

Veranstalter	Niklas Steih, M.A.
Thema	West African English Varieties [AA-A1, ENG-4, ENG-4a, ENG-5, AA-V1b, AA-V2b, AA9, LAA8, LAA11, AA-W, AA-WB, MOTION, Seminar Ib für Studierende mit Zulassung bis WS 14-15]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar Ib/II
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-510
Zeit	2st. Do 12-14
Raum	Phil 1269
Beginn	02.04.2015

Course description:

The present status of English as a global or “world language” and its wide range of expansion have led to a high level of differentiation, both in regional and social terms. This course will aim at bringing students into touch with different approaches towards structural variation within the English language. More precisely, it will address the evolution of the so-called New Englishes/World Englishes (NE/WE), varieties which came into existence in the postcolonial settings of Asia and Africa.

We will start our course by introducing some of the main theories concerning the development of NE/WE. Different possible stages of development and a variety of claims towards the classification of these stages will be discussed, in order to provide the necessary understanding of the complex and dynamic structure of the New Englishes. In the second part of the course, we will then look at actual examples of linguistic variation in the New Englishes, focussing on varieties from West Africa. The aim is to identify the distinct features found in these different varieties, but also to analyse the similarities among them as part of a general New English development. Furthermore, central terms such as *lect*, *pidgin*, *creole*, etc. will be discussed based on the examples provided. Although this course primarily focuses on morphosyntactical variation, phonological features of West African Englishes will be addressed shortly as well.

Participants are expected to attend regularly, do the assigned reading, give an oral group presentation in class and submit a term paper. Furthermore, an outline consisting of the general structure and arguments of the term paper, as well as the literature used, is expected to be handed in by the end of July.

Leistungskontrolle:

- (i) Regular attendance and active participation throughout the course
- (ii) 20-30 min group presentation on one variety or topic
- (iii) Term paper to be submitted no later than September 30, 2015

General Literature:

- Bowern, C. (2008). *Linguistic fieldwork*. New York: Palgrave.
- Kortmann, B., Schneider, E., Upton, C., Mesthrie, R. & Burrige, K. (Eds.). (2004). *A Handbook of Varieties of English. Vol. 2: Morphology, Syntax*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Lucko, P., Peter, L. & Wolf, H.-G. (Eds.). (2003). *Studies in African Varieties of English*. Frankfurt: Peter Lang.
- Mesthrie, R. & Bhatt, R. (2008). *World Englishes: the Study of New Language Varieties*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Schneider, E. (2007). *Postcolonial English*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Schneider, E., Burrige, K., Kortmann, B., Mesthrie, R. & Upton, C. (Eds.). (2004). *A Handbook of Varieties of English. Vol. 1: Phonology*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Wells, J. (1982). *Accents of English*. Cambridge: CUP.