

PROVISIONAL COURSE INFORMATION SUMMER TERM 2022

The following list of classes are open to incoming exchange students.

Please note that these classes are aimed at students of English or American Studies, i.e. Anglophone literatures, linguistics and cultures. The classes with code numbers 100/200 are introductory courses. All classes with code numbers above 300 and higher require some background knowledge.

Please check the level of English language competence before selecting classes to attend. Most of our classes are aimed at students of English who have reached C1 level of competence on the CEFR. We do not offer any classes suitable for students with language levels lower than B2.

Note that there are parallel groups of some classes offered in 'groups'. Students only need to attend one group of each class, which will meet once a week for 90 minutes.

Before you register for classes on the PORTA platform, you will need to check your class choices – either by submitting a Learning Agreement or by emailing Mrs Maas.

Students should use the online platform PORTA to register for classes if possible. Alternatively, contact the individual lecturers about registering for classes. Please include your full name, Trier University student number (if you have it), the name of the course as listed and the day and time of the group you wish to join.

The exact number of ECTS credits awarded for a seminar or lecture will depend on the workload and assessment. Students should negotiate with the lecturer at the start of the teaching term. For your Learning Agreement, simply list the number of ECTS you would like to aim for.

LANG 101 *Integrated Language Study Skills*

In this introductory class, the emphasis is on speaking and listening skills in an academic context, especially on giving oral presentations and making the most of a lecture course. The class equips students with the kinds of language, language awareness, and essential study skills they will need to successfully complete their English Studies degrees, and encourages them to develop learning strategies to improve their fluency and accuracy in English. The class also provides students with extensive speaking practice and aims to reduce their inhibitions about working in groups and speaking in front of their peers in presentations and discussions, in order to prepare students for future work. Extensive self-study and guided homework is obligatory.

CEFR Level: B2+ ECTS Credits: 4 or 5

Groups: Mon 14-16, Weds 8-10, Thurs 12-14

Contact: Mrs Clare Maas (cmmaas@uni-trier.de)

LANG 201 *Academic Writing for Students of English Studies*

The goal of this introductory class is to teach students the basics of writing good essays of various genres in the Anglo-American tradition. The skills trained include finding the main idea of a text, writing topic sentences/thesis statements, writing concluding sentences/paragraphs, achieving coherence, unity, presenting support, adequately and correctly using and referencing supporting material/sources, recognising aspects of a good/bad essay, and giving constructive feedback. Assessment includes paragraph/essay-writing and independent study.

CEFR Level: B2+ ECTS Credits: 4 or 5

Groups: Mon 8-10, Tues 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, Weds 8-10, Fri 10-12.

Contact: Mrs Clare Maas (cmmaas@uni-trier.de)

LANG 302 *Advanced Grammar*

This course aims to help students accurately use and analyse the meanings of advanced English grammatical structures and to avoid German interference mistakes. The primary focus will be on verb usage, including tense/aspect, complementation, conditional sentences, reported speech, and active/passive voice. Other topics may include articles/determiners, participles, word order, or formal/colloquial language. Skills developed include grammatical accuracy,

fluency of written production, familiarity with meta-language, and using reference works. Assessment is in-class exams.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2

Groups: Tues 10-12, Fri 8-10.

Contact: Dr Jennifer Skipp (skipp@uni-trier.de)

LANG 401 *North American Cultural Studies*

This overview class on American culture will cover various aspects of the United States including its history, geography, political system (federal, state and local), immigration and various ethnic groups, business, environment, education, leisure, family, values, religion and current affairs, among others. Assessment includes an oral presentation and an essay.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 3 or 4

Groups: Mon 10-12, Tues 8-10, Weds 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, Fri 10-12

Contact: Dr Jennifer Skipp (skipp@uni-trier.de)

LANG 402 *Translation German – English*

This course introduces students to the basic principles of effective translation from German into English, whilst contrastively analysing important grammar points of these two languages. By the end of this course, students should have greater fluency and accuracy when writing in their L2 and be able to use appropriate terminology to describe linguistic situations and inter-linguistic relationships. Assessment is in-class exams. Participants need at least B2+ level competence in both English and German.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2

Groups: Weds 10-12, Thurs 10-12, 12-14, 14-16.

Contact: Dr Jennifer Skipp (skipp@uni-trier.de)

LANG 601 *Translation Studies*

The aim of this course is to further develop students' ability to sensitively translate various text types from German into English, applying theories and strategies from the field of translation studies to produce translations of culturally specific texts and tackle problems of 'untranslatability' due to cultural specificity. Participants need C1-level competence in both German and English.

CEFR Level: C1 ECTS Credits: 6

Groups: Thurs 8-10

Contact: Mr Michael Banks, banks@uni-trier.de

LANG 601 *Creative Writing*

The main aim of this course is for students to regularly produce, reflect and improve their own writing and review and critique the work of others.

Objectives:

- to identify the motivation for writing creative texts;
- to analyse components of effective creative writing and use textual and linguistic strategies to communicate ideas and meaning to readers;
- to use clear and diverse language to create vivid pictures of character, setting, time and dialogue;
- to structure texts appropriately;
- to review and edit texts based on feedback;
- to produce accurate language at an advanced level.

Please note that whilst you will write on your own, you become part of a Reading Circle and work on some activities together, especially sharing ideas and giving initial feedback on each other's texts.

CEFR Level: C1 ECTS Credits: 6

Groups: Mon 10-12

Contact: Mr Michael Banks, banks@uni-trier.de

LANG 601 *Professional Intercultural Communication*

In this class, we will consider how to communicate effectively in a wide variety of contexts in English, including professional environments, with a particular focus on the following points:

1. Introduction to written business communication, with a focus on CVs and covering letters
2. Understanding and producing British English intonation
3. Communicating effectively through production and interpretation of intonation, body language and facial expressions, taking into account intercultural, group and individual factors
4. Intercultural differences in (professional) communication, with a specific focus on Germany versus the UK/USA
5. Analysing and applying habitual/appropriate modes of business communication in different corporate/business cultures

CEFR Level: C1 ECTS Credits: 6

Groups: Weds 12-14

Contact: Mr Michael Banks, banks@uni-trier.de

LANG 601 *Creative Writing – Speculative Fiction*

In this course, we will focus on how science fiction and fantasy are written, the diversity of techniques, styles and language used, and what makes for good texts. Throughout the term, students will practice their own creative writing in these genres. Assessment will include two assessed pieces of work as well as a weekly writing journal. Students should be prepared not only to discuss the mechanics of writing but also to share and evaluate their writing in groups or with the class.

CEFR Level: C1 ECTS Credits: 6

Groups: Thurs 10-12

Contact: Mr Michael Banks, banks@uni-trier.de

LANG 601 *Discussion & Debate*

This course aims to provide continued oral practice at a high level whilst integrating research and analytical skills. Topics for discussion and debate will be of a controversial nature and related to the English-speaking world. Primary topics will be narrowed down and selected by students. Students are expected to participate fully in each session as the course is highly dependent upon verbal interaction. This course will include and focus on: pair/small-group work, debate, discussion, academic research, analytical and deductive reasoning, persuasive language, appropriate register.

CEFR Level: C1 ECTS Credits: 6

Groups: Mon 12-14

Contact: Mr Michael Banks, banks@uni-trier.de

LINGUISTICS CLASSES

LING 101V *Introduction to Linguistic Studies 1* (Lecture)

This lecture offers a basic introduction to a range of topics in English Linguistics: Phonetics/Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis. It is aimed at first-semester students and requires no previous knowledge in English Linguistics.

CEFR Level: B2+ ECTS Credits: 3 or 6

Groups: Tues 12-14

Contact: Prof. Sebastian Hoffmann, hoffmann@uni-trier.de

LING 102V/ METH *Introduction to English Language Teaching (ELT)* (Lecture)

The major aim of this lecture is to enable students to reflect systematically and make informed judgements about language learning and language teaching and to better understand the complex processes involved in both. The basic knowledge required to do this, i.e. knowledge of the concepts and methods in language teaching and knowledge about language, is the central concern of this lecture.

CEFR Level: B2+ ECTS Credits: 3 or 5

Groups: Fri 12-14

Contact: Prof. Henning Rossa, rossa@uni-trier.de

LING 201V *Introduction to Linguistic Studies 2*

Following on from Introduction to Linguistic Studies 1, this is an introductory class acquainting students with social, regional and historical variation in English.

CEFR Level: B2+ ECTS Credits: 2, 4, 6 or 7

Groups: Mon 10-12, 14-16, Tues 10-12, 16-18, Weds 10-12, 12-14, Thurs 8-10,

Contact: Dr Bettina Kraft, kraftb@uni-trier.de

LING 401 METH *Integrating Digital Tools in English Language Teaching* tbc

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4, 6 or 7

Groups: Mon 14-16

Contact: Ms Lisa Klassen (klassen@uni-trier.de)

LING 401 METH *Intercultural Communication*

In this seminar, we will explore how learners achieve cross-cultural communicative competence and how teachers can integrate a focus on culture into their curriculum. We will investigate the various facets of the notion of culture as well as the diverse cultures of many of the varieties of English around the globe, with special emphasis on using a multi-method and multi-modal approach.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4, 6 or 7

Groups: Thurs 8-10, 10-12

Contact: Dr Bettina Kraft (kraftb@uni-trier.de)

LING 401 METH *Corpus Linguistics*

Have you ever wondered how we know what we know about language? Corpora are collections of language and they are one of our major sources of insight into how language works and how it is used. But how exactly is a corpus compiled and structured? And how can we use its data to tell us what we want to know? These are the questions that we will address in this class.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4, 6 or 7

Groups: Thurs 14-16

Contact: Ms Tammy Ganster (ganster@uni-trier.de)

LING 401 METH *Early Foreign Language Learning* tbc

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4, 6 or 7

Groups: Thurs 14-16, Fri 10-12

Contact: Dr Marina Schramm (schramm@uni-trier.de)

LING 402V *Language Typology and the Structure of English* tbc

CEFR Level: C1 ECTS Credits: 2

Groups: Tues 10-12

Contact: Prof. Sabine Arndt-Lappe (arndtlappe@uni-trier.de)

LIT 201V *Introduction to Literary Studies 2: A History of English Literature* (Lecture)

This lecture offers a first dive into the history of English literature. Introducing texts, authors, and historical contexts from the pre-modern to the postmodern period, it is designed as a broad overview that presents students with an initial orientation of the relevant literary currents and landmark works. In particular, it will focus on the interrelation of historical, cultural, and literary developments. Students should be prepared to study an extensive amount of texts. Extracts of the texts discussed will be made available online via the StudIP platform. For preparatory reading I recommend Paul Poplawski's *English Literature in Context* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008). Many of the texts discussed can be found in the two-volume *The Norton Anthology of English Literature* by M. H. Abrams et al. (New York: Norton, 1993).

CEFR Level: B2+ ECTS Credits: 2, 4, or 6

Groups: Tues 14-16; Thurs 10-12

Contact: Prof. Ralf Hertel, (hertel@uni-trier.de); Dr. Eva-Maria Windberger, (em.windberger@uni-trier.de)

LIT 401 *T.C. Boyle: On America(n) and Other States*

tbc

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4 or 5

Groups: Mon 8-10, 14-16

Contact: Dr Markus M. Müller (markus.m.mueller@uni-trier.de)

LIT 401 *Alice Munro*

tbc

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4 or 5

Groups: Tues 12-14

Contact: Dr Markus M. Müller (markus.m.mueller@uni-trier.de)

LIT 401 *Censorship in Hollywood*

In this class, we will be exploring the idea of censorship in art with the help of Hollywood film productions. We will begin with an introduction to film theory, strengthening our understanding of the tools needed to study film texts. With that footing, we will go on to explore the concepts of censorship in literature/film, tracing its historical path from book-burning to theatre walkouts, looking at it from a variety of angles and motivations, from state-mandated censorship to self-censorship, from morally/religiously motivated censorship to capitalist agendas, from the history of censorship to future developments. Our primary literature will be film texts of various kinds, which you will need to get a hold of during the semester.

Please be aware that because of the nature of our seminar's topic (censorship), some of these film texts might include potentially triggering content. Proper warning will be given about the primary texts to which this applies.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4 or 5

Groups: Weds 16-18

Contact: Amanda Boyce (boyce@uni-trier.de)

LIT 401 *Contemporary Canadian Literature*

Canada is a fascinatingly modern and multicultural country, and this diversity shows in its literature. This seminar proposes to take a closer look at recent Canadian texts, discussing how Canada has been shaped by its literature – and how literature is shaped by Canadian realities. The texts studied in this seminar include, amongst other texts, short stories by Margarete Atwood and Alice Munroe as well as novels by Michael Ondaatje (*The English Patient*) and Wayson Choy (*The Jade Peony*). In addition, we will look at the negotiation of contemporary Canadian identity in other media, such as TV series (e.g. *Kim's Convenience*).

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4 or 5

Groups: Weds 8-10, 10-12

Contact: Prof. Ralf Hertel (hertel@uni-trier.de)

LIT 401 *Early American Short Stories: Irving, Hawthoren, Poe* tbc

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4 or 5

Groups: Weds 8-10

Contact: Dr Markus M. Müller (markus.m.mueller@uni-trier.de)

LIT 401 *Engaging with Feminist Criticism in Texts and Media: Theories, Representations, Agendas*

This course sets out to explore American women's writing from a feminist perspective by analysing poetry, short stories, novels, and films ranging from the late 19th century to today. We are going to read seminal texts of feminist criticism (e.g. by Virginia Woolf, Simone de Beauvoir, Elaine Showalter, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, and bell hooks) to build an understanding of its beginnings, its evolution throughout different waves, and its diverse agendas. Looking at North American texts by writers such as Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Kate Chopin, Sylvia Plath, Alice Walker, and Rupi Kaur, we are going to investigate and discuss the representation of women's identities, communities, diversity, and the multifaceted dynamics of dominance, oppression, and self-empowerment.

Disclaimer: Several of the texts on our reading list contain depictions of mental illness and forms of violence, both physical/sexual and psychological.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2, 4 or 5

Groups: Weds 10-12

Contact: Dr Eva-Maria Windberger (em.windberger@uni-trier.de)

LIT 402V *Basic Survey of American Literature and Culture: American Modernism*

This survey lecture class will provide basic insights into 20th-century American literature and culture. It will focus its investigation through close readings of selected American poems. We will discuss the historical roots of modern American culture, but will also debate the contemporary significance of the issues raised in the texts. Each poem will be set within the cultural, social, and gender context of its period.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2 or 4

Groups: Mon 16-18

Contact: Prof. Gerd Hurm (hurm@uni-trier.de)

LIT 402V *Basic Survey of Canadian Literature and Culture*

Proceeding more or less chronologically, this lecture course will chart the major steps of the history of Canada and its various manifestations on cultural as well as literary terrains, across the relevant genres, and often in relation to the big neighbour, the United States. What will emerge is a portrait of settlement and

expansion, of religious and economic ideologies, of multiple ethnicities, all making up a media-rich, multicultural mosaic called Canada.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2 or 4

Groups: Thurs 12-14

Contact: Dr Markus M. Müller (markus.m.mueller@uni-trier.de)

LIT 402V/ELM 302 *Approaches to Modern British Literature and Postcolonial Echoes*

With a stress on the 20th Century, this lecture course touches on central literary (and thus: cultural-historical-social-political) trends and developments. Connecting with the antecedent Victorian period, some of the major continuations, adaptations, and (radical) transformations in and of (Modern) British Literature will be reflected. While priority is given to the genre of the novel, we will trace how major changes and events have effected particular repercussions across all sections of life: The swelling and decline of the Empire; two World Wars and Modernism; the Post-War reorientation; state intervention; and more redefinitions in terms of society, culture, and ethnicity; the politics of gender as well as postcolonial issues. Time and life permitting, we will end on this side of the Millennium.

CEFR Level: B2-C1 ECTS Credits: 2 or 4

Groups: Tues 8-10

Contact: Dr Markus M. Müller (markus.m.mueller@uni-trier.de)