

Vorlesung / Lecture Course: An Introduction to the Works of Charles Dickens
Prof. Dr. Frenk

Di, 14-16

Ort: wird noch bekanntgegeben

Die Anmeldung findet im Rahmen des allgemeinen Verfahrens der Fachrichtung 4.3 statt. Bitte beachten Sie die Mitteilungen auf der Website und die Aushänge.

Erste Vorlesung: 17. April 2012

2012 marks the 200th birthday of Charles Dickens, one of the greatest writers of the nineteenth century. In the context of the "Dickens 200" semester at the English department, an introduction to Dickens's works for German students seems particularly apposite. The German reception of Dickens has largely focused on a limited range of aspects, and it is important to see beyond these limitations. We will appreciate the fascination and the beauty of Dickens's writing, the amazing things he could do with the English language. At the same time, we will see that Dickens's works offer a cultural history of Britain in the early and mid-nineteenth century.

Texts:

The following works of Charles Dickens will be discussed: *Sketches by Boz*, *Pickwick Papers*, *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol* / *The Chimes*, *Dombey and Son*, *David Copperfield*, *Bleak House*, *Hard Times*, *Little Dorrit*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Great Expectations*, *Our Mutual Friend*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

There are many editions of these texts available; among the best series are the Penguin Classics, the Oxford World's Classics and the Norton editions. The Wordsworth editions are not as good as the other three, but they are a bit cheaper (usually 6 to 7 Euros) and in this way more student-friendly. Please avoid the Penguin Popular Classics editions – they cannot even be quoted in papers. (At the same time, it is of course true that the question of the right edition is less important than the fact that you actually do read the books.)

Diese Vorlesung ist innerhalb der neuen Studiengänge für folgende Module verwendbar:

Neue Lehrämter: Literatur und Kultur Vertiefung

Literatur und Kultur Hauptfach – BA

Literatur und Kultur Nebenfach – BA

Britische Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft – MA

Britische Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft Hauptfach – MA

Forschungskolloquium: Dickens and the City
Prof. Dr. Frenk

Mo, 18.00-19.30

Ort: C5.3, Raum 1.19

Anmeldung: Es ergehen Einladungen; weitere Interessierte suchen bitte das persönliche Gespräch.

Walter Bagehot's dictum that Dickens was London's "special correspondent for posterity" is routinely quoted in 2012, the year of Dickens's bicentenary. This colloquium seeks to explore the relationship between Dickens, i.e., his writings, and "his" city, even though he wasn't born in it. We will also consider Portsmouth, and perhaps Rochester, as cities that influenced Dickens. We will read, among other texts, passages from *Sketches by Boz*, *Oliver Twist*, *Bleak House*, *The Uncommercial Traveller* and *Our Mutual Friend*.

Examenskolloquium
Prof. Dr. Frenk

Ort: C5.3, Raum 1.20

Blockseminar: 18./19. April 2012; weitere Sitzungen an ausgewählten Dienstagen, 16-18 Uhr
Die Anmeldung für dieses Kolloquium erfolgt in einem persönlichen Gespräch in einer Sprechstunde oder per E-Mail (Mails bitte an: p.jakob@mx.uni-saarland.de). Die Kandidatinnen und Kandidaten für die Staatsexamensprüfungen im Mai 2012 werden *dringend* gebeten, sich bis Ende März anzumelden, um noch Vortragsthemen und ein Programm für das Blockseminar absprechen zu können.

Erste Sitzung nach dem Blockseminar: 24. April 2012

Vor und in Examina stehende Studierende erhalten Gelegenheit, sich auf die Examenssituation vorzubereiten, indem sie sich in examensrelevante Themen einarbeiten, diese im Plenum vorstellen und Probleme diskutieren. Das Kolloquium wird in den fachlichen Teilen auf Englisch, in den Diskussionen über formale Aspekte auf Deutsch abgehalten.

Das Format des Blockseminars wurde zusammen mit Studierenden entwickelt und dient dazu, den StaatsexamenskandidatInnen (und nicht nur diesen) unmittelbar vor Beginn des ihres Prüfungsblocks eine fokussierte Rückmeldung zu ihren jeweiligen Themen zu geben und eventuelle Probleme zu erörtern. Nach dem Blockseminar finden über die Vorlesungszeit verteilt einzelne Sitzungen statt, in denen auf spezifische Bedarfe eingegangen wird und in denen BA- und MA-KandidatInnen den Stand ihrer Arbeiten vorstellen sollen.

Hauptseminar: Dickens Now: Adaptations and Revisions
Dr. Steveker

Di, 10-12

Ort: C 5.3, Raum 1.20

first meeting: 17 April 2012

Charles Dickens's novels are counted among the masterpieces of British literature; many of his literary characters such as Ebenezer Scrooge, Oliver Twist and Little Nell have found their place in British cultural memory, as has indeed Dickens himself. In this seminar, which is part of our "Dickens 200" semester, we will discuss Dickens's novels *Oliver Twist* and *Great Expectations*, as well as recent filmic & literary adaptations of these books – among them Lloyd Jones's *Mister Pip* (2006). We will also discuss Richard Flanagan's fictional Dickens biography *Wanting* (2008) and short excerpts from Peter Ackroyd's *Dickens* (1990) and Michael Slater's *Charles Dickens* (2009). Our focus will not only be on Dickens's works and their rewritings, but we will also critically discuss the engagement of 21st-century culture with one of the most successful writers of the nineteenth century.

