

Veranstalter	Prof. Dr. Len Berkman
Thema	Twentieth to Early Twenty-First Century Stylistic Approaches to Writing Plays in the U.S. and Canada [AA-M14, AA-M15]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-575
Zeit	2st, Do 10-12
Raum	Phil 1250
Beginn	

Kursbeschreibung:

This course investigates the spectrum of forms and uses of stylistic variants (psychological, aesthetic, linguistic, sociological, philosophical and theatrical) that have prevailed in U.S. and Canadian plays from early in the 20th century to the present. Points of examined focus will be modes of character formation (including dramatized challenges to whether a 'character' can actually exist as 'defined' and as 'staged'). We will scrutinize

- the diversity of character motives and goals (and lack thereof)
- characters' distinct ways of communicating or of blocking communication
- playwrights' and characters' uses and intended abuses of language
- variant relationships between what a character says and what a character does
- scripted concepts of 'location', of circumstantial and physical setting
- theatrical ingredients that evoke an environment or 'world' specific to the play
- ways of inducing laughter and its array of roles in stimulating insights

We will scour parades of stylistic change in U.S. and Canadian drama stemming early on from plays by Gertrude Stein and then through plays by Alice Gerstenberg, Eugene O'Neill, e.e. cummings, Elmer Rice, Sophie Treadwell, William Saroyan, Tennessee Williams, Alice Childress, Robert Anderson, Tad Mosel, Maria-Irene Fornes, Michel Tremblay, Sarah Ruhl, Judith Thompson, George Walker, Tomson Highway, and Sky Gilbert. We will also explore short self-written scripts as a means of grasping from within ourselves the interweave between a playwright's choice of subject matter and that playwright's societal or universal vision, and the verbal/physical/visual elements of subject-matter dramatization that a playwright's toolbox can bring to bear on what a reader or audience is ideally to experience and realize.

Teilnahmevoraussetzungen:

Neben den formalen Voraussetzungen die nachgewiesene Bereitschaft zur regelmäßigen aktiven Teilnahme am Seminar, Anfertigung einer schriftlichen Hausarbeit.

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	.
Sprechstunden während der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	.