of human-environment relations and understand their place within the more-than-human world.

The lectures introduce the environmental imagination in North America, of the United States and Canada, from the colonial period to the present. They begin with an introduction to ecocriticism, or environmental literary and cultural studies, a field that has drawn attention to the crucial role that literature and the arts have played in shaping environmental histories and environmental movements around the world. In the weeks following, we will proceed with the discussion of texts and media that have shaped the cultures of the two countries since the 17th century. These include the oral traditions of Indigenous peoples, the printed literature of European colonization, literary texts by writers of diverse ethnic backgrounds, environmental utopias and dystopias, climate change fiction, landscape painting, “green” Hollywood movies, nature documentaries and Anthropocene photography. Central to all discussions will be the specific aesthetic and ethical dimensions of the texts, their rhetorical power, and their contribution to the ongoing history of defining such fundamental concepts as “nature,” “culture,” and “the human.”

Materials will be made available on E-learning.

First Meeting: Monday, October 19, 2026

Übung

Medina

Introduction to American Literary and Cultural Studies (Group II)**2 SWS, Mo 10-12, Room:**

Our first meeting will be Monday, October 19th.

In our rapidly changing world, the United States continues to be a key player in world events. As an economic power whose historical and current cultural formation have contributed strongly to our increasingly globalized world, the various manifestations of U.S. literature and culture call for in-depth investigation. This introductory class has three major goals. (1) It provides a survey of American literary and cultural history from the 17th to the 21st century, giving particular emphasis to the diversity of (ethnic)

voices and to the diversity of media and genres that have shaped it. (2) It introduces basic theoretical and methodological categories and concepts that have defined the field of American Studies since its emergence in the 1930s. (3) It introduces participants to the systematic analysis of literary texts and films (the film we will study is the 2004 blockbuster *The Day After Tomorrow*).

All material will be made available on the E-learning platform.

Übung

Medina

Introduction to American Literary and Cultural Studies (Group I)

2 SWS, Tue 10-12, Room:

Our first meeting will be Tuesday, October 20th

In our rapidly changing world, the United States continues to be a key player in world events. As an economic power whose historical and current cultural formation have contributed strongly to our increasingly globalized world, the various manifestations of U.S. literature and culture call for in-depth investigation. This introductory class has three major goals. (1) It provides a survey of American literary and cultural history from the 17th to the 21st century, giving particular emphasis to the diversity of (ethnic) voices and to the diversity of media and genres that have shaped it. (2) It introduces basic theoretical and methodological categories and concepts that have defined the field of American Studies since its emergence in the 1930s. (3) It introduces participants to the systematic analysis of literary texts and films (the film we will study is the 2004 blockbuster *The Day After Tomorrow*).

All material will be made available on the E-learning platform.

Proseminar Literary Studies

Borchardt

"How to Live: American Literature and the Culture of Self-Improvement"

2 SWS, Tue 8-10, Room:

This seminar explores the cultural and literary history of self-improvement in the United States, focusing on what Beth Blum has called the "self-help compulsion:" the tendency to read literature through the lens of advice and self-optimization. We will examine how this tendency emerges in early American writing and continues to shape both nonfiction and the American novel today.

After engaging with contemporary debates about reading, ethics, and self-improvement, we briefly turn to foundational texts of American self-making and moral instruction, including Benjamin Franklin's *Autobiography* (1791) and Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Self-Reliance" (1841). We then discuss bell hooks' *All About Love* (1999), which reimagines self-improvement not as individual optimization but as a relational and ethical practice grounded in care, commitment, and vulnerability.

At the center of the seminar stands Ottessa Moshfegh's *My Year of Rest and Relaxation* (2018), a contemporary novel that both draws on and satirically subverts the logics of self-help culture. Through its narrative of withdrawal and refusal, the novel exposes the pressures of productivity, wellness, and self-optimization.

Bringing together theory, nonfiction, early American writing, and the contemporary American novel, the seminar investigates how advice culture circulates across genres and periods, and how literature both participates in and resists the cultural demand to turn life into a project of continuous self-improvement.

The seminar's goal is to practice close reading skills while critically examining the promises and contradictions of self-help culture in American literature.

To be purchased:

My Year of Rest and Relaxation (2018) by Ottessa Moshfegh – EAN: 9781784707422

All About Love (1999) by bell hooks – EAN: 9780060959470

Krstic

Proseminar Literary Studies

“Thinking with Water” – Blue Ecocriticism and the Twenty-First-Century Anglophone Literature

2 SWS, Tue 12-14, Room:

This seminar introduces the field of blue ecocriticism that has emerged as a response to the “ocean deficiency” of the wider field of ecocriticism, whose study of human and more-than-human relationships has been predominantly land-based. Scientists and scholars agree that the world’s salt and freshwaters are in crisis and that we live in “ecocatastrophic times,” marked by widespread pollution, loss of biodiversity, and the degradation of the complex oceanic ecosystems. Recognizing that this crisis is also cultural and social, blue ecocriticism foregrounds the relationship between humans and planetary waters and studies it from multiple perspectives, including sociocultural, historical, literary and ethical perspectives. The concepts it introduces help us start thinking with water, that is, understand how it shapes not only physical spaces, but also imagination, identity, and cultural production.

