Veranstalter:	Prof. Dr. Ute Berns
Modul:	The Industrial Novel: workers, engines
	and ecology
	Systemic entanglements: Elisabeth
	Gaskell's industrial novel North and
	South (1855)
	[ENG-6, ENG-6a, ENG-12, AA7, AA10,
	LAA9, LAA12, AA-MA01, AA-MA02, AA-
	MA04, AA-MA06]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-549
Zeit:	2st. Di 10-12
Raum:	
Beginn:	03.11.2020

Course description:

Some of today's most pressing issues – from climate change, social inequality and the injustices of a globalized economy to unsustainable visions of growth and progress – are regularly traced back to a specific place and period, namely the industrialization of manufacturing in Britain in the nineteenth century. In order to access that period and its literature, this seminar will focus on a defining example of the industrial novel, Elisabeth Gaskell's *North and South*, in combination with extracts from novels by Benjamin Disraeli and Charles Dickens as well as texts by Thomas Carlyle, Marx and Engels, and the Chartist poets.

Gaskell's novel, focusing on a northern manufacturing town, makes this town the nodal point in a much larger network of interrelations. It stretches to a community in the rural English South, the leisured classes in London and the university of Oxford, as well as characters on the Continent and manufacturing competitors across the globe. The novel explicitly engages with local confrontations between the 'masters' (factory owners) and the 'hands' (workers), with migrant labour and trade unions, while exploring the issues of gender across these contexts. Yet on a more oblique level, *North and South* also registers the interplay between social and ecological systems in this period of accelerated fossil fuel extraction, between health, pollution and ecological degradation.

Drawing on recent critical discourse, this seminar attempts to move beyond reading Gaskell's *North and South* as a 'social novel' only. Instead, we will read the novel as a representation of entangled social and ecological systems, both on a local and global scale. We shall be interested, in particular, in the formal techniques through which the novel highlights these systems' entanglement and shapes the reader's responses.

Course requirements:

Regular attendance and excellent knowledge of the set texts; course assignments (e.g. reading responses, or participation in expert groups) during the semester and (to receive the maximum credit points) a term paper.

Note: Students who are registered but who do not show up for the first session will automatically be set "inactive."

Sprechstunden im Semester:	s. Sprechstundenliste
Sprechstunden in der vorlesungsfreien	s. Sprechstundenliste
Zeit:	