

Veranstalter	Prof. Dr. Stephan Karschay
Thema	Introduction to British Literature and Culture [AA2, LAA2, LAA15, IAA11]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar Ia
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-536
Zeit	Dienstag, 12-14
Raum	[online]
Beginn	6 April 2021

Course description:

If you can make sense of the host of squiggly symbols and marks on this page, you are presumably able to read. This course, however, is designed to teach you how to ‘read’ – that is to say, it will equip you with the requisite tools and methods to analyse literature (and, indeed, all manner of cultural texts) in a scholarly and systematic fashion. After engaging in foundational questions about the nature of literature and texts in general, you will be introduced to the key concepts employed in the analysis of genre (poetry, drama, and narrative fiction) and media (theatre and film). In the course of term, you will not only be made familiar with a broad selection of poetry, as we will also read one play by William Shakespeare (the tragedy *Othello*) and one novel (Penelope Lively’s Booker-winning *Moon Tiger*) in their entirety. Thus you should get a first impression of the great variety of British literature and culture. Time permitting, we will briefly look at different schools of critical theory to help you understand what is at stake when we look at texts from a particular perspective (say, as feminist, poststructuralist, or postcolonial critics). Parallel attendance of the lecture *History of British Literature* is highly recommended, as it will provide you with the relevant cultural contexts for our analyses.

Set texts (Purchase paper copies if possible.)

Lively, Penelope. *Moon Tiger* [1987]. London: Penguin, 2006. [ISBN 9780141188317]

Shakespeare, William. *Othello* [c. 1603]. Revised Edition. With a New Introduction by Ayanna Thompson. Ed. E. A. J. Honigmann. London: Bloomsbury, 2016. (The Arden Shakespeare – Third Series) [ISBN 9781472571762]

Recommended for your studies:

Greenblatt, Stephen *et al.* (ed.). *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* (6 vols). New York: W. W. Norton.

Löffler, Arno and Eberhard Späth (eds). *English Poetry: Eine Anthologie für das Studium*. Tübingen: Francke, 2003.

Studienleistung

Regular and active participation, an obligatory tutorial that accompanies the class and is taught by Katharina Bueschler and Marie Isabelle Sauthoff, preparation of the reading material for both the seminar and the tutorial, completion of short homework assignments (of which you may miss a maximum of one).

Prüfungsleistung

Two academic essays (ca. 1,500 words each).