Taking this “offshore perspective,” we will read Amitav Ghosh’s novel *The Hungry Tide* (2004). Set in the Sundarbans, a vast swamp delta in the Bay of Bengal, the novel unfolds a dynamic story centered around a local fisherman, a marine biologist studying river dolphins, and a Delhi businessman whose lives unexpectedly become intertwined. Through this novel, we will explore how contemporary fiction engages with water on material and symbolic levels. The more general goal of the seminar is to develop skills for critical analysis of narrative texts within their cultural and historical contexts.

Texts to be purchased:

Amitav Ghosh, *The Hungry Tide*. Harper Collins, 2004 [ISBN 978-0-00-714178-4]

Secondary reading material will be made available on the UBT e-Learning platform.

Medina

Proseminar Literary Studies

“Literary Ecotopias/American Solarpunk”

2 SWS, Wed 8-10, Room:

Ours is an age of multiple crises, characterized by anthropogenic threats like climate change, technological oligarchies, and authoritarian regimes. In such seemingly dystopian times, hope can seem naïve, unwarranted, or even gauche. Yet hope, expressed through the literary vehicle of utopia, is never uncritical. Rather, as Lisa Garforth has argued, “the articulation of utopian alternatives opposes and

resists the widespread idea that major social transformation is not possible.” What, then, might an ideal society look like? How might we reimagine sociopolitical organization in a way that avoids proscription, rigidity, or primitivism (meaning an essentializing impulse)? And how can we navigate our ever-more-apparent entanglements with nature?

These questions preoccupy and engage writers of the emerging genre of solarpunk—a genre that takes a hopeful, even utopian, view of the future while simultaneously maintaining a highly critical, even counter-cultural, approach to the present. In this seminar, we will use close reading and textual analysis to explore two examples of hopeful eco-imaginaries: Ernest Callenbach’s *Ecotopia* (1977) and Becky Chambers’ *Monk and Robot* (2025). The alternative worlds these novels imagine are not untouched by our current crises; rather, they exist stubbornly on the other side of action and change: ecological degradation is not a foregone conclusion, nor is technological dependence, nor oppressive politics. Utopia, solarpunk argues, is always a choice.

Texts to be purchased (please acquire these EXACT editions):

Ernest Callenbach. *Ecotopia*. 1977. Random House, 1990. [ISBN: 9780553348477]

Becky Chambers. *Monk and Robot*. Tordotcom, 2025. [ISBN: 978-1250386335]

All other reading material will be made available on E-learning.

Borchardt

Proseminar Literary Studies

“American Literature and the Body: Illness, Aging, and Mortality”

2 SWS, Wed 12-14, Room:

This seminar explores how American literature imagines aging, illness, loss, and mortality as foundational dimensions of human experience. Organized around the theme of “living toward death,” we will examine how literary texts represent bodily vulnerability and the awareness of human finitude. Rather than treating death as a singular event, the seminar approaches it as a condition that shapes everyday life, relationships, and the stories people tell about themselves.

Our primary readings are Don DeLillo’s *White Noise* (1985) and Elizabeth Strout’s *Olive Kitteridge* (2008). *White Noise* follows a Midwestern family whose ordinary suburban life is disrupted by an airborne toxic event, exposing their anxieties about death, technology, and modern culture, while *Olive Kitteridge* traces the interconnected lives of residents in a small Maine town, focusing especially on the complex inner life of its titular protagonist as she navigates marriage, aging, loneliness, and loss. Both novels invite us to consider how individuals confront the limits of the body and how American culture understands and represents mortality.

Alongside our primary texts, excerpts from Susan Sontag’s *Illness as Metaphor* (1978) and theoretical readings from the medical humanities will provide conceptual frameworks for discussing embodiment, vulnerability, and finitude. The seminar’s goal is to develop skills in close reading and literary analysis while exploring how literature helps us make sense of some of the most universal yet difficult aspects of human existence.

To be purchased:

White Noise (1985) by Don DeLillo – EAN: 9781529077261

Olive Kitteridge (2008) by Elizabeth Strout – EAN: 9781398532786

Advanced Seminar Literary Studies

Cortiel

“Vast Rondure Swimming in Space”: Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson and the Planetary
HS, 2 SWS, Di 14-16, Room:

In this seminar, we will read the poetry of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson from the perspective of environmental scope, attending to how their work connects the local and the regional with the planetary, in contrast to the global. Reading these two central nineteenth-century American poets side by side, we will examine the tension between national identity and a planetary outlook, and the way the smallest natural phenomena open onto the vastness of the cosmos. The course title quotes Whitman's “Passage to India” (1871), which imagines the earth as a connected whole; Dickinson, by contrast, finds the planetary in the particular, in a spider's web or a slant of light. Working with digital archives and grounded in close reading, we will ask how their poetry responds to slavery, industrialization, women's rights, and Westward expansion, and how it imagines intimacy and democracy. Please find more information and a schedule of readings on the e-learning page for the course.

