

Veranstalter	Prof. Dr. Virginia Ricard
Thema	Vladimir Nabokov: <i>Lolita</i> [AA-A3, ENG-7, AA-W]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar Ib
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-564
Zeit	2st, Mi 12-14
Raum	Phil 1219
Beginn	06.04.11

Course description:



"Art at its greatest is fantastically deceitful and complex", wrote Nabokov. *Lolita*, the novel that made him "a great American writer" is certainly both of those things. A fairy tale, a travelogue, a case study in child abuse, the monologue of a madman, *Lolita* is also a love story. Its words — including its famous beginning, "Lolita, light of my life, fire of my loins" — are almost always memorable more in the manner of a lyric poem than a novel. Originally censored as a "lewd book," *Lolita* is widely read today both within in the Academe and without.

In this course we will examine *Lolita* from all these perspectives and more, through a series of close readings of key passages. Since, according to Nabokov, "curiously enough, one cannot read a book: one can only reread it," students will be expected to have finished reading *Lolita* once for the first class. We can then *reread* it together. The annotated edition (Alfred Appel, Vintage Books) is very useful.

Depending on class interest, we may also include one or both film adaptations of the novel in our study.

Requirements:

Apart from formal requirements, active participation in the seminar sessions (oral presentation) and a term paper of 12 – 15 pages is required.