

Veranstalter	PD Dr. Monika Pietrzak-Franger
Thema	Body Theory - Body Politics [ENG-6/a, AA-V3a/b, ENG-12, AA7, AA-10, LAA9, LAA12, AA-MA3, AA-MA4, AA-W, AA-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-550
Zeit	Di 10-12
Raum	Phil 1250
Beginn	4. April 2017

Course Description:

The intrinsic paradox of having a body and being a body has been complicated by contemporary mediatization of corporeality. Embedded in consumerist, capitalist and other ideologies, the body has been used to sell products and to entertain, but also to coerce, dominate and suppress. Living in this ideologically informed media matrix, we sometimes fail to see how much bodies are constructed, reconstructed, violated and adjusted to serve a given purpose. This seminar will equip students with some necessary instruments to read, analyse and interpret contemporary (media) bodies. The main aim of this course is to offer a survey of contemporary theoretical approaches to the body. With this theoretical background in mind, we will look at and read about ideal, naked/nude bodies; we will neither strain from monstrous, mutated or mutilated bodies, nor from the technologized and virtual ones. We will ask how bodies matter today and to what extent/when they can be considered as political. Looking at a variety of literary, filmic and other media representations, we will discuss how these bodies are entwined with various power discourses (such as race, gender, class, age, technology, etc.).