

Veranstaltungen
Institut für Amerikanistik, Leipzig

(WS 2006/2007)

COURSE CATALOGUE FALL 2006

<http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~amerika/icc.pdf>>Download "Course Catalogue Fall 2006: Introduction" (pdf)

MAGISTER GRUNDSTUDIUM

Literaturwissenschaft

101 = 301 Literature and Culture: American Literature from Beginnings to Present

V, 2 SWS

Thursday, 09:15-10:45

Städtisches Kaufhaus, R. 0207

Prof. Koenen, Anne

The lectures will provide an overview of central literary movements and authors in American literature against the background of influential socio-cultural developments.

102 The American Novel

Tuesday, 01:15 PM - 02:45 PM: Beethovenstraße 15, Raum 2.516,

Pisarz-Ramírez
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/155

TV: Completion of "Introduction to Literary Studies."

E: The number of students in this course will be limited. Students who want to participate will have to pass a test covering basic knowledge of US literature and culture. Please sign up by e-mail to pisarz@uni-leipzig.de until September 25. Later registrations will not be accepted. To prepare for the test, please consult Lehrbox from September 20 for a brief bibliography.

In this course we will read American novels from the late eighteenth through the twentieth centuries. We will discuss how ideas about the form and function of the novel have changed over time, examining the historical forces and literary movements that helped to shape some of these works—slavery in the case of Uncle Tom's Cabin, for example, and modernism in the case of Absalom, Absalom. Based on these novels and others our discussions will cover a wide range of topics, all of them relevant to the overarching theme of the course, which is the relationship between American literature and American culture. Among the novels we will read are Hannah Webster Foster's The Coquette, Mark Twain's Pudd'nhead Wilson, Edith Wharton's The House of Mirth, and Willa Cather's O Pioneers.

Detailed information will be given via Lehrbox no later than September 20.

If you seriously dislike reading novels then I do not recommend this course to you. Some of our novels are quite long, others are shorter but dense and rather difficult; all of them require a lot of attention.

103 Theorizing American Literature from Civil War to the Present

Thursday, 01:15 PM - 02:45 PM: GWZ Raum 2.516

Schmieder
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/146

TV: Completion of "Introduction to Literary Studies."

E: The number of students in this course will be limited. Students who want to participate will have to pass a test covering basic knowledge of US literature and culture. Please sign up by e-mail to schmieder@uni-leipzig.de until September 24. Later registrations will not be accepted. To prepare for the test, please consult Lehrbox from September 25.

Along with the development of American literature, different theoretical concepts and paradigms have evolved. As multi-faceted as their subject matter itself, they are informed by diverse scientific fields like philosophy, art history, linguistics, or psychology – all of which shaped the production and reception of literature.

In this course, an in-depth discussion of major literary theorists and their approaches will enable us to examine selected works of American literature from varying perspectives. Our readings will include Mark Twain's The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, John Steinbeck's Cannery Row, and Vladimir Nabokov's Lolita.

The success of the seminar depends upon your attendance, active participation and engagement. You are expected to read every assignment carefully and come prepared with comments and/or questions.

104 The Pursuit of the American Dream

Wednesday, 05:15 PM - 06:45 PM: GWZ. R.2.516

Johanningsmeier
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/156

The concept of the "American Dream" pervades almost every aspect of life in the United States and is well known throughout the world. Nonetheless, many people are uncertain about its exact definition and ramifications. In this course we will examine literary

texts that have helped define the American Dream, but we will also pay special attention to the comments of authors from groups often considered incapable of defining and fully participating in the Dream, many of whom have attempted to critique and redefine it. Some of the authors whose works we will likely read are: Benjamin Franklin, Horatio Alger, Zitkala-Sä, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Arthur Miller, John Okada, Philip Roth, Gloria Naylor, Amy Tan, and Sandra Cisneros.

