

Veranstalterin:	Rebekka Rohleder, M. A.
Thema:	Modernism and the City [AA-A2, ENG-6, AA-W]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar Ib
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53 540
Zeit:	2st., Mo, 12-14:00
Raum:	Phil 1250
Beginn:	02.04.2012

Kommentar zur Veranstaltung:

It is, of course, almost a truism that modernist writing is self-consciously concerned with modernity – with the perception that (according to Virginia Woolf's famous dictum) “on or about December, 1910, human character changed.” One crucial way in which modernist fiction explores (and constructs) modernity is writing about the city – as a utopian or dystopian place; as a space where everyday life and social interaction have found new forms, which require new narrative (and poetic) forms in their turn; as a space which was still under construction, as modernist architecture proposed to change the city as it had been into something entirely different. In this seminar, we will therefore trace the modernist concept(s) of the city and explore the city spaces constructed in some key modernist texts: James Joyce's *Dubliners*, Christopher Isherwood's *Goodbye to Berlin*, Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*, and T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*.

NB: This is a topic that makes it extremely worthwhile to look beyond English literature, into other literatures as well as film, the visual arts, architecture, possibly even music, and subjects such as the beginnings of sociology. Which of these we will actually include (probably in the form of student presentations) will be decided in the first week, according to the interests and expertise of participants.

The usual conditions for getting a “Schein” apply: regular and active(!) participation, a short presentation, and a term paper (~10 pages).

Texts:

If you do not own an edition already, please acquire the following editions:

Christopher Isherwood: *Goodbye to Berlin*. London: Vintage, 1998. ISBN: 9780749390549.

James Joyce: *Dubliners*. Ed. Terence Brown. London: Penguin, 2000. ISBN: 9780141182452.

PLEASE NOTE: *DUBLINERS* WILL BE THE FIRST TEXT WE WILL READ. YOU WILL THEREFORE HAVE TO HAVE ACQUIRED AND READ THE BOOK BY APRIL 16.

Virginia Woolf: *Mrs Dalloway*. Ed. David Bradshaw. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780199536009.

All other texts will be provided in a reader and/or on Agora.

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	nach Vereinbarung per E-mail
Sprechstunden während der Semesterferien:	nach Vereinbarung per E-mail