

Veranstalter:	<b>Prof. Dr. Ute Berns</b>
Thema:	<b>Historiographic Metafiction: The Contemporary Historical Novel [AA-V3a/b, ENG-12, AA-M4, AA-M6, AA-M13, AA-W]</b>
Art der Veranstaltung:	<b>Seminar II</b>
Veranstaltungsnummer:	<b>53-549</b>
Zeit:	<b>2st., Di 14-16</b>
Raum:	<b>Phil 1219</b>
Beginn:	<b>5. April 2011</b>
<p><b>Kommentar zur Veranstaltung:</b></p> <p>In the context of postmodernist fiction some British historical novels displays those remarkable signs of ‘self-awareness’ which have called forth the label ‘historiographic metafiction’. This description applies to texts which do not only attempt to re-create, in a fictional space, settings, persons or events from history, but which explicitly thematize, at the same time, the various difficulties and paradoxes besetting this enterprise. The first example in this course will be John Fowles’s <i>The French Lieutenant’s Woman</i>, which inaugurated this type of novel to critical acclaim in 1969. Set in the Victorian Age it centres on a love story that gradually forces the characters to rebel against all social hierarchies and conventions. In Graham Swift’s <i>Waterland</i> (1983) a history teacher, facing opposition in his class, swerves from the syllabus (the French Revolution) to the local history of his family, involving murder and incest in the English Fenlands. And the third text to be discussed is Penelope Lively’s <i>Moon Tiger</i> (Booker Prize 1987), featuring a historian who recalls her life in Britain and Egypt from fragments of public history and private memory. As they tell their stories, all of these novels insert explicit comments on how they explore and collapse the boundary between fact and fiction. Two novels have been turned into films – which will also be discussed in class.</p> <p>Students will be required to buy the following texts which have been ordered at Reuter &amp; Klöckner: John Fowles, <i>The French Lieutenant’s Woman</i>, Vintage 2004; Graham Swift, <i>Waterland</i>, Picador 2010; Penelope Lively, <i>Moon Tiger</i>, Penguin Modern Classics 2006.</p> <p>Requirements for a <i>Schein</i>: regular attendance and active participation, good knowledge of the set texts (Fowles’s novel for the second session), a presentation in class, a term paper (15-20 pages).</p>	
<b>Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:</b>	
<b>Sprechstunden während der Semesterferien:</b>	