Kulturgeschichte

151 American History in the 20th Century

V, 2 SWS

Wednesday, 09:15-10:45

Städtisches Kaufhaus, R. 0207

Prof. Keil, Hartmut

This survey lecture course will cover central historical developments in the United States in the 20th century. Emphasis will be placed on domestic policy and social as well as cultural issues, foreign policy will be analyzed especially with respect to internal repercussions. Some of the important issues to be treated are: structural changes in American society, economy, politics, and culture; labor movement; development of the welfare state; reform movements; popular culture and the media; Americanism, Anticommunism, conformism; Civil Rights Movement and the rise of ethnics; immigration; neo-conservatism, Christian Right.

152 Basic Texts in American History

PSW/LN, 2 SWS

Monday, 09:15-10:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Sharpe, Catherine

E: Einschreibung via Lehrbox vom (Datum folgt).

Attending first class is mandatory, regardless of prior enrolment. Availability for participants is limited and cannot be determined by instructor until the first day of class. Every participant should be willing to do a short presentation, regardless of their plans for LN.

Various types of texts that are thought to be most important in U.S. history will be explored in this cultural history course. Text interpretation will be covered and, beyond this essential, students will further investigate other meaningful aspects, such as the influences, creation, times, and effects, that surround these writings. Students will be assessed through their achievement in specially assigned course work, in particular the presentations they will be expected to give.

153 The Presidencies of US History

PSW/LN, 2 SWS

Monday, 11:15-12:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Sharpe, Catherine

E: Einschreibung via Lehrbox vom (Datum folgt)

Attending first class is mandatory, regardless of prior enrolment. Availability for participants is limited and cannot be determined by instructor until the first day of class. Every participant should be willing to give a short presentation, regardless of their plans for LN.

This course approaches United States history with a walk through its presidencies. In presentations, students will review these men and how they, in their time, represented the country and shaped its history. More than just biographical accounts, we will look at their politics, influence, and any other aspects that came to be the hallmarks of their administrations.

154 Acculturation and Persistence: Native Americans in Contemporary American Society

Thursday, 11:15 AM - 12:45 PM: SG 1-31/32

Usbeck

www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/151

LN: presentation and take home assignment

Every participant will have to do a short presentation, regardless of their plans for LN. These presentations can be done in groups, complementing each other on a certain topic, or introduce contrasting texts to the class.

One or two students will be picked each session to do this session's protocol which they will upload on lehrbox after class.

There will be a few out-of-class assignments in the form of evening film sessions, to be discussed in class later. Dates, times, and film titles will be confirmed in the first two weeks of the seminar.

The Seminar will give an overview over problems in contemporary North American indigenous communities; aspects to be discussed include U.S. Indian policy, Red Power movement, tribal economies, eco-activism, Indian mascots in sports teams, the discussion on tribal sovereignty, ethnic soldiering, etc.

Since the theme of Indian Studies is so broad, some topics are open to volunteers: if nobody wants to do a presentation on them, we'll skip them.

Work on presentations will include on-line research since some texts date from the early 1990s. One aim of this class is to practice research skills by finding out how a situation (legal, social, personal etc.) has changed since the text was published.

155 a) Varieties of Citizenship and Identity in a Transatlantic Context

PSW/LN, 2 SWS

Tuesday, 15:15-16:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Prof. Garrett, Crister

The proseminar will explore what is meant by citizenship in the American experience, and why this concept has been so central to creating notions of American identity. Factors impacting debates about inclusion and exclusion such as class, race and ethnicity, gender, and generations will all receive attention. Students will read texts from history, political science, sociology, anthropology, economics, and cultural studies. The American experience with constructing models of citizenship will be compared with other national narratives, including those of Germany, France, Poland, Great Britain, and Canada (all with different histories of citizenship). The role of the European Union will also be integrated into the debate about evolving models of citizenship and identity in a transatlantic context.

