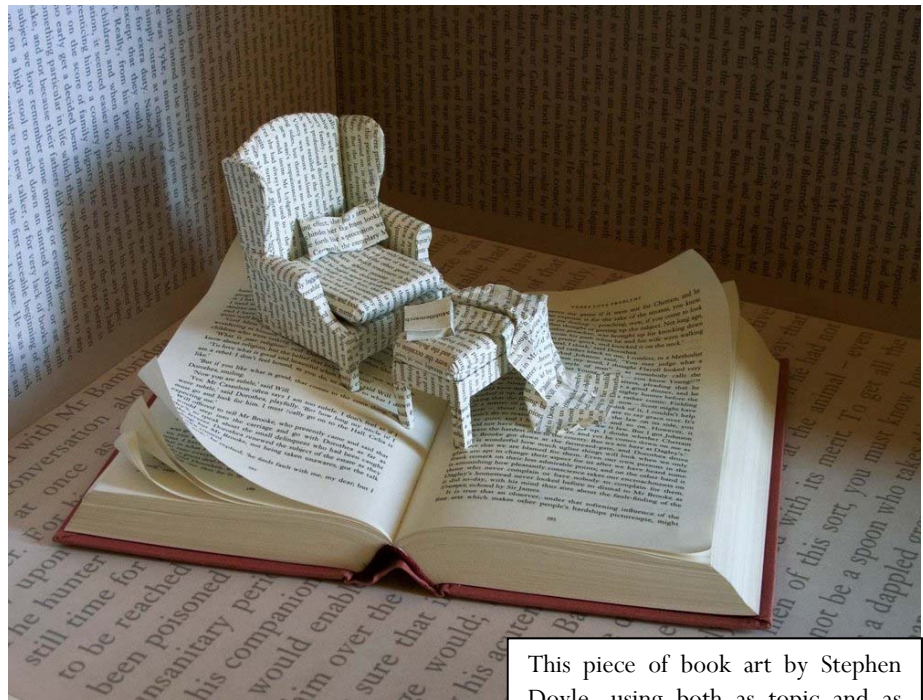


Veranstalterin	Dr. Julia Boll
Thema	Reading <i>Middlemarch</i>
Art der Veranstaltung	Übung [SLM-WB, Master-WB]
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-553
Zeit	Do 12-14, fortnightly
Raum	(synchron digital)
Beginn	08 April 2021

Publishing under the pen name George Eliot, Mary Ann Evans was already a successful writer when she wrote her realist novel *Middlemarch, a Study of Provincial Life*, which was published in eight individual books between December 1871 and December 1872. It was to become her most celebrated novel. Described as "one of the few English novels for grown-up people" by Virginia Woolf (1919), *Middlemarch* has been praised as one of the most influential novels written in English. Set in the 1830s, in a time when everyone is expected to know their place, it follows several characters struggling to break free from societal constraints and trying to bring forth change. With her portrayal of a small town in the English Midlands Eliot represents the whole complexity and philosophical and psychological depth of English society.

In our course, we will follow the eight-book structure and engage closely with the text on a fortnightly basis.



This piece of book art by Stephen Doyle, using both as topic and as material George Eliot's novel *Middlemarch*, illustrates Joyce Carol Oates' op-ed on Rebecca Mead's reading memoir *My Life in Middlemarch* (2014), published in the *New York Times* on 23rd January 2014.

Reading List:

Students are asked to obtain the following:

- Eliot, George. 1871-72; 1874. *Middlemarch*.
→ Any English-language edition of the 1874 text; mine is the Norton Critical edition, edited by Bert G. Hornback, 2000.

There are various editions of *Middlemarch*, and I am not much fussed about which one you choose, as long as you take care to go for an 1874-text edition (the one based on the first single-volume publication). Norton as well as Penguin use this one as their base text.

If you use an e-reader, make sure you know how to navigate quickly and expertly within the text, how to mark passages (and find them again), how to make annotations, and how to quote properly from an eBook. I advise against working on smartphones for scholarly purposes.

Studienleistung: regular and active participation (also in teamwork), detailed knowledge of assigned texts/material, preparation of discussion questions and discussion leading, preparation of short audio clips.

Note: Registered students who fail to show up for the first session will automatically be set "inactive" on Stine, so that another student may take up their place.