

Veranstalter:	Prof. Dr. Ute Berns
Modul:	Climate Change in Transatlantic Literature and Culture [ENG-6, ENG-6a, ENG-7, ENG-7a, ENG-12, ENG-13, AA7, AA10, AA11, LAA9, LAA10, LAA12, LAA13, AA-MA01, AA-MA02, AA-MA03, AA-MA04]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-548
Zeit:	2st. Di 16-18
Raum:	Ü35-01047
Beginn:	07.04.2020

Climate fiction or cli-fi: the outline of a new genre?

Climate change or man-made/anthropogenic global warming has rapidly become a defining force and topic of our age and future. *Climate fiction* or *cli-fi* is the label of a newly emerging and rapidly growing genre whose precise boundaries are still subject to debate. In a broad sense cli-fi can be traced in literature, cinema, TV series, the theatre or across the arts. Cli-fi draws, above all, on the scientific modelling of global warming and the reporting of real-world events related to global warming in the media (e.g. the melting of ant/artic ice, or floods, wildfires and hurricanes). Cli-fi narratives depict causes or effects of the changing climate in fictional worlds and explore the manifold human and non-human entanglement in these changes.

In this seminar we will cover literature and visual media as we trace the topics, forms and varied genres (from diaries to dystopias) in which climate fiction takes shape. We will discuss the emerging critical perspectives on climate fiction as well as relevant concepts of analysis in the wider environmental humanities. And we will try to assess the diverse cultural and political functions climate fiction fulfills as it contributes to the cultural imaginary. To what an extent do individual climate fictions amplify a sense of doom or, alternatively, engender visions of planetary transformation? Can they initiate agency and political empowerment?

Course requirements:

Regular attendance and excellent knowledge of the set texts/films; course assignments (e.g. reading responses or participation in expert groups) during the semester and (to receive the maximum credit points) a term paper.

Note: Students who are registered but who do not show up for the first session will automatically be set "inactive."

Sprechstunden im Semester:	s. Sprechstundenliste
Sprechstunden in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	s. Sprechstundenliste