155 b) Varieties of Citizenship and Identity in a Transatlantic Context

PSW/LN, 2 SWS

Tuesday, 17:15-18:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Prof. Garrett, Crister

The proseminar will explore what is meant by citizenship in the American experience, and why this concept has been so central to creating notions of American identity. Factors impacting debates about inclusion and exclusion such as class, race and ethnicity, gender, and generations will all receive attention. Students will read texts from history, political science, sociology, anthropology, economics, and cultural studies. The American experience with constructing models of citizenship will be compared with other national narratives, including those of Germany, France, Poland, Great Britain, and Canada (all with different histories of citizenship). The role of the European Union will also be integrated into the debate about evolving models of citizenship and identity in a transatlantic context.

Sprachpraxis

171 Strategies of Writing

ÜW/LN, 2 SWS

Monday, 15:15-16:45

SG 1-37/38

Sharpe, Catherine

(eine Variante von Composition I)

Mag. Amerikanistik (bes. HF), LA und Wirtsch.-päd. bei Orientierung auf US-English

E: in der ersten Unterrichtsstunden

This writing course covers the form, function, development, and structure of both the English paragraph as the basis of composition and the descriptive essay. It also serves as the necessary basis for its successor Writing for Academic Purposes. Emphasis is placed on discovering, structuring, and developing clear, effective ideas in relation to the writer's purpose, subject, and audience. Course members learn to identify the patterns of and avoid the pitfalls of mother-tongue interference as well as to use conventional stylistic devices to improve their written fluency. Students expected to directly apply the strategies acquired in this course to their other North American Studies courses.

172 Interactive Oral Discourse (US English)

Tuesday, 13:15 - 14:45

ÜO/LN, 2 SWS

SG 3-31/32

Sharpe, Catherine

This course will focus on systematically improving the academic processes of organizing clear, effective short presentations and discussions as well as on practising language function skills typical of spoken English as used in the context of the university; it also serves as the basis for its Hauptstudium successor, Presentations and Discussions.

The course has been designed to promote students' communicative proficiency while insight into US-culture is gained through current English usage. Students will therefore be expected to share the knowledge of their respective subject areas and field questions from the group to stimulate topical discussions.

MAGISTER HAUPTSTUDIUM

Literaturwissenschaft

201 Double Jeopardy - African American Women's literature

Wednesday, 11:15 AM - 12:45 PM: SG 2-33/34

Koenen
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/152

Literary History of African American Women's Literature

202 Psychoanalysis and Literature

Thursday, 11:15 AM - 12:45 PM: SG 2-35/36

Koenen
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/153

A survey of Freudian theory and analysis of select American texts on the basis of psychoanalysis

203 From Poe to Paretsky - Detective Fiction

Wednesday, 01:15 PM - 02:45 PM: SG 2-33/34

Koenen
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/154

On the basis of theories of popular culture, we will analyze novels written in this popular genre.

204 Writing Food, Writing Culture

HSW/LN, 2 SWS

Thursday, 15:15-16:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Dr. Kanzler, Katja

E: Prior registration is necessary (via Lehrbox, Oct. 4-9, 2006)

From Mary Rowlandon's ostentatious refusal to eat the food offered by her Indian captors, to the unnamed protagonist's emphatic "I yam what I am!" in Richard Ellison's *Invisible Man*, American authors have used food to unfold their stories. Their texts feature food – a wide variety of fare as well as scenes of its preparation, consumption, or refusal – as potent and multifaceted metaphors.

In this class, we will explore some dimensions of this literary tradition. We will pay particular attention to the ways in which food imagery has helped American literature negotiate issues of national identity, ethnic belonging, gender roles, and psychological as well as corporeal selfhood. We will discuss how food unfolds its signifying potential in genres ranging from poetry to the novel or autobiography. Finally, we will consider some of the ways in which food imagery has inspired literary theory.

