

Veranstalter:	<b>Dr. Stefan Schenk-Haupt</b>
Modul:	<b>Literates of the Caribbean: Jean Rhys – Derek Walcott – Grace Nichols</b> [AA-V3a/b, ENG-12, AA-MA3, AA-MA4, AA-10, LAA9, LAA12, AA-W, AA-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung:	<b>Seminar II</b>
Veranstaltungsnummer:	<b>53-545</b>
Zeit:	<b>2st., Do 16-18</b>
Raum:	<b>Phil 1269</b>
Beginn:	<b>2. April 2015</b>

This course concentrates on texts by authors who were born in Caribbean countries, but went on to live in the UK or the US later on. Their poems, plays and prose texts enact, among other aspects, a mapping of two cultures, firstly the native culture of their Caribbean home countries which was transmuted by the colonial oppression they had to suffer, secondly the culture the colonialist masters brought with them and which they enforced onto the new world.

We will start with Grace Nichols (\*1950, Georgetown, Guyana; lives in the UK since 1977), who was awarded the Commonwealth Poetry Prize in 1983 for *I is a long memoried woman*. Poems from that volume as well as some other selected texts and her novel *Whole of a Morning Sky* will serve as our first subjects for discussion.

We will continue with works by Derek Walcott (\*1930, Castries, Saint Lucia; lives in the US since the early 1980s) who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1992. In addition to discussing some of his poems, we will concentrate on his seminal book-length epic poem *Omeros* (1990).

We will conclude with a discussion of *Wide Sargasso Sea* which basically is a prequel to the famous English novel *Jane Eyre*. Jean Rhys (1890-1979, Roseau, Dominica; lived from 1906 on in Great Britain) commented via an instance of productive reception to what she saw as fierce colonialist spitefulness in Brontë's depiction of Jamaica and Rochester's first wife in her book.

Key concepts comprise constructing and writing identity, confronting and reconciling two (or even more) strains of culture as well as transforming space, nation and humanism. A reader with texts not so easy to lay hands on will be provided.

**Books you have to buy and read:**

- Brontë, Charlotte. 1996. *Jane Eyre*. London: Penguin Classics.  
Nichols, Grace. 1986. *Whole of a Morning Sky*. London: Virago, repr. 2014.  
Rhys, Jean. 1968. *Wide Sargasso Sea*. London: Penguin, repr. 2000.  
Walcott, Derek. 1990. *Omeros*. London: Faber and Faber.

**Course requirements:**

- Participation:* Regular attendance, thorough preparation of the texts at hand, writing a protocol  
*Studienleistung:* Presentation (5-10 minutes incl. monitoring a concise discussion)  
*Prüfungsleistung:* Term Paper (10-15 pp. of main written text, 14-20 pp. all in all)

<b>Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:</b>	<b>Thursday, 6-7 pm</b>
<b>Sprechstunde in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:</b>	<b>t.b.a. / appointment per mail</b>