

Veranstalter	Prof. Dr. Astrid Böger
Thema	Envisioning the Monstrous in U.S. American Literature and Culture [AA-MA3]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar III
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-570
Zeit	Mo 10-12
Raum	Ü35-01054
Beginn	01.04.2019

Course Description:

Arguably, the monstrous has always played a central role in the American Imaginary. Roughly since the millennial turn, however, and certainly in the wake of the terror attacks on September 11, 2001, representations of monstrosity have boomed, not least due to such global threats as war and terrorism, epidemics, and the destructive effects of climate change, to name but a few important factors. Indeed, in a transcultural environment where more and more people sense an ever-increasing uncertainty, visualizations of monstrosity have gained great visibility as well as cultural currency, which is where this seminar takes its starting point by asking what purposes representations of monstrosity serve within their specific historical and cultural contexts. In order to appreciate the role of monstrosity in and across culture(s), we will consider various media formations including literature, graphic novels, film and television. A special focus throughout will be on zombies as a particularly productive as well as popular phenomenon in contemporary U.S. American culture, but our discussions will certainly be open to and reach out to other monsters, as well.

A reader will be provided at the beginning of the seminar (via AGORA).

Requirements for receiving full course credit: regular attendance and active participation, excellent knowledge of the texts (via careful reading/preparation), completion of short assignments and/or in-class presentations, and up to three assessed papers to be completed during the semester.

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	Di 16-17 Uhr u. nach Vereinbarung per E-Mail
Sprechstunde in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	Genaue Termine werden noch bekannt gegeben