Veranstalter	**PD Dr. Monika Pietrzak-Franger**
Thema	**Femininity and Masculinity in the Victorian Novel** [ENG-6/a, AA-V3a/b, ENG-12, AA7, AA-10, LAA9, LAA12, AA-MA1, AA-MA2, AA-MA6, AA-W, AA-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung	**Seminar II**
Veranstaltungsnummer	**53-548**
Zeit	**Di 10-12**
Raum	**Phil 1219**
Beginn	**18. Oktober 2016**

Reflection on social rights and gender inequality was integral to the Victorian novel: from women's struggles to earn a living and gain a steadfast footing in the world (*Jane Eyre*, *Cranford*), to the realization that there are but scant possibilities for them other than that of a marriage (*Odd Women*, *Heavenly Twins*), to the preoccupation with various utopian/dystopian possibilities the future may bring (*The Coming Race*, *Gloriana*). At the same time, various ideals of masculinity were evoked and questioned, especially in the face of changing social values and growing fears of degeneration (*Yeast*, *The Way of All Flesh*, *Jude the Obscure*, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*). These gender negotiations did not only have the rethinking of socially sanctioned gender categories at their core but were also concerned with the issues of non-normative sexuality and desire.

This seminar offers some insight into the 19th century novelistic excursions into the terrain of gender performance. We will look at the changing conceptions of what it meant to be a gendered citizen and what sort of limitations and privileges were part of this position. We will also attend to the ways in which these identities – and with them such categories as family, sexuality and desire - were questioned and subverted.

Course Requirements:

*Studienleistung***:** regular and active participation (no more than two missed classes), preparation of the reading material for the seminar, completion of short homework assignments, expert-group presentation.

*Prüfungsleistung***:** Term paper

Reading: All required readings will be announced during the first session**.** Please be aware that this course will involve reading a number of Victorian novels, described by Henry James as "large, loose, baggy monsters".