

Veranstalter.....	N.N.
Thema.....	<b>Migration Island - Fictional Accounts of Irish Migration</b>
Art der Veranstaltung.....	<b>Seminar 1b</b>
Veranstaltungsnummer....	<b>53-544</b>
Zeit .....	<b>2st. Mo. 10-12</b>
Raum .....	<b>Phil 1250</b>
Beginn.....	<b>13. Oktober 2013</b>

**Course Description:** Emigration has been a defining feature of Irish history for, at least, the last two centuries. Ever since the mid-nineteenth century Great Famine and the resulting wave of mass emigration, that reduced the population of Ireland to about half its size in a mere sixty years, the image of the poor Irishman ‘taking the boat’ towards the New World has become firmly established in cultural consciousness. More recently, however, the economic boom of the Celtic Tiger in the mid-1990’s has dramatically changed Ireland’s economic realities and a growing demand for labour has led to a huge influx of immigrants from less prosperous areas, particularly Eastern Europe. Many of these immigrants have faced some of the very same challenges Irish emigrants of previous generations have faced abroad and have, also, often found emersion into their host culture difficult if not impossible. The course aims to analyse the ways contemporary authors have addressed the challenging experience, often manifesting as a personal crisis, of both Irish emigration and immigration to Ireland and the related complex concepts of ‘home’, ‘dwelling’, ‘displacement’, ‘exile’ and ‘multiculturalism’, raising the question what it means to be Irish in an increasingly globalized world.

Coursework will include Frank McCourt’s *Angela’s Ashes*, Colm Tóibín’s *Brooklyn*, Chris Binchy’s *Open-handed*, short stories by Roddy Doyle and poetry by Eavan Boland.

We will start discussing *Angela’s Ashes* in the third week of the term (27.10) so make sure you have read up to page 210 by then.

**Credit Requirements:** Students will be required to attend regularly, participate actively, give a presentation and hand in a term paper.

**Texts:** Please make sure to acquire the following editions so that we can all work with the same texts. Frank McCourt *Angela’s Ashes* (London: Harper Perennial, 2005), Colm Tóibín *Brooklyn* (Penguin Books: London, 2010) and Chris Binchy *Open-handed* (Penguin Books: London, 2009). These editions have been ordered by the **Heine Buchhandlung**. All other texts will be provided.