We will start with discussing *Oliver Twist*; students who want to take this seminar should have finished reading the novel by the second week of the semester at the very latest. Students should indeed start reading the texts by Dickens, Jones and Flanagan as soon as possible. Excerpts from Ackroyd's *Dickens* and Slater's *Charles Dickens* will be made available at the beginning of term.

In order to attend this course, students must register before the beginning of term. The number of participants is strictly restricted to 33 people. Registration is via CLIX only. Please check the departmental homepage and the department's notice boards for more information on the registration procedures.

Texts: You MUST own NO OTHER than the following editions:

Dickens, Charles. *Oliver Twist*. Ed. Fred Kaplan. New York: Norton, 1993. ISBN 978-0-393-96292-5.

Dickens, Charles. *Great Expectations*. Ed. Edgar Rosenberg. New York: Norton, 1999. ISBN 978-0-393-96069-3.

Flanagan, Richard. *Wanting*. New York: Atlantic Books, 2010. ISBN 978-1848870772.

Jones, Lloyd. *Mister Pip*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 2008. ISBN 978-0719521836.

Proseminar: Charles Dickens: *Dombey and Son*

Prof. Dr. Frenk

Di, 14-16

Raum: C 5.3, U 13

Die Anmeldung findet im Rahmen des allgemeinen Verfahrens der Fachrichtung 4.3 statt. Bitte beachten Sie die Mitteilungen auf der Website und die Aushänge.

Erste Sitzung: 17. April 2012

Dombey and Son (serialized between October 1846 and April 1848) is one of the almost unknown Dickens masterpieces, at least among students in Germany. In the context of our "Dickens 200" semester, this seminar is a modest effort to change this. We will closely read passages of this panoramic novel of a dysfunctional family, i.e., we will analyze it in order to develop a thorough understanding both of single episodes and of the narrative whole. We will also contextualize *Dombey and Son* within the 1840s, a decade that was marked for instance by social tensions, caused by a ruthless market 'liberalism', and the railway boom, both of which are addressed in *Dombey and Son*.

In the third meeting, there will be a test on *Dombey and Son*. You will pass this test effortlessly if you have read the novel.

Text: You MUST own and, of course, read the following edition (which is inexpensive and readily available):

Charles Dickens, *Dombey and Son*. Ed. Andrew Sanders. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 2002. ISBN 0-140-43546-8

Proseminar Britische Literaturen und Kulturen: Industrial Novels

Dr. von Lutz

Mi, 14 – 16

Ort: C 5.3, Raum U 13

The texts we shall discuss in this course range from a variety of statements by 19th century observers of the social changes to a selection of "industrial novels". In particular, we shall discuss the literary response to the emergence of new classes due to the Industrial Revolution.

These are:

Charles Dickens, *Hard Times*. (1854) Norton Critical Editions

Elizabeth Gaskell, *Mary Barton*. (1848) Norton Critical Editions

Elizabeth Gaskell, *North and South*. (1855) Norton Critical Editions

The above novels must be bought in the NORTON CRITICAL EDITIONS series!

Proseminar Britische Literaturen und Kulturen: Contemporary Novels

Dr. von Lutz

Mi, 16 – 18

Ort: C 5.3, Raum U 10

This course will provide a brief overview of contemporary British fiction and we will discuss some major authors and some major themes. We will also deal with such concepts as perspective, style, character, place, multi-ethnicity, Englishness etc.

Reading list:

Zadie Smith, *White Teeth*. (2000)

James Hawes, *Speak for England*. (2006)

Ian McEwan, *On Chesil Beach*. (2007)

Übung: CS II: Introduction to Media Studies

Dr. Steveker

Mo, 14-16

C 5.3, room 1.20

first meeting: 23 April 2012

In the 21st century, media are an important aspect of everyday life. We read newspapers, listen to the radio, surf the Internet, watch films, write blogs and are connected via social networks – in short, we are surrounded by media. Putting a particularly strong focus on film, this course will introduce you to various aspects of media history, media theory and media analysis.

We are going to discuss texts on media/film theory and criticism and we will analyse films. Reading texts and watching films in preparation for each class is therefore obligatory for all students who would like to participate in this course. In order to gain credit for this course, students will have to do a case study (group work) which they will have to present in class.

In order to attend this course, students **must** register before the beginning of term. The number of participants is strictly restricted to 33 people. Registration is via CLIX only. Please check the departmental homepage and the department's notice boards for more information on the registration procedures.

Texts:

A pdf-reader will be made available at the beginning of the semester.

Übung: CS II UK/Ireland (Focus on Ireland)

Dr. von Lutz

Di, 14 – 16

Ort: C 5.2, Raum U 1

The texts we shall discuss in this course document different views, from the 12th century to the present, on issues such as the invasion of Ireland, the "Irish question", Irish self-perceptions, British-Irish relations, "Home Rule", the "Agreements", etc., and a range of literary and visual texts.

A reader will be provided.

Apart from historical texts we will discuss a range of poems by contemporary Irish poets, and the following text:

Ladies' Night at Finbar's Hotel. Ed. by Dermot Bolger. 1999.

Übung: CS II UK/Ireland: The Industrial Revolution

Dr. von Lutz

Do, 16 – 18
Ort: C 5.2, Raum U 10

The texts we shall discuss in this course document different views, from the 18th century to the late 19th, about the technological development of Britain, about the demographic changes, the emergence of new classes, the successive changes of the Reform Bills, and, additionally, some literary texts, such as excerpts from the works of Charles Dickens, or Elizabeth Gaskell. A reader will be provided.