

Lektüreelement MA GS + