

Veranstalter.....	<b>Verena Keidel</b>
Thema.....	<b>“Religion, Order, and Myth“: The Poetics of Eliot and Yeats [AA-A2, ENG-6/a, AA-W, SLM-WB]</b>
Art der Veranstaltung.....	<b>Seminar Ib</b>
Veranstaltungsnummer.....	<b>53-540</b>
Zeit.....	<b>2st. Mi 10-12</b>
Raum .....	<b>Phil 1250</b>
Beginn.....	<b>15. Oktober 2014</b>

This seminar will introduce you to two of the most prominent modernist writers: Thomas Stearns Eliot and William Butler Yeats. We will explore mythic and religious concepts in a wide range of poems, plays and prose texts by Yeats and Eliot; we will further discuss how myth and mythology, religion and religiousness intersect with notions of ritual, violence and the sacred. While the American-born critic, poet and dramatist T. S. Eliot in his earlier work drew on antique mythology to portray the bleakness of modern existence, much of his later work is infused with Christian thought and imagery: In 1927, Eliot converted to the Anglican Church. W. B. Yeats, a descendant of Anglo-Irish Protestants, is regarded as a key figure of the Irish Renaissance, a literary and cultural revival movement that emerged in the wake of growing Irish nationalism. Many of Yeats’s poems and plays reference Celtic mythology and elements of Irish folklore. After the turn of the century, however, Yeats became more and more fascinated with ideas of occultism and spiritualism.

All primary texts and additional (theoretical) reading will be made available electronically (via AGORA). Students are expected to bring the printed (!) texts to class.

**Course requirements:** regular attendance, active participation, solid knowledge of the texts, short presentation/research topic, term paper (~10 pages)

