

Veranstalterin	Dr. Julia Boll
Thema	Introduction to British Literature and Culture
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar I a
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-534
Zeit	Di 10-12
Raum	(online)
Beginn	03 November 2020

This introductory survey course will acquaint students with literary genres, critical terminology, and the study of literature and culture more broadly. It will provide them with the tools and methods to engage in the analysis of literature as a scholarly practice and in discussion about the material in an academic environment. We will cover research methods and ethics, theoretical concepts and practical terms, how to find secondary material, how to read scholarly and effectively and how to document your reading, and how to write a seminar paper.

Students will learn how to engage in close reading and practical analysis of a selection of individual plays, poems, prose, and theory texts. We will read William Shakespeare's comedy *As You Like It* (c. 1599), Robert Louis Stevenson's gothic novella *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (1886) and Muriel Spark's short modern novel *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (1961) in their entirety and use them as touchstones for our explorations of dramatic and narrative theory, but we will also look at a broad range of poetry and excerpts from other texts across the centuries of British and Irish literature and dive into some critical theory. Parallel attendance of the lecture *History of British Literature* is highly recommended.



This is a literary scholar's temporary workspace at Gladstone's Library in North Wales in spring 2019, next to the Medieval history shelf and not far from Arthuriana.

### Reading List:

Some material and secondary reading will be made available online via the internet platform *Agora*. Students are asked to obtain the following:

- Shakespeare, William. *As You Like It*. c. 1599. Edited by Juliet Dusinberre, Bloomsbury, 2006. The Arden Shakespeare Third Series. ISBN: 9781904271222.
- Spark, Muriel. *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. 1961. Any edition (mine is the Penguin Modern Classic).
- Stevenson, Robert Louis. *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. 1886. Any edition (mine is the Penguin Classics; you can also find this short novella in the *Norton Anthology of English Literature*, amongst the Victorians).

**Studienleistung:** regular and active participation (also in teamwork), an obligatory tutorial that accompanies the class, detailed knowledge of assigned texts/material, preparation of discussion questions and discussion leading, small course assignments (e.g. putting together a bibliography, creation of short audio clips, group work on "staging *As You Like It*").

**Prüfungsleistung,** in addition to the above:

- one written analysis of a piece of drama/poetry/prose (due by the end of term, date TBA)
- Exam (date TBA)

**Note:** Registered students who fail to show up for the first session will automatically be set "inactive" on Stine, so that another student may take up their place.