205 The Roots of American Regionalism, 1865-1925

Wednesday, 09:15 AM - 10:45 AM: GWZ R. 2.516

Johanningsmeier
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/157

The United States often appears to have a quite homogeneous and monolithic culture. What is often overlooked, however, are the wide differences between the cultures of America's various geographic regions. This course will examine how, during an extremely formative period of American history, regionalist fictions – written by inhabitants of the different regions – not only helped shape Americans' understandings of the country's regions but also highlighted the often difficult relationship between those in control of American culture (chiefly in cities) and those who speak from its margins. Authors whose works will be included are: Bret Harte, Mary Wilkins Freeman, Sarah Orne Jewett, Charles Chesnutt, Hamlin Garland, Kate Chopin, Sherwood Anderson, and Willa Cather.

Kulturgeschichte

251 Civil Rights Movement

Tuesday, 09:15 AM - 10:45 AM: SG 1-39/40

Keil
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/147

The seminar will analyze the socio-political, economic, and cultural preconditions for the rise of the Civil Rights Movement. It will then look in closer detail at its history, institutions, personalities, as well as at the issues involved. Included will be questions of motifs, supporting base, membership and elites, ideologies and strategies, actions and reactions of local, state, and federal governments, forms of resistance, special events (e.g. sit-ins in North Carolina, Freedom Rides, Mississippi Freedom Summer, Birmingham/Alabama). Analysis will end with an evaluation of the Civil Rights Movement. The PBS documentary series „Eyes on the Prize“ will be included in the seminar.

Please take notice: because of my absences during a study tour and a conference this seminar will meet at the following days: 10/24, 11/7, 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 1/9/2007, Wed 1/10 17 h, 1/16, Wed 1/17 17 h, 1/23, Wed 1/24, 17 h, 1/30.

252 Third Parties in the American Political System

Tuesday, 03:15 PM - 04:45 PM: SG 1-63/64

Keil
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/148

The seminar will address the basic issue why third parties have failed in the American political system. The political system itself, and the history and structure of the two-party system will be analyzed, before specific case studies will be taken up to understand the historical nature of third-party organization and politics. These case studies include the rise of the Republican party (as the only successful third party), parties on the left and right of the political spectrum, single-issue parties, parties arising from protest movements, and parties formed because of internal dissent in one of the major parties.

Please take notice: because of my absences during a study tour and a conference this seminar will meet at the following days: 10/24, 11/7, 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 1/9/2007, Mo 1/15 19 h, 1/16, Mo 1/22 19 h, 1/23, Mo 1/29 19 h, 1/30

253 Values in American Society and Culture

Wednesday, 01:15 PM - 02:45 PM: SG 1-35/36

Keil
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/149

The seminar will look at what are considered to be core values in American society and culture and if these have been reinterpreted, changed, challenged over time. The focus will be on developments from World War II to the present, especially on the relationship of social and value change. How have post-industrial and post-modern developments affected the acceptance of traditional institutions, norms, and values? Where is the conflict between traditionalists and reformers acted out? The following issues will be included: Gender roles, family, abortion, education, gay rights, Christian fundamentalism v. civil religion and the state; cultural identities and national identity; the understanding of federalism; political correctness debate; social pluralism and multiculturalism; affirmative action debate; immigration: sense of community v. sense of alienation; Protestant ethic v. hedonism.

Please take notice: because of my absences during a study tour and a conference this seminar will meet at the following days: 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20, 1/10/2007, Tue 1/16 19 h, 1/17, Tue 1/23 19 h, 1/24, Tue 1/30 19 h, 1/31.

254 MA-Kolloquium

Monday, 05:15 PM - 06:45 PM: Beethovenstr. 15, R. 3.515

Keil
www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/150

Das Kolloquium ist für Studierende obligatorisch, die im Wintersemester 2006/2007 ihre Magisterarbeit in Amerikanischer Kulturgeschichte, betreut von Prof. Keil, schreiben.

