

Veranstalter.....	PD Dr. Christina Meyer
Thema.....	Let the games begin: Dystopian Young Adult Fiction
Art der Veranstaltung.....	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer.....	53-566
Zeit.....	12-14
Raum.....	Ü35-01016
Beginn.....	4 April 2019

### Course description:

This course will deal with American dystopian literature targeted to young adult readers, published between 1990 and 2019. Examples include Lois Lowry's *The Giver* (often considered to be the first popular young adult dystopian novel), the trilogy by Suzanne Collins (*The Hunger Games*, *Catching Fire*, and *Mockingjay*), Taheri Mafi's serialized dystopian thriller *Shatter Me*, *Unravel Me*, and *Ignite Me*, Mike Mullin's *Ashfall* and *Ashen Winter*, Matthew Tobin Anderson's *Feed*, Aimée Carter's *Pawn*, Lissa Price's *Starters*, Sarah Crossan's *Breathe*, the novels *Variant* and *Feedback* by Robinson Wells, Moira Young's *Blood Red Road* and *Rebel Heart*, Michael Grant's *Gone*, Caragh M. O'Brien's *Birthmarked* trilogy, the collaboratively produced novel *Eve and Adam* (by Michael Grant and Katherine Applegate), Suzanne Young's *The Program* series, Marie Lu's *Legend* and its sequels *Prodigy* and *Champion*, Kiera Cass's *The Selection* series, Ally Condie's *Matched* trilogy, as well as Lauren Oliver's *Delirium* and Veronica Rossi's *Under the Never Sky* trilogies, Neal Shusterman's *Unwind* and Scott Westerfeld's *Uglies* series, and the series of novels by Veronica Roth (*Divergent*, *Insurgent*, *Allegiant*, *Four*), James Dashner (*The Maze Runner*, *The Scorch Trials*, *The Death Cure*, and the prequel titled *The Fever Code*), Jeanne DuPrau (*The City of Amber*, and its sequels and prequel), or, very recently, Bella Frost (*The Gender Game* series), and Pierce Brown (the *Red Rising* trilogy and its sequel trilogy, the first book of which – *Iron Gold* – was published in 2018), the dystopian LesFic such as, for instance, Sky Gilbert's *Come Back*, May Dawney's *Survival Instincts*, Barbara Winkes's *Cypher*, Rebecca Crunden's *A Promise of Return* (book three of *The Outlands Pentalogy* series), Samantha Nicklaus's serialized *Prison* books, and many more, and, last not least, the diverse filmic and graphic adaptations of young adult dystopian literary works.

“[P]ermanent surveillance, unlimited and unwarranted detention for potential crimes, and torture” (Banita 2012: 252) as well as control over private lives, sexuality, and passion: these features are central to many of the contemporary young adult dystopian fictions. In our class, we will examine a selection of texts from the YAL genre, and explore how they negotiate concepts of selfhood in a dystopic future, spaces of belonging (community), moral and ethical dilemmas of the main characters, environmental disasters, totalitarian regimes, (bio)-technology, privacy and surveillance, and human agency.

**Please purchase** the following books:

- 1) Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games*. Scholastic, 2008 (book 1 only), we are not going to read the sequels!
- 2) Lois Lowry's *The Giver*. 1993. Harper Collins Publ., 2014.
- 3) Marie Lu's trilogy (*Legend*, *Prodigy*, *Champion*), Penguin (2011-2014)

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	By appointment
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Sprechstunden während der Semesterferien:	Monday, 4 February 2019, 12-14h Monday, 11 February 2019, 12-14h Wednesday, 27 February 2019, 12-14h Tuesday, 5 March 2019, 12-14h Tuesday, 19 March 2019, 12-14h  Email consultations during the semester break: Wednesday, 10-12h
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