

Veranstalter .....	<b>Prof. Dr. Hans-Peter Rodenberg</b>
Thema .....	<b>American Film Genres: The Classical American Film Comedy (AA-V4a/b, ENG-13, AA-M14, AA-M15, AA-M16, AA-MA1, AA-MA2, AA-MA5, MUK-.V1, MUK-WB]</b>
Art der Veranstaltung .....	<b>Seminar II</b>
Veranstaltungsnummer .....	<b>53-566</b>
Zeit .....	<b>2st. Mi 8-10</b>
Raum .....	<b>Phil 1269</b>
Beginn .....	<b>15. Oktober 2014</b>



If the Western genre has mythicised the emergence of the American nation, the American Film Comedy has recorded almost seismographically the needs, desires and state of mind of the common American during the last century. Almost all of the great Hollywood directors have thus produced comedies that unveil the vanities and human weaknesses of their contemporaries. Whether Ernst Lubitsch introduced the European operetta as social comedy during the 1920s, Frank Capra led the "screwball comedy" to its climax or Howard Hawks staged classics such as *Bringin' up Baby* – the beginnings of American cinema as well as the classical period of Hollywood have always exploited the entertainment and amusement values of the film comedy.

The seminar will follow and analyse the development of the genre with selected samples. Priority will be the analysis of continuous generic structures and the social reference of the movies.

Requirements for credit: Group presentation in class and a written paper (Hausarbeit)