

Zusätzliche Veranstaltungen in der Anglistischen Literaturwissenschaft im WS 2005/2006

PD Dr. Eckart Voigts-Virchow

Vorlesung: A Survey of English Literature I: Renaissance to Romanticism

MANA1/5, MKFEB 1/5, studium generale, BEUST1/3/5

7400201

Dienstag, 17.15-18.45

Beginn: 18.10.

Raum: 2/HS3

This lecture course (the first in a two-part sequence) aims at providing a rough (and necessarily sketchy) overview over the key texts and periods of English literature from the Renaissance to Romanticism. Our starting point will be the merits, pitfalls and governing principles of writing literary histories. We will then focus on Renaissance (Elizabethan, Jacobean, 1500 to 1660), Classicist (Restoration, Augustan, 1660 to 1789) and Romantic literature (1790 to 1830). For a first orientation in the field, please consult the standard literary histories (Seeber, *Englische Literaturgeschichte*; Sampson, *Cambridge Guide to English Literature*; Bloomsbury *Guide to English Literature*; Peck/Coyle, *A Brief History of English Literature*; Sanders, *The Short Oxford History of English Literature*) as well as standard anthologies such as *The Norton Anthology of England Literature* (7th ed.) or *Die englische Literatur in Text und Darstellung* (Reclam). A detailed course schedule will be available at the beginning of term. No registration is required for this course.

PD Dr. Eckart Voigts-Virchow

Hauptseminar: The Theory and Practice of Adaptation

MANA5, MKFEB5

7400203

Dienstag, 13.45-15.15

Beginn: 18.10.

Raum: 2/SR13

Adaptation is a profound process.
(John Laroche, *Adaptation*)

Complete adaptation to the environment means death. The essential point in all response is the desire to control environment.
(John Dewey)

Discussing concepts such as "fidelity criticism", "classics", "costume drama", "postmodern nostalgia", "Englishness", "cinema of attractions" and "heritage TV" and applying current adaptation theory, the course will look at the migration of texts / product from one semiotic system into another (secondary intermediality). Comparative adaptation studies analyse the semiotic "how" of the media transfer (or translation) from novel to film as well as the meaning-making processes of comprehension involved. Possible case studies include film adaptations of 19th-century novels, graphic novels or Shakespeare, but also screenplays, novelizations etc. Participants will be asked to negotiate a project with the instructor and present their findings in class.

Supplementary viewing sessions are mandatory (list of participants)!

Participation is limited to 25 students!

Prior registration: eckart.voigts-virchow@anglistik.uni-giessen.de.

Credits: Regular attendance and contributions, term paper and presentation or group presentation.

Introductory reading:

- Eckart Voigts-Virchow, *Introduction to Media Studies*, Stuttgart: Klett, 2005.
Kamilla Elliott, *Rethinking the Novel/Film Debate*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.
Sarah Cardwell, *Adaptation Revisited. Television and the Classic Novel*, Manchester and New York: Manchester University Press, 2002.
Robert Stam, 'Introduction: The Theory and Practice of Adaptation', in Robert Stam and Alessandra Raengo (eds.), *Literature and Film. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Film Adaptation*, Malden MA etc.: Blackwell, 2005, 1-52.
Brian McFarlane, *Novel into Film. An Introduction to the Theory of Adaptation*, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1996.

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Hauptseminar: Revenge Tragedies

MANA5, MKFEB5

Donnerstag, 11.30-13.00

Raum: tba

7400202

Beginn: 18.10.

URCHIN (*shrugs*). I was in a play. They cut my head off in *Titus Andronicus*. When I write plays, they will be like *Titus*.
WILL (*pleased*). You admire it?
The Urchin nods grimly.
URCHIN. I liked it when they cut heads off. And the daughter mutilated with knives.
WILL. Oh. What's your name?
URCHIN. John Webster. Here, kitty kitty. *Because a stray cat is nearby. The cat shows an interest. The Urchin passes a white mouse to the cat and watches the result with sober interest.*
URCHIN (Cont'd). Plenty of blood. That is the only writing.

(from: Marc Norman/Tom Stoppard, *Shakespeare in Love*)

. . . . So shall you hear
Of carnal, bloody, and unnatural acts,
Of accidental judgements, casual slaughters,
Of deaths put on by cunning and forced cause,
And, in this upshot, purposes mistook
Fall'n on the inventors' heads.

(Shakespeare, *Hamlet*)

Participation is limited to 30 students!

Introductory reading: Stevie Simkin. *Revenge Tragedy. A Casebook* (Palgrave Macmillan 2001).



Texts:

Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy*
Shakespeare, *Titus Andronicus* (Arden Ed.)
Tourneur, *The Revenger's Tragedy*
Webster, *The White Devil*
Middleton/Rowley, *The Changeling*
(in *Three Jacobean Tragedies*, Ed. Gamini Salgado)

Prior registration: eckart.voigts-virchow@anglistik.uni-giessen.de.

Credits: Regular attendance and contributions, term paper and presentation or group presentation.

PD Dr. Eckart Voigts-Virchow

Proseminar: Introduction to Romantic Poetry

MANA1

Donnerstag, 13.45-15.15

Raum: tba

7400204

Beginn: 20.10.

The human dress is forged iron,
The human form a fiery forge,
The human face a furnace sealed,
The human heart its hungry gorge.
(William Blake, "A Divine Image", 1791)

Starting with Wordsworth's "Preface" to the second edition of the *Lyrical Ballads* (1800), the course offers an introduction to the six key Romantic poets (Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, Keats, Byron) and significant female poets (such as Anna Laetitia Barbauld) as well as to the literary and cultural climate from which they emerged. The emphasis will be on the Romantic opposition between organism and mechanism, the rejection of rationalism, the reaction to the industrial revolution, and the attitude towards nature, childhood, and social outsiders.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of "Introduction to the Study of Literature"

Prior registration: eckart.voigts-virchow@anglistik.uni-giessen.de

Credits: Regular attendance and contributions, term paper and presentation or group presentation.

Texts: *Gedichte der englischen Romantik Englisch/Deutsch* (ed. Raimund Borgmeier, Reclam), *Romanticism. An Anthology* (ed. Duncan Wu, Blackwell)