

<b>Veranstalter</b> .....	<b>Prof. Dr. Monika Pietrzak-Franger</b>
<b>Thema</b> .....	<b>Reading Illness: The Major Theories</b> [AA-V3a/b, ENG-12, AA-MA3, AA-MA4, AA10, LAA9, LAA12, AA-W, AA-WB ]
<b>Art der Veranstaltung</b> .....	<b>Seminar II</b>
<b>Veranstaltungsnummer</b> .....	<b>53-548</b>
<b>Zeit</b> .....	<b>Blockseminar 13.-17. Juli 2015</b>
<b>Raum</b> .....	
<b>Beginn</b> .....	<b>Preparatory session: 7. April 2015, Phil 1219</b>

### Course description:



Ludmila Jordanova argues that "medicine is [...] a form of visual culture, as well as being an integral part of other [...] cultures" (90). This fundamental intertwining of medical practice, representational traditions, scopic regimes and hermeneutic practice is as old as medicine itself. It is this interlacing which constitutes the focus of our study. In this seminar, we will ask how medical concepts have been made visible and legible through and in a variety of media. We will also ask in how far discourses around body, gender, race and class have informed these practices. These questions will be accompanied by more fundamental queries concerning (personal and national) identities.

This seminar has two core aims: 1) it offers students a number of theoretical approaches to 'reading' and 'interpreting' diseases and 2) it introduces them to various ways in which diseases have been presented and explained. In the course of the semester, students will become acquainted with a number of historically specific representational strategies and a variety of texts (e.g. dermatological atlases, paintings, sculptures, (Röntgen) photographs, films, museums, TV series, graphic novels, literary and medical works) from ancient times until today.

After the theoretical preparation in reading and understanding diseases and the discourses they have generated, students will have a chance to hear and work with international experts on the topic; they will also make use of the materials belonging to the Medical Museum in Hamburg to use the knowledge they have acquired in practice.

There will be a preparatory session early in the semester (7 April 2015; 6 pm) when the specific materials and topics will be introduced.