Advanced Seminar Literary Studies

Cortiel

American Superhero Fiction: Origins, Revisions, and Cinematic Adaptations
HS, 2 SWS, Mo 12-14, Room:

In this seminar, we will follow the American superhero across three moments in the genre's history: its Golden Age origins, its self-critical revision from the 1980s onward, and its passage into film. We will begin with the early superhero as a figure of nation and wartime mission (Superman, Captain America, Wonder Woman), turn to the revisionist comics that questioned the genre from within, among them Alan Moore's Swamp Thing, and then study how superhero film tells its stories through means specific to cinema. Throughout, we will ask how comics and film each engage core American cultural narratives, including the frontier and success narratives and their work on masculinity, whiteness, and the nation, and how the genre opens onto questions of race, gender, and the nonhuman. In this course, we will read adaptation as an art in its own right. Please find more information and a schedule of readings on the e-learning page for the course.

Advanced Seminar

Mayer

Modernist American Drama
2 SWS, Wed 10-12, Room:

In this seminar, we will discuss a selection of plays by Eugene O'Neill, Susan Glaspell, and Clifford Odets that mark the emergence of American drama on the international stage in the early twentieth century. We will examine these plays in the context of transatlantic modernism(s), paying particular attention both to the specifically modern and U.S. American sensibility they articulate and to the experimental techniques

employed by their authors. The plays to be discussed include O'Neill's "*Emperor Jones*" (1920) and "*The Hairy Ape*" (1922), Glaspell's "*Trifles*" (1916), "*The Outside*" (1917) and "*The Verge*" (1921), and Odets' "*Waiting for Lefty*" (1935) and "*Awake and Sing!*" (1935). Participants are expected to have read at least O'Neill's plays by the beginning of the semester.

Some of the plays can be found online for free:

Eugene O'Neill, "*The Emperor Jones*": <http://www.public-library.uk/ebooks/32/16.pdf>

Eugene O'Neill, "*The Hairy Ape*": <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/4015/4015-h/4015-h.htm>

Clifford Odets, "*Waiting for Lefty*":

https://edisciplinas.usp.br/pluginfile.php/8835653/mod_resource/content/2/WAITING%20FOR%20LEFTY.pdf

Clifford Odets, "*Awake and Sing*": the play will be made available on e-learning for seminar participants once the semester starts.

Please purchase the following collection for the three Glaspell plays: Plays by Susan Glaspell. *Create Space* Independent Publishing Platform. [ISBN-13: 978-1502949936]

First Meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Advanced Seminar

Mayer/Feldhaar

"EcoFacts and EcoFictions: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Environmental Understanding"

2 SWS, (Block Seminar)

Tuesday, December 8, 2026, 14-16; Tuesday, December 15 2026;

Wednesday, February 10, 2027, 10-18; Thursday, February 11, 2027, 10-18

How do we understand "nature," and how do different disciplines produce environmental knowledge in the age of the Anthropocene? This interdisciplinary seminar brings together perspectives from biology, ecology, ecocriticism, and the environmental humanities to explore the roles of facts and fictions in shaping our understanding of the natural world and of current ecological crises.

The seminar begins by comparing knowledge production in the sciences and the humanities, asking how concepts such as "organism," "holobiont," "ecosystem," "nature," "culture," and the "Anthropocene" are defined, used, and contested. We will then examine forms of socio-ecological entanglement through cultural animal studies, cultural plant studies, and posthumanism, all of which challenge conventional boundaries between humans, nonhuman beings, and environments.

A further focus will be on science communication and the relationship between fact, fiction, and imagination. Literary and cinematic case studies, including Barbara Kingsolver's *Flight Behavior*, and the Hollywood blockbuster *The Day After Tomorrow*, will allow us to discuss anthropogenic climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental ethics, and different knowledge systems.

By bringing scientific and literary-cultural perspectives into dialogue, the seminar invites students to reflect on the ethical and methodological challenges of interdisciplinary work and to consider how such

approaches can contribute to more complex and responsible forms of environmental understanding in the Anthropocene.

Texts: Please read Kingsolver's *Flight Behavior* and watch *The Day After Tomorrow* before the seminar starts in December 2026.

All other materials will be made available via e-learning.

Cultural Theories and Research Methods: Reading Contemporary American Film

Cortiel

2 SWS, Fr 14-17 (14-täglich), Room:

This seminar introduces students to major methods and theories in cultural studies, with a focus on reading popular film. The seminar is project-based and will connect attention to film form with current theories of culture. After the introductory session, students will work in groups to develop original, methodologically sound readings of a contemporary film, Ryan Coogler's *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever* (2022). We will start with a close shot-by-shot analysis and move on to analyzing the film using current theories of film and culture. Please watch the film (and the earlier *Black Panther*, 2018) at least once before the beginning of the semester. You will find more information and a course schedule on the e-learning page of this course.

Mayer

Übung

“Vorbereitung für die erste Lehramtsprüfung: Englische /Amerikanische Literaturwissenschaft (Amerikanische Literatur)

2 SWS, Tue 10-12, Room:

Die Übung bereitet Lehramtsstudierende auf die literaturwissenschaftliche Klausur im Staatsexamen vor. Zur Vorbereitung der Klausur werden anhand der vorgegebenen Themenbereiche (d.h. Epochen- und Gattungsschwerpunkte) die Kompetenzen im Bereich der Analyse narrativer, dramatischer und lyrischer Texte sowie Kenntnisse der US-amerikanischen Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte weiter vertieft. Gegenstand der Übung sind im Wintersemester 2026/27 ausschließlich Texte der amerikanischen Literatur bzw. die amerikanische Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte.

