

Veranstalter	Prof. Ute Berns/Prof. Susanne Rohr
Thema	Literary and Cultural Theory [AA-V3a/b, ENG-12, AA-V4a/b, ENG-6a, ENG-7a, ENG-13, AA-M11, AA-M12, AA-M13, AA-W, SLM-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung	Vorlesung
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-533
Zeit	Mo 16-18
Raum	Phil B
Beginn	13.10.2014

Course description:

This lecture series presents you with a broad survey of the most important theoretical frameworks shaping the practice of English and American studies today. It offers orientation for your own writing projects, whether essays or theses, and for understanding the secondary literature you come across in the course of your research. The lectures include theories that are predominantly text-centred, and they cover theories that focus on specific relations between texts and the cultures of their production and reception. You will be familiarized with labels like hermeneutics and semiotics, deconstruction and poststructuralism, psychoanalytic and Marxist theories, new historicism and cultural studies, gender and postcolonial theory, and with the basic theoretical ideas for which they stand. Each individual lecture will introduce a specific theoretical framework. We will explain central premises and arguments of the theory, and name its most important representatives. We will spell out the kinds of questions the theory would suggest regarding a given text, and we will indicate the methods that might be employed to pursue these questions. By way of an example, we will sketch how the theory under discussion can be applied to a specific text. The subject-matter of this lecture series forms a point of reference in the seminars of this module and beyond; attendance is strongly recommended!