

Veranstalter:	Dr. Stefan Schenk-Haupt
Titel:	Introduction to British Literature and Culture [AA2, LAA2, LAA15, IAA11, IAA14]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar Ia
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-537
Zeit:	2st., Mo 16-18 (+ 2 Std. Übung)
Raum:	Ü35-01054
Beginn:	October 17th, 2022

Course description:

The purpose of this introduction is to make you familiar with approaches to literary texts as well as concepts of cultural theory on the level of academic discourse. Understanding texts and evaluating their purposes is the first step to understand and discuss their cultural framework. The following aspects will be highlighted:

- Discussion of key concepts and working techniques
- Discussion of the concepts "literature", "culture" and "philology"
- Analysis of main literary genres like narrative fiction, drama, poetry
- Introduction to British culture (Britishness, Shakespeare, humour, BBC, the Globe)

Participating in the tutorial meetings is mandatory. The course is in English, and it is complemented by the lecture on the *History of British Literature*. This course, however, will approach texts and media in a systematic, not a historical way. We will read and discuss poems by John Donne, *The Taming of the Shrew* by Shakespeare and *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley in detail. These items will be complemented by film adaptations (Shakespeare, Shelley), and examples from non-literary media (TV, video clips, videogames). Near the end, we will have an extended session for general recapitulation (participation voluntary). This will prepare you for the written test.

Note: Do not print the Reader (found in Agora) in advance, we use excerpts.

Note: Reading the play and the novel as soon as possible is highly recommended.

Tutorial Meetings: Jillianne Tucker (Mo 12-14, Ü35-01054), Sarah Dastur (Di 14-16, Ü35-01054)

Books you have to buy:

Cuddon, J. A. ⁴1998 or ⁵2014. *The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms*. London, revised edition.

Shakespeare, William. 2010. *The Taming of the Shrew*. Ed. Barbara Hodgson. (*Arden*³). London.

Shelley, Mary. ³2021. *Frankenstein*. Ed. J. Paul Hunter. (*Norton Critical Edition*.) New York London.

Recommended books (to buy or to consult in the library)

Fabian, Bernhard. (Ed.) ⁸1998 or ⁹2004. *Ein anglistischer Grundkurs*. Berlin.

Meyer-Krentler, Eckhart / Moennighoff, Burkhard. ¹⁶2013. *Arbeitstechniken Literaturwissenschaft*. München.

Course requirements:

Regular attendance (course and tutorials), thorough preparation of texts and tasks

Prüfungsleistung: Written test (80%), Active participation (20%)

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	Monday, 18-19, per appointment ONLY
Sprechstunde in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	per appointment (e-mail)

Introduction to British Literature and Culture, WS 2022/23
Dr. Stefan Schenk-Haupt
(Agora: Introduction to British Literature 2022/23)

- I 17.10. Course Contents & Structure
Psychomachia: *Macbeth* versus *Star Wars*
Charles Dickens, *Bleak House* (beginning)
- II 24.10. What is 'literature'? What is 'culture'?
How to prepare a text for analysis: Marvell, *To His Coy Mistress*
- III 7.11. **Poetry: Thematic impact, speaking situation and stylistics**
John Donne, *The Good Morrow*
John Donne, *A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning*
John Donne, *The Flea*
Poetry: Scansion
- IV 14.11. **Poetry: Voice**
Shira Wolosky: 'Poetic Voice'
Alfred Tennyson, *Ulysses*
Poetry: The Sonnet, Petrarchism and anti-Petrarchism
Shakespeare, *My mistress's eyes are nothing like the sun*
- V 21.11. **Poetics:** Aristotle – Plot, Characterisation, Rhetoric strategies
Introduction to Drama Theory and to Narrative Theory
- VI 28.11. **Drama:** Excerpts from Pfister, *Drama*
Introduction to Shakespeare, *Taming of the Shrew*
- VII 5.12. **Drama:** *Taming of the Shrew* (continued)
Adaptation: Globe Theatre / F. Zeffirelli
- VIII 12.12. **Drama:** *Taming of the Shrew* (continued),
Group work: Gender roles in Shakespeare
- IX 19.12. **Drama:** Beckett, *Play* (and comparison with *Taming of the Shrew*)

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- X 9.1. **Narrative Fiction: Voice and Metalepsis**
Introduction to *Frankenstein*, Excerpts from Schmid, *Narratology*
Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein*
- XI 16.1. **Narrative Fiction: Focalization**
Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (continued)
Group work: Gender roles in Shelley
Adaptation: Branagh, *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*
- XII 23.1. **Narrative Fiction: Speech Representation**
Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (continued)
18-20: General Recapitulation
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| XIII 28.1. Sat. – Test, 11-14 (intended for 120 min, an extra hour is provided for convenience) |
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- XIV 30.1. Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (concluded)