

Veranstalter.....	Verena Keidel, M.A.
Thema.....	From “terrible beauties“ to cat-loving terrorists: the Anglo-Irish conflict in poetry, drama and film [AA-A2, ENG-6/a, AA-W]
Art der Veranstaltung.....	Seminar Ib
Veranstaltungsnummer.....	53-541
Zeit.....	2st., Di 12-14
Raum.....	Phil 564
Beginn.....	03.04.2012

Course description:

This course introduces you to (lyrical and dramatic) Anglo-Irish writing by setting it in its historical context: the Irish War of Independence and Civil War between 1916-23 and the “Troubles“ in Northern Ireland beginning in the late 1960s. You will examine Anglo-Irish literature and conflicts in history by debating issues such as (political) violence, the construction of an Irish identity, as well as gendered expressions of nationality.

We will start with selected reading by the modernist poet W. B. Yeats, committed defender of the “Irish cause“ but also devoted advocate for the English cultural heritage. We will also engage with the works of Seamus Heaney and his approach of interpreting the violence in Northern Ireland against the backdrop of myth and an archaic past. We will round things off with a more recent Anglo-Irish play, *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* (2001), by playwright and director Martin McDonagh. McDonagh, citing Scorsese and Tarantino as influences on his dramatic work, unfolds a gruesome but highly amusing play about an Irish terrorist seeking bloody vengeance for the death of his beloved cat.

Films selected for viewing include Ken Loach’s controversial Cannes-winning film *The Wind that shakes the Barley* (2006), whose anti-imperialist reading of the Anglo-Irish conflict aroused outrageous criticism in Great Britain. We will end the seminar by discussing the cinematic representation of provincial Ireland in the crime-comedy *The Guard* (2011) directed by McDonagh’s brother John Michael McDonagh.

Required texts:

You must purchase an edition of Martin McDonagh’s *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* (Methuen, 2001). A reader on Yeats and Heaney will be provided. Additional (theoretical) reading will be made available electronically or in class handouts.

Credit requirements involve regular and active participation, an oral presentation and a term paper (10-13 pages)

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	Nach Vereinbarung per e-mail.
Sprechstunden während der Semesterferien:	Nach Vereinbarung per e-mail.