Erste Sitzung: Dienstag, 13. Oktober 2026

LINGUISTICS

Vorlesung/Übung**Maier****Introduction to English Linguistics I****2 SWS, Mo 12-14, Room:****First Meeting: Monday 19.10.2026**

The aim of this introductory course is to provide students with basic knowledge of the field of English linguistics and its sub-disciplines, especially phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. The focus in this course is both theoretical and practical. There will be a final exam at the end of the course.

Preparatory Reading:

Bieswanger, Markus and Annette Becker. 2021. *Introduction to English Linguistics*. 5th Edition. Tübingen: Francke.

Vorlesung/Übung**Bieswanger****Introduction to English Linguistics I****2 SWS, Tue 12-14, Room:****First Meeting: Tuesday 20.10.2026**

The aim of this introductory course is to provide students with basic knowledge of the field of English linguistics and its sub-disciplines, especially phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. The focus in this course is both theoretical and practical. There will be a final exam at the end of the course.

Preparatory Reading:

Bieswanger, Markus and Annette Becker. 2021. *Introduction to English Linguistics*. 5th Edition. Tübingen: Francke.

Vorlesung/Übung**Trüdinger****Introduction to English Linguistics I****2 SWS, Wed 12-14, Room:**

The aim of this introductory course is to provide students with basic knowledge of the field of English linguistics and its sub-disciplines, especially phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. The focus in this course is both theoretical and practical. There will be a final exam at the end of the course.

Preparatory Reading:

Bieswanger, Markus and Annette Becker. 2021. *Introduction to English Linguistics*. 5th Edition. Tübingen: Francke.

Vorlesung/Übung
History of the English Language
2 SWS, Wed 10-12, Room:

**Reinhardt-
Beiersdorfer**

Throughout its history, the English language has undergone significant transformation. This seminar explores the most important developments in the evolution of English, from Old to Present-Day English. We will examine changes in the lexicon, morphology, syntax and phonology, as well as the methods used to investigate language change and the theories that seek to explain it. By studying the history of the English language, we can gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of the language we use today.

Important prerequisite (!): Very good knowledge of the basic concepts and terminology from the areas of phonology, morphology and syntax covered in the Intro I course.

Proseminar Linguistics
Language Change
2 SWS, Tue 12-14, Room:

Anchimbe

In the course of history, human languages have changed in various ways, influenced both by internal and external forces. Our concern in this course will be on types of change in language and the theories used to explain them. The linguistic and social specificities of language change and their respective causes will constitute the bases for investigation. We will also focus on the emergence of new language varieties such as pidgins, creoles, and bilingual mixed languages

Preparatory readings:

Donald Winford. 2003. *An Introduction to Contact Linguistics* London: Blackwell.

McHanon, April M.S. 1994. *Understanding Language Change*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Proseminar Linguistics
Varieties of English around the World
2 SWS, Thu 10-12, Room:

Bieswanger

This course surveys the geographical varieties of English around the world, including "big" and "small" as well as native and non-native varieties. With the help of available literature, authentic texts, recordings and audiovisual material, we will identify the main kinds of linguistic differences between these varieties at the individual levels of language and the most important linguistic features of selected geographical varieties of English.

Proseminar Linguistics
Corpus Linguistics: Tool and Methods
2 SWS, Tue 10-12, Room:

Trüdinger

AI is changing the way we use and study language. This course introduces students to the corpus-based methods and data-driven principles behind many modern language technologies, including large

language models. Together we will explore the basics of corpus linguistics, covering core concepts and methods such as design, concordance analysis, frequency, collocation, keyness, annotation, and basic quantitative interpretation.

Students will also gain a practical introduction to working with language data using AntConc and basic Python programming. No prior programming experience is required. Students will learn how to collect, prepare and analyse corpus data, and how to critically interpret corpus-based evidence.

By the end of the course, students will be able to build corpora and use corpus-linguistic methods to investigate linguistic patterns in areas such as lexis, grammar, discourse, register, genre, and language variation. The course is suitable for students interested in empirical language analysis, digital linguistics, natural language processing, and data-driven approaches to linguistic research.

Proseminar Linguistics

English Lexicology: Exploring the English Vocabulary

PS, 2 SWS, Thu 12-14, Room:

**Reinhardt-
Beiersdorfer**

This seminar introduces students to the field of lexicology, the linguistic study of English words and vocabulary. We will examine what words are, how they are structured, how new words are formed, how meanings are organised and change and how the English lexicon has developed diachronically through language contact and borrowing.

The course combines core concepts from the areas lexicology, morphology, semantics, historical linguistics, phonology and orthography.

Topics include key lexicological terminology, word-formation processes, productivity, neologisms, language contact, loanwords, borrowing, lexical meaning, sense relations, polysemy, metaphor, semantic change and the relationship between English spelling and pronunciation.

Throughout the seminar, we will work with dictionaries, thesauri, corpora and authentic examples from contemporary English.

