ang071 Introduction to Literary and Cultural Studies

Curriculum

#### Structure

The module ang071 consists of the following four parts:

#### Winter Term:

- Seminar "Introduction to the Critical and Scholarly Discussion of Literature" (2 SWS)
- Lecture "Introduction to Literary History and Textual Analysis," including three practice sessions (held by tutors) (2 SWS)

#### Summer Term:

- Seminar "Key Concepts in Cultural Studies" (2 SWS)
- Lecture "Historical Backgrounds and Critical Concepts," including three practice sessions (held by tutors) (2 SWS)

In order to complete ang071, all parts of this module must be completed successfully, as a rule in two consecutive semesters. It is **strongly recommended** that you begin this module in the winter term.

#### Aim

The aim of this module is to prepare students for participation in critical and scholarly discussions of literature and other cultural texts by helping them:

- to develop an understanding of the issues and questions dealt with in literary and cultural studies.
- to acquire and consolidate the basic knowledge and skills necessary for such an understanding.
- to apply their acquired knowledge and skills in order to address scholarly and critical issues in the fields of literary and cultural studies.

# Knowledge

In the course of the module students will be made familiar with

- different conceptions and definitions of 'literature' and 'culture'
- a range of different literary as well as other cultural forms of expression from various periods of British and American cultural history
- the traditions of the debates on literature and various cultural texts
- · the spectrum of genres and periods in literary and cultural history
- literary/ critical schools and movements
- changing historical conditions of performance, as well as of production, circulation and reception of books and various other cultural texts

#### Skills

The range of skills required for understanding issues and participating in the scholarly and critical discussion of literature and culture includes:

## Research Skills

- finding information (library and reference skills)
- processing information (selecting and making excerpts of primary and secondary material; using secondary material for discussion)
- presenting information (orally and in writing)

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### Critical and Analytical Skills (Reading Strategies)

- recognising and describing the specific character of communication in different genres and media (e.g. narrative, dramatic, poetic, visual, etc.).
- recognising and describing techniques of generating meaning through characterisation, figurative speech and performance in various media.
- situating literary and cultural texts in the contexts of their production, circulation and reception.
- identifying contexts in which literary and cultural texts could play a role today, e.g. in scholarly discussions, in projects of work one could do in a seminar paper.

## Requirements, Portfolios

The requirements for the module ang071 consist of two portfolios, one in the winter and one in the summer term. Each portfolio is made up of the following five items:

- 1 RPOplus (Research Paper Outline + Problem-oriented Sample Analysis)
- 1 Test
- 3 Short Assignments

### Active Participation

- Regular attendance in all parts of the module. You may miss up to three sessions.
- Preparation of handouts as well as primary and secondary readings
- In preparation for your RPOplus: finding and focusing on a topic (by week 10); presenting your RPOplus project (week 14)

# Registration and Cancellation

- Your Stud.IP registration for the S/Ü "Introduction to the Critical and Scholarly Discussion of Literature" as well as for the S/Ü "Key Concepts in Cultural Studies" includes your admission to the portfolio.
- Please register via Stud.IP with one of your tans for the Prüfungsleistung (Portfolio). Your registration will be processed by the Prüfungsamt. The registration period begins in week 5 and ends in week 9 of the respective winter and summer terms.
- All assignments have to be handed in on time.

## Revision Course

A revision course will be offered for students who need additional support in
successfully completing the module. There will be two meetings for each of the
materials (poetry, drama, fiction, non-fiction, graphic novel, film). One meeting will
focus on additional practice of the analytical skills introduced in the seminars, the
other will focus on the assignments. The remaining meetings will offer contextual
readings. Under special circumstances ("Härtefälle"), students may also schedule
individual counselling sessions. Sign up (via Stud.IP) for each meeting individually
two days in advance.