

Veranstalter	Prof. Dr. Astrid Böger
Thema	The State of the Art in Fiction: Siri Hustvedt's Novels [AA-V4ab, ENG-13, AA-M14, AA-M15, AA-M16, AA-MA1, AA-MA2, AA-MA5, AA-W, SLM-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer	53-564
Zeit	Mo 14-16
Raum	Phil 1250
Beginn	13.10.14

Course Description:

Since the mid-1990s, Siri Hustvedt has emerged as a rather unique voice in American literature and culture. In addition to five novels so far, she has published an impressive array of non-fiction pieces, as well, including her autobiographical text *The Shaking Woman: Or a History of My Nerves* (2010) and *Living, Thinking. Looking: Essays* (2012). The latter will be of particular interest to our discussion of Hustvedt's novels, as it deals with the vital activities of looking at and understanding art, which are also centrally covered in her fictional oeuvre. Art, as conceived in Hustvedt's universe, has the capacity to connect, but also to alienate or even threaten her protagonists. In other words, the presence of art is to be taken very seriously when entering the fictional universe of Siri Hustvedt. We will explore this insight by closely reading and discussing the following three novels covering Hustvedt's entire career as one of America's foremost authors today: *The Blindfold* (1994), *What I Loved* (2008), and *The Blazing World* (2014).

Course Requirements:

Regular attendance and participation as well as thorough preparation of reading assignments are essential. In order to receive full course credit, each student will be expected to give an in-class presentation and write a final term paper of 15 to 20 pp. All students must own the following works by Hustvedt: *The Blindfold* (Sceptre, 1994; ISBN-13: 978-0340581230); *What I Loved* (Hodder and Stoughton Ltd., 2008, ISBN-13: 978-0340830727); *The Blazing World* (Simon & Schuster, 2014, ISBN-13: 978-1476769981).

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit	Mo 16-17 und nach Vereinbarung
Sprechstunden während der vorlesungsfreien Zeit	Termine werden noch bekannt gegeben (s. Webseite des Instituts)