

Veranstalter:	Claudia Heuer, M. A.
Thema:	Introduction to the Industrial Novel [AA-A2, ENG-6, AA-W]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar Ib
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-542
Zeit:	2st., Mi 12 – 14
Raum:	Phil 1269
Beginn:	6. April 2011
<p>Kommentar zur Veranstaltung:</p> <p>It has been said that it is almost impossible to separate industrialism and the novel in the early Victorian period. Life changed dramatically under the influence and impression of steam engines, factories, railroads, and urbanization. Large parts of the population, who used to be peripheral, became central to the projects of novelists and social reformers alike. The issue of social responsibility of the middle classes gained in relevance. Thomas Carlyle even addressed the condition of the working classes as the “Condition of England” question. Among the many texts of the period addressing social issues in general and the consequences of industrialization in particular, there is a group of novels which is more directly concerned with the depiction of working-class life and culture. Catering to the needs of the middle-class reading public, however, their drastic depictions of the condition of the working classes serve a double function: They define the social gap between their object and the middle-class reader and, at the same time, bridge that very gap. This course is going to look at the narrative forms this kind of double-edged socio-political purpose takes. We are going to explore the political and social concerns, which are at stake in the texts, bearing in mind that there was a profound lack of knowledge among the middle-classes about working-class culture. The course will include Elizabeth Gaskell’s <i>Mary Barton</i>, Benjamin Disraeli’s <i>Sybil, or the Two Nations</i> and Charles Dickens’s <i>Hard Times</i>. These texts are available in the Oxford World’s Classics series and must be purchased before the start of the term. The other novels, i.e. Frances Trollope, <i>Michael Armstrong</i>, <i>the Factory Boy</i> and Charles Kingsley, <i>Alton Locke</i>, <i>Tailor and Poet</i> are accessible via the online university library system as free downloads.</p> <p>Course requirements (<i>Scheinanforderungen</i>):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) regular and active participation (no unexcused absences) (2) oral presentation and handout (3) term paper (10-12 pages) 	
Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	nach Vereinbarung per E-Mail
Sprechstunden während der Semesterferien:	nach Vereinbarung per E-Mail