255 a) Citizenship, Mobility, and Globalization in a Transatlantic Context

HSW/LN, 2 SWS

Wednesday, 13:15-14:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Prof. Garrett, Crister

Formal citizenship is still granted exclusively by the nation-state (including among EU member states). The growing mobility inherent in our era of globalization places increasing challenges however on current definitions of citizenship, from basic political and social rights, and obligations, to more general aspects of citizenship such as its cultural context (e.g., language and education). This Hauptseminar will explore how the United States is debating the impact of globalization on its models of citizenship, and what this entails for the country's notions of identity, and international politics. To place the American debate and experience regarding this fundamental question impacting the future of nation and state in a broader context, we will compare and contrast the American story with other members of the transatlantic space, including Canada, Germany, France, Great Britain, and Poland. The role of the EU will also be explored in constructing new models of citizenship.

255 b) Citizenship, Mobility, and Globalization in a Transatlantic Context

HSW/LN, 2 SWS

Wednesday, 15:15-16:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Prof. Garrett, Crister

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BACHELOR

Modul "Literature and Culture I"

301 Literature and Culture: American Literature from Beginnings to Present

V, 2 SWS

Thursday, 09:15-10:45

Städtisches Kaufhaus, R. 0207

Prof. Koenen, Anne

The lectures will provide an overview of central literary movements and authors in American literature against the background of influential socio-cultural developments.

302 a) Literature and Culture I

PSW/LN, 2 SWS

Tuesday, 11:15-12:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Kusmierz, Zoe Antonia

Teil des Pflichtmoduls "Literature & Culture I" für Bachelor American Studies.

Offen für Studierende im Wahlbereich im Rahmen der Aufnahmekapazität (Zugangsvoraussetzung: Kenntnis der englischen Sprache mindestens Stufe B2 Europ. Referenzrahmen).

E: Für BA-Studierende über HIS LSF.

Magisterstudierende, die die obligatorische Ü "Introduction to Literary Studies" noch nicht besucht haben, können sich nach Absprache in den 'Ferien'-Sprechzeiten in die LV einschreiben.

In this class, we will acquaint ourselves with and practice the methods and terminology of American literary studies. The course will cover exemplary analyses and interpretations of literary texts as well as an introduction to contemporary approaches in literary theory.

302 b) Literature and Culture I

PS/LN, 2 SWS

Thursday, 11:15-12:45

Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Dr. Kanzler, Katja

Teil des Pflichtmoduls "Literature & Culture I" für Bachelor American Studies.

Offen für Studierende im Wahlbereich im Rahmen der Aufnahmekapazität (Zugangsvoraussetzung: Kenntnis der englischen Sprache mindestens Stufe B2 Europ. Referenzrahmen).

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303 a) Literature and Culture I

Ü/LN, 2 SWS

Tuesday, 09:15-10:45

SG 3-31/32

Sharpe, Catherine

This course intends to deal with literary theory and analysis from the language practice perspective. The writing skills required for its parallel course, PS Literature & Culture I, will be developed here through practical assignments given. There will be particular focus on the form, function, and structure of the English paragraph and also on providing a sound introduction on the how to write the English essay.

303 b) Literature and Culture I

Ü/LN, 2 SWS

Tuesday, 11:15-12:45

SG 3-31/32

Sharpe, Catherine

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Modul "Key Skills Module (Schlüsselqualifikationsmo

304 international, interdisciplinary, integrated: Technical, Academic, Soft,...

...and Career Skills (iTASK)

Monday, 15:15-16:45
Beethovenstr. 15, R. 2.516

Prof. Garrett, Crister

There are four types of skills that determine to a large degree a student's success at university, and in different careers after receiving a diploma. These are technical, academic, soft, and career skills. Moreover, the type of knowledge that one acquires at university plays a key role in how one thrives after leaving campus life. Especially important is knowledge that is international, interdisciplinary, and integrated into larger issues engaging societies worldwide. We will explore each set of skills, what they mean, and how to develop these further. We will do so by simultaneously exploring how they relate to the sort of knowledge and expertise expected across all sectors of the work world.

We will integrate our learning experience together by developing your own studies-and-career-portfolio where you lay out goals, objectives, and plans for the next five years. This is the last but perhaps primary importance of the "i" before the TASK ahead, namely, it should be your individual experience that prepares you to thrive during your studies and career development.