

Veranstalter	Annette Deutschendorf
Thema	Currency, Credit and Crisis in Anglo-American Financial History
Art der Veranstaltung	Wirtschaftsenglisch C [ENG-16]
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-642
Zeit	2st., Mo. 14-16
Raum	Phil 564 (1. Sitzung) / Computerraum Phil 170 nach Absprache im Kurs
Beginn	02. April 2012

Course description:

In the last two decades shareholders had an uneasy time, seeing how the value of their shares first rose and then plunged sharply, both in the dot-com crisis in 2000 and the subprime mortgage crisis in the late 2000s. In fact, stock market bubbles are recurring events in financial history. One of the earliest examples is the South Sea bubble in 1720. In a similar way, over the centuries sovereigns or governments have experimented with different forms of national credit to finance those expenses that exceeded tax revenues – in other words, the present European sovereign debt crisis has its predecessors in financial history.

Studying some of these bubbles and crises will allow us to see which characteristics they share and which historic circumstances contributed to their individual development. By looking at the history of the dollar and the pound we will also learn something about American and English history in general. Depending on individual interests and subjects, research topics could also include literary works that can be related to financial history.

At the beginning of the course, teams of two or three students should choose an aspect of the topic they would like to research. (A list of suggested topics will be provided.) As most of you plan to become teachers, we will experiment with alternatives to Powerpoint, such as VoiceThread, for the presentation of results in order to get first-hand experience of Internet-based software that has been successfully used in language teaching. I will present different alternatives at the beginning of the course, but any suggestions on your part are welcome! In order to give you the opportunity to work on your projects several sessions will take place in one of the computer rooms (Phil 170).

Course requirements:

- Business English courses A **and** B
- Research on a topic and presentation
- Regular attendance and active participation
- End-of-term exam or essay

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	Montag, 16-17 Uhr, Phil 1157
Sprechstunden während der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	Nach Vereinbarung per e-mail