

Veranstalter	Sophia Komor
Thema	Einführung in die Literaturwissenschaft (Schwerpunkt amerikanische Literatur) [AA-E2, ENG-2]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar Ia
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-540
Zeit	Mi 16-18
Raum	1269
Beginn	19. Oktober 2011

The answers you get from literature depend on the questions you pose.
Margaret Atwood

*Great literature is simply language charged with meaning
to the utmost possible degree.*
Ezra Pound

What is literature? Why do we study it? What can we do with it? And how do we decipher the meaning with which language is charged in literature? These, among others, are the questions posed by this seminar. We will try to answer them by reading and discussing selected literature as well as texts from secondary sources. The aim of this seminar is to equip students with the basic means and methods for the study of literature, especially in a US-American context.

We will analyze poetry, prose, and drama by studying major works of American literature from the seventeenth to the twenty-first century. The focus will lie on the technical as well as cultural aspects of works of literature and their historical contexts.

By the end of the course you will have gained knowledge of the key literary genres, technical aspects and critical terms that will form the foundation for your further studies of American literature and culture.

This seminar is part of an introductory module consisting of the lectures “Einführung in die Literaturtheorie und Methoden der Literaturwissenschaft” and “Geschichte der amerikanischen Literatur” as well as a tutorial.

Attendance of the first class is mandatory. Classes start on 19 October 2011.

Schein Voraussetzungen sind regelmäßige und aktive Teilnahme am Seminar und an einem der beiden Tutorien, ggf. kursbegleitende Aufgaben und das Bestehen der Abschlussklausur. Das Seminar wird in englischer Sprache unterrichtet.