Important prerequisite: Very good knowledge of the basic concepts and terminology covered in the Intro I course. A genuine interest in English linguistics and the topic of the seminar, as well as a willingness to engage actively and independently with the seminar material are highly recommended.

Advanced Seminar Linguistics

Pragmatics and Discourse

2 SWS, Mon 10-12, Room:

Anchimbe

Pragmatics studies language use in context and speakers' intentions when they make use of language. This course focuses on various pragmatic phenomena and applies these to discourses produced in particular contexts. The aim is to give participants first hand access to theory and practice in this subfield of linguistics. Besides basic pragmatic aspects like speech acts, deixis, implicatures, politeness, face, and discourse markers, attention will also be paid to conversational analysis and the analysis of other types of discourse.

Preparatory reading:

Thomas, Jenny. *Meaning in Interaction: An Introduction to Pragmatics*. London: Longman.

Advanced Seminar Linguistics**Anchimbe****Postcolonial Englishes****2 SWS, Mo 12-14, Room:**

Colonialism was influential in the spread of English to other regions of the world. This course focuses on varieties of English that are the outcome of European colonialism, especially in Africa, South East Asia, and the Caribbean. Issues of interest include linguistic features, the functions and statuses of these Englishes as well as other sociolinguistic factors that make these Englishes part of their new ecologies. The processes of indigenisation or nativisation and their instantiations will be studied from both system-based and sociohistorical perspectives.

Reading: Schneider, Edgar. 2007. Postcolonial English: *Varieties around the World*. Cambridge: CUP.

Advanced Seminar Linguistics**Bieswanger****Central Aspects of Applied Linguistics****2 SWS, Tue 10-12, Room:**

Applied Linguistics is broadly defined as the application of linguistic knowledge to solve language related problems in the real world. As a result, Applied Linguistics is a highly interdisciplinary field and means many different things to many different people. We will discuss the different meanings of the term *Applied Linguistics* and a variety of key and current issues in the field, including language policy and planning, language maintenance as well as language death and language revitalization, multilingualism, language for specific purposes, language acquisition and language pedagogy.

Advanced Seminar Linguistics**Mühleisen****Environmental Discourse****2 SWS, Wed 12-14, Room:**

Ecolinguistics is an established field in linguistics which has long investigated the connection between the loss of linguistic diversity with the loss of species and environmental knowledge. The field has been expanded to include environmental discourses and the role of language and discourse in describing, concealing, and helping to solve environmental problems. The function of metaphors in environmental discourse, the treatment of environmental topics in the language of politics, the discursive representation of environmental disasters in the media as well as discourses on human-environment relationships will be among the focal points in this course.

Advanced Seminar Linguistics**Mühleisen****Genre in World Englishes****2 SWS, Wed 16-18, Room:**

In this advanced seminar, (written and spoken) texts will be discussed in terms of their generic forms and their characteristic features on a macro-level (text organisation) and micro-level (lexical, syntactic and discourse features). After an introduction to genre theory and analysis, we will look at some specific genres such as recipes (and the development of their electronic forms), death notices, diary entries and blogs, advice columns, phone-in-programmes and cooking shows in World Englishes contexts. After a series of weekly sessions we will have a compact session in January 2027 for project presentations.

Key points of this seminar are:

- Definition of genre from various perspectives
- Exploration of the history of particular genres
- Cross-cultural comparison of particular genres

Vorlesung/Übung**Anchimbe****Vorbereitungskurs für die Staatsexamensklausur in Englischer Sprachwissenschaft (synchron)****2 SWS, Tue 14-16, Room:**

This course is aimed at *Lehramt* students approaching their final exam (*Staatsexamen*) in English linguistics who intend to focus on synchronic linguistics. Based on the *Orientierungshilfe für das Staatsexamen in Englischer Sprachwissenschaft (Gymnasium)* and the *Anforderungsprofil L-UF Sprachwissenschaft (Realschule)*, we will discuss relevant topics in synchronic linguistics and exercises from previous *Staatsexamen*. An advanced level of linguistic knowledge is indispensable for this course (at least *Introduction to English Linguistics I & II* and one *Pro- or Hauptseminar* in one of the core areas of part A of the *Staatsexamensklausur*), so brush up your linguistics knowledge before taking this class!

Grundlagenphase werden v.a. Aufgabenstellungen aus dem vertieften Staatsexamen besprochen. Dieser freiwillige Vertiefungskurs richtet sich vorrangig an Studierende kurz vor der ersten Staatsprüfung.

Lektüreempfehlung:

Arendholz, Jenny (ed.). 2022. *English Syntax: Basic Facts and In-Depth Analyses*. Tübingen: Narr Francke Attempto Verlag.

Übung**Bieswanger****Project Work and final Thesis Preparation****2 SWS, Wed 10-12, Room:**

This course is meant to give students an opportunity to develop and discuss their project work papers (BA Anglistik/Amerikanistik Projektseminar) as well as their final thesis projects (Bachelor thesis, MA

thesis, Zulassungsarbeit) in English linguistics. – Please note: This is not the exam preparation class for the written Lehramt Staatsexamen (please attend the class specifically designed for StEx candidates).

