

Veranstalter.....	<b>Georg Maier</b>
Thema.....	<b>An Introduction to Varieties of English [AA-A1, ENG-4, ENG-5, AA-M1, AA-W]</b>
Art der Veranstaltung.....	<b>Seminar Ib</b>
Veranstaltungsnummer.....	<b>53-508</b>
Zeit.....	<b>2st., Mo 16-18</b>
Ort.....	<b>Phil 1250</b>
Beginn.....	<b>18. Oktober 2010</b>

Why study varieties of English? – Because, as we all know, language communities are by no means homogenous. This is especially true for a ‘world language’ such as English, which has not only expanded considerably within the last centuries but also exhibits a wide scope of regional and social differentiation. Thus, this seminar aims at familiarising students with different types of varieties and with the structural variation within the English language.

Though this seminar focuses particularly on morphosyntactic peculiarities of regional varieties of English, we will start our course by introducing the most important types of varieties, including social, functional and regional varieties and we will clarify central notions such as *lect*, *dialect*, *accent*, *pidgin*, *creole*, etc. In a second step, we will address the problem of distinguishing between standard and non-standard varieties of English in order to boost the awareness for linguistic variation and also for the sometimes tricky question whether a feature is actually standard or non-standard. Furthermore, a brief but practical introduction into language corpora and concordance programmes will be offered in order to acquaint students with the most important tools to study varieties of English.

Then, of course, we will focus on different geographical varieties of English. This survey will include varieties of English in regions in which English is the predominant (first) language, such as Scotland and Ireland, but also varieties in regions in which English is used as (national) lingua franca, such as India and South Africa. This survey will be complemented with an introduction into pidgin and creole varieties of English, exemplified with Tok Pisin and Jamaican Creole.

Participants are expected to attend regularly, participate actively, do the reading and homework assignments, give an oral presentation in class and submit a term paper.

### **Literature:**

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- Britan, David., ed. 2007. *Language in the British Isles*. Cambridge: CUP.
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- Chambers, J.K./Peter Trudgill. 1998.<sup>2</sup> *Dialectology*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Chambers, J.K./Peter Trudgill/Natalie Schilling-Estes, eds. 2002. *Handbook of language variation and change*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Faráclas, Nicholas. 1996. *Nigerian Pidgin*. London: Routledge.
- Holm, John A. 1988-89. *Pidgins and creoles*. 2 vols. Cambridge: CUP.
- Kortmann, Bernd. 2005. *English linguistics: Essentials*. Berlin: Cornelsen.
- Kortmann, Bernd/Edgar Schneider/Kate Burridge/Raj Mesthrie/Clive Upton, eds. 2004. *A handbook of varieties of English*, 2. Vols. Berlin/New York: Mouton de Gruyter. (+ CD-ROM)
- Mesthrie, Rajend/Rakesh M. Bhatt. 2008. *World Englishes*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Milroy, James/Lesley Milroy, eds. 1993. *Real English: The grammar of English dialects in the British Isles*. London: Longman.
- Mufwene, Salikoko S./John R. Rickford/John Baugh/Guy Bailey, eds. 1998. *African-American English. Structure, history and use*. London/New York: Routledge.
- Mühlhäusler, Peter. 1997.<sup>2</sup> *Pidgin and Creole linguistics*. London: University of Westminster Press.
- Trudgill, Peter. 1999<sup>2</sup>. *The dialects of England*. Cambridge, Mass.: Blackwell.
- Trudgill, Peter/J.K. Chambers, eds. 1991. *Dialects of English: Studies in grammatical variation*. London: Longman.