Mythology and Landscape in Native American Fiction

Dozent
Priv.-Doz. Stefan Brandt

Angaben
Proseminar, 2 SWS, ECTS-Studium, ECTS-Credits: 7
Unterrichtssprache: Englisch, BA LCMS 3.2; BK: 6.2; GHR: 5.1; Gym: 2.1 u. 7.3;
SEK I/II: B 4; MA: AmL3; anmeldepflichtig (in AR-H 213)
Zeit und Ort: Mi 10:00 - 12:00, AR-B 2201
ab 19.4.2006

Studienfächer / Studienrichtungen:
ANG-M-AL ab 3
LCMS-BA-M3 ab 3
ENG-SI-B ab 3
ENG-SII-B ab 3
ENG-GHR ab 3
ENG-GYM ab 3 2.1
ENG-BK ab 3

Inhalt
The seminar will explore the development and range of Native American Fiction since
the beginning of the «Native American Renaissance» of the 1960s, giving special
emphasis to the function of mythology and landscape in the genre. After reading
selected texts about story-telling and Native American myths, we will examine novels
by N. Scott Momaday (House Made of Dawn, 1968; The Way to Rainy Mountain,
1969), Leslie Marmon Silko (“Lullaby” 1981), Louise Erdrich (Love Medicine,
1981/1993), and Sherman Alexie (Indian Killer, 1996). We will also take a look at the
recent “Disneyfication” of Native American themes in movies such as POCOHONTAS

ECTS-Informationen:
2 Credits: Regular attendance and participation in class (50%), Expert session (50%)

5 Credits: Regular attendance and participation in class (1/3), Expert session &
Handout (1/3), summary and analysis of one session (5-8 pages) (1/3)

7 Credits: Regular attendance and participation in class (30%), Expert session &
Handout (30%), Final paper (13-15 pages) (40%)

Note ! The deadline for all papers is July 21 ! There is no extension of this
deadline !

Zusätzliche Informationen
Erwartete Teilnehmerzahl: 50
Syllabus:

26. April Native American Creation Myths

03. May Inventing the Indian: The Pocahontas Myth
John Gadsby Chapman’s *The Baptism of Pocahontas* and the Disney movie

10. May Early Narratives of White/Indian Encounters
William Apess, *A Son of the Forest* (1829) and Chief Seattle, “The Indians’ Night Promises to the Dark” (1853)

17. May Crossing the Boundaries
Gertrude Simmons Bonnin (Zitkala-Sa), “Impressions of an Indian Childhood” (1900)

24. May Collective Native American Identities
Luther Standing Bear, “My People the Sioux” (1975)

31. May Nature as Mythological Space

07. June Imagination, Memory, and Oral Tradition

14. June Becoming Part of the Landscape
Lame Deer, “Talking to the Owls and Butterflies” (1972)

21. June Spirituality and Identity

28. June Changing Mythologies
Sherman Alexie, from *Indian Killer* (1996)

05. July (Native) American Identity in the Postmodern Age

12. July The Disneyfication of Native American Mythology
BROTHER BEAR (2004)