Übung**Anchimbe****Project Work and final Thesis Preparation****2 SWS, Thu 10-12, Room:**

This course provides an opportunity for BA, LA and MA students to prepare and discuss their projects (Independent Studies, Bachelor Thesis, Zulassungsarbeit für die Erste Staatsprüfung, MA-Thesis) in English linguistics. BA and MA students may also use this class to prepare their oral and written exam topics. Note: this is not the Repetitorium for the preparation of the written exam for the Staatsexamen.

FACHDIDAKTIK ENGLISCH

Einführung in die Fachdidaktik Englisch

Slawik-Wüllenweber

Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Einführung FD

2 SWS, Mi 8-10, Room:

Das Einführungsseminar stellt grundlegende Entwicklungen, Gebiete und Methoden der Fachdidaktik Englisch vor und beschäftigt sich u. a. mit Prinzipien des Fremdsprachenunterrichts, Spracherwerbstheorien sowie der Analyse zentraler Aspekte des Lern- und Lehrprozesses. Ferner wird auf Prozesse fokussiert, die bei den sprachlichen Fertigkeiten Hörverstehen, Hör-Seh-Verstehen, Lesen, Sprechen, Schreiben und Sprachmittlung ablaufen und auf deren didaktisch-methodische Umsetzung im Unterricht. Weitere Themen sind die Entwicklung von Medienkompetenz, die Arbeit mit literarischen Texten, bilinguals Lehren und Lernen sowie interkulturelles Lernen.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Einführung in die Fachdidaktik Englisch

Fehling

Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Einführung FD

2 SWS, Mi 16-18, Room:

Das Seminar beginnt am 21.10.2026

Das Einführungsseminar stellt grundlegende Entwicklungen, Gebiete und Methoden der Fachdidaktik Englisch vor und beschäftigt sich u. a. mit Prinzipien des Fremdsprachenunterrichts, Spracherwerbstheorien sowie der Analyse zentraler Aspekte des Lern- und Lehrprozesses. Ferner wird auf Prozesse fokussiert, die bei den sprachlichen Fertigkeiten Hörverstehen, Hör-Seh-Verstehen, Lesen, Sprechen, Schreiben und Sprachmittlung ablaufen und auf deren didaktisch-methodische Umsetzung im Unterricht. Weitere Themen sind die Entwicklung von Medienkompetenz, die Arbeit mit literarischen Texten, bilinguals Lehren und Lernen sowie interkulturelles Lernen.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Einführung in die Fachdidaktik Englisch

Groß

Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Einführung FD

2 SWS, Do 12-14, Room:

Das Einführungsseminar stellt grundlegende Entwicklungen, Gebiete und Methoden der Fachdidaktik Englisch vor und beschäftigt sich u. a. mit Prinzipien des Fremdsprachenunterrichts, Spracherwerbstheorien sowie der Analyse zentraler Aspekte des Lern- und Lehrprozesses. Ferner wird auf Prozesse fokussiert, die bei den sprachlichen Fertigkeiten Hörverstehen, Hör-Seh-Verstehen, Lesen, Sprechen, Schreiben und Sprachmittlung ablaufen und auf deren didaktisch-methodische Umsetzung im Unterricht. Weitere Themen sind die Entwicklung von Medienkompetenz, die Arbeit mit literarischen Texten, bilinguals Lehren und Lernen sowie interkulturelles Lernen.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Einführung in die Fachdidaktik Englisch

Fehling

Module: siehe Modulübersicht – Einführung FD

2 SWS, Fr 10-12, Room:

Das Seminar beginnt am 23.10.2026

Das Einführungsseminar stellt grundlegende Entwicklungen, Gebiete und Methoden der Fachdidaktik Englisch vor und beschäftigt sich u. a. mit Prinzipien des Fremdsprachenunterrichts, Spracherwerbstheorien sowie der Analyse zentraler Aspekte des Lern- und Lehrprozesses. Ferner wird auf Prozesse fokussiert, die bei den sprachlichen Fertigkeiten Hörverstehen, Hör-Seh-Verstehen, Lesen, Sprechen, Schreiben und Sprachmittlung ablaufen und auf deren didaktisch-methodische Umsetzung im Unterricht. Weitere Themen sind die Entwicklung von Medienkompetenz, die Arbeit mit literarischen Texten, bilinguals Lehren und Lernen sowie interkulturelles Lernen.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Seminar Fachdidaktik Englisch:

Tschokothe

Theorie und Praxis im Englischunterricht

Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Seminar FD

2 SWS, Mo 14-16, Room:

Das Seminar beginnt am 19.10.2026

Das Seminar bietet in Anbindung an fachdidaktische Theorien eine praxisorientierte Auseinandersetzung mit zentralen Aspekten des Englischunterrichts wie der Unterrichtsplanung, der Vermittlung von sprachlichen Fertigkeiten und dem Aufbau von Kompetenzen. Der Schwerpunkt liegt dabei auf der inhaltlichen und methodischen Gestaltung von sprachlichen und kommunikativen Fertigkeiten.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Seminar Fachdidaktik Englisch:

Fehling

Heterogenität im Englischunterricht

Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Seminar FD

2 SWS, Do 10-12, Room:

Das Seminar beginnt am 22.10.2026

In dem Seminar wird auf den Umgang mit Heterogenität im Fremdsprachenunterricht fokussiert. Dabei werden sowohl theoretische Aspekte als auch Implementierungsmöglichkeiten für den Englischunterricht diskutiert. Die Schwerpunkte liegen dabei auf dem Thema Inklusion sowie kooperativen und interkulturellen Ansätzen.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Seminar Fachdidaktik Englisch:

Friedrich-Gemkow

Literarische Texte im Englischunterricht**Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Seminar FD****2 SWS, Do 14-16, Room:**

In diesem Seminar liegt der Fokus auf der Literaturdidaktik und der Frage, mit welchen Lernzielen Literatur verknüpft werden kann. Dafür beginnen wir mit einer Definition von Literatur bzw. literarischen Texten und schließen daran unsere Überlegungen zu den Einsatzmöglichkeiten von Literatur im Englischunterricht an. Neben den rezeptiven und produktiven Kompetenzen stehen auch reflexive Fähigkeiten im Vordergrund bei der Arbeit mit literarischen Texten. Um Gedichte, Romanauszüge, Kurzgeschichten, Auszüge aus Dramen oder Songtexte im Unterricht für die unterschiedlichen Altersstufen nutzbar machen zu können, beschäftigen wir uns unter anderem mit Textauswahlkriterien und methodischen Umsetzungsoptionen, die im Seminar aktiv ausprobiert werden können.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Seminar zum studienbegleitenden fachdidaktischen Praktikum:

Tchokothe

Praktikumsschule Christian-Ernestinum-Gymnasium, Praxismodul**Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Seminar FD****2 SWS, Mo 12-14, Room:**

Dieses Seminar beschäftigt sich mit der Erstellung und Analyse von Unterrichtseinheiten, dem Aufbau und Entwurf einer ausgearbeiteten Unterrichtsvorbereitung sowie der Analyse des Lehrplans. Zudem werden problematische Aspekte aus der Unterrichtspraxis des Englischunterrichts diskutiert und in Rückbindung an fachdidaktische Theorien Lösungswege dazu aufgezeigt.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Seminar zum studienbegleitenden fachdidaktischen Praktikum:

Slawik-

Praktikumsschule Graf-Münster-Gymnasium, Praxismodul

Wüllenweber

Module: Siehe Modulübersicht – Seminar FD**2 SWS, Mi 10-12, Room:**

Dieses Seminar beschäftigt sich mit der Erstellung und Analyse von Unterrichtseinheiten, dem Aufbau und Entwurf einer ausgearbeiteten Unterrichtsvorbereitung sowie der Analyse des Lehrplans. Zudem werden problematische Aspekte aus der Unterrichtspraxis des Englischunterrichts diskutiert und in Rückbindung an fachdidaktische Theorien Lösungswege dazu aufgezeigt.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Praxismodul**Fehling****Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Seminar FD****2 SWS, Do 14-16, Room:****Das Seminar beginnt am 22.10.2026**

Dieses Seminar beschäftigt sich mit der Erstellung und Analyse von Unterrichtseinheiten, dem Aufbau und Entwurf einer ausgearbeiteten Unterrichtsvorbereitung sowie der Analyse des Lehrplans. Zudem werden problematische Aspekte aus der Unterrichtspraxis des Englischunterrichts diskutiert und in Rückbindung an fachdidaktische Theorien Lösungswege dazu aufgezeigt.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Seminar zum studienbegleitenden fachdidaktischen Praktikum:**Groß****Praktikumsschule Johannes-Kepler-Realschule, Praxismodul****Module: siehe Modulübersicht- Seminar FD****2 SWS, Do 14-16, Room:**

Dieses Seminar beschäftigt sich mit der Erstellung und Analyse von Unterrichtseinheiten, dem Aufbau und Entwurf einer ausgearbeiteten Unterrichtsvorbereitung sowie der Analyse des Lehrplans. Zudem werden problematische Aspekte aus der Unterrichtspraxis des Englischunterrichts diskutiert und in Rückbindung an fachdidaktische Theorien Lösungswege dazu aufgezeigt.

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Vorbereitung für die Erste Lehramtsprüfung: Fachdidaktik Englisch**Fehling****Module: GYM: EM FD****2 SWS, Do 12-14, Room:****Das Seminar beginnt am 22.10.2026**

Die Veranstaltung dient der Vorbereitung auf das schriftliche Staatsexamen in der Fachdidaktik Englisch. Dabei werden Fragen der Examensvorbereitung und der Vorgehensweise in der Klausur sowie mögliche Prüfungsthemen aus den folgenden Bereichen diskutiert:

- a) Sprachlerntheorien und individuelle Voraussetzungen des Spracherwerbs
- b) Theorie und Methodik des kommunikativen Englischunterrichts
- c) Theorien und Ziele des interkulturellen Lernens
- d) Ziele und Verfahren der Textarbeit in Hinblick auf interkulturelle, literarische und sprachliche Bildungsziele

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

Vorbereitung für die Erste Lehramtsprüfung: Fachdidaktik Englisch**Fehling****Module: EM FD****2 SWS, Fr. 12-14, Room:****Das Seminar beginnt am 23.10.2025**

Die Veranstaltung dient der Vorbereitung auf das schriftliche Staatsexamen in der Fachdidaktik Englisch. Dabei werden Fragen der Examensvorbereitung und der Vorgehensweise in der Klausur sowie mögliche Prüfungsthemen aus den folgenden Bereichen diskutiert:

- a) Sprachlerntheorien und individuelle Voraussetzungen des Spracherwerbs
- b) Theorie und Methodik des kommunikativen Englischunterrichts
- c) Theorien und Ziele des interkulturellen Lernens
- d) Ziele und Verfahren der Textarbeit in Hinblick auf interkulturelle, literarische und sprachliche Bildungsziele

Anmeldung zum Seminar bitte über cmlife.

**MAIAS COURSES/
LITERARY STUDIES**

Arndt

Advanced Seminar Literary Studies

Cultural and Literary Theories (MAIAS A 1)

Intersectionality and Knowled

HS, 2 SWS, Do 14-17, Room:

Cultural and Literary Theories are glasses that help to identify deep structures of knowledges and respective epistemologies and ethics. Eager to understand the causality of theory and knowing, we will focus on intersectionality as a theory that also is a practice: Intersectionality is a tool to dismantle the multifacetedness of power and domination, of inequality and oppression as well as of respective resistance and intervention. The lecture and accompanying seminar are designed to introduce students to the conceptual, political and academic foundations of intersectionality. The lecture will delve into understanding how power, privilege and discrimination relate, while intersecting race and gender as well as other power structures. While the lecture introduces into the genesis of intersectionality from a prism to a theory and then a discipline, the seminar will offer the space to practice intersectionality in the triad of analysis, communication and intervention

Advanced Seminar Literary Studies II

Arndt

The Caine Prize. Envisioning Memory into the Future

MAIAS D2

OS, 2 SWS, Wed 17-20 (bi-weekly), Room:

Ever since its founding in 2000, the Caine Prize has been awarded annually. It honors the best short story written by an African or African diasporic writer. To date, the prize has been awarded to 26 writers from 11 countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Senegal, Sudan, Uganda, Zimbabwe, and Côte d'Ivoire. During the seminar, we will engage with short stories by Leila Aboulela (Sudan/UK), NoViolet Bulawayo (Zimbabwe/US), Mame Bougouma Diene and Woppa Diallo (Senegal), Lidudumalingani Mqomboti (South Africa), Meron Hadero (Ethiopia/US/Germany), E. C. Osundu (Nigeria/US), Monica Arac de Nyeko (Uganda), Yvonne Adhiambo Owuor (Kenya), Namwali Serpell (Zambia/US), and Olufemi Terry (Sierra Leone/Côte d'Ivoire/Germany). We will also discuss the short story that wins the 2026 award. Drawing on Intersectional Narratology, the course will examine how these award-winning short stories narrate the interconnections between memory and futurity, power and inequality, as well as resistance and solidarity.

Advanced Seminar Literary Studies II

Arndt

Master Seminar (MAIAS E 1)

Writing a Thesis. From Mindmap to Chapter

OS, 2 SWS, Do 17-20, Room:

The seminar will delve into modes and practices of academic writing, while exploring alternate modes of writing and narration. All participants are asked to bring selected case studies (a question, a fictional text,

an interview, a piece of art etc.). The course will mindmap different steps of academic writing topic via objective and research question to structuring the thesis. Also, we will discuss what is theory, methodology and state of the art of research, while also writing respective samples. Also, we delve into what it means to “prove a claim”. The seminar is organised as an interactive working space that aims at presenting the shared work in the course of a public workshop/performance.

MAIAS COURSES / LINGUISTICS

Advanced Seminar Linguistics

Mühleisen

Theoretical Approaches to Language, Variation and Culture

MAIAS A1

HS, 2 SWS, Mo 16-18, Room:

This course is intended as an advanced exploration of various theoretical approaches of linguistics. It offers both a hands-on application of theories and a practical engagement with each of these approaches. The theoretical approaches envisaged for discussion include Schools of Linguistics, History of the English Language, Sociolinguistics, Language Contact and Change, Cognitive Linguistics, Corpus Linguistics, Written and Spoken Language, Text Linguistics, Pragmatics and Conversation Analysis and First Language Acquisition.

Advanced Seminar Linguistics II

Bieswanger

Linguistic Fieldwork

MAIAS D2

OS, 2 SWS, Tue 14 -16, Room:

This course covers a variety of aspects related to linguistic fieldwork, such as different data gathering and elicitation techniques, including their respective advantages and disadvantages, the various roles of the fieldworker, organization of data and metadata, and ethical as well as legal issues related to all of the above.

Advanced Seminar Linguistics I

Mühleisen

Master Seminar

MAIAS E 1

OS, 2 SWS, Tue 16-18, Room:

This seminar gives master students of linguistics (MAIAS, SprInK) the opportunity to develop, introduce, and discuss their MA theses. Particular attention will be paid to the use of theoretical concepts and their methodological application central to the thesis projects, but also to techniques of argumentation and written presentation. The first meetings of the seminar will deal with issues of theory, method, and academic research in general. The subsequent meetings will address the participants' individual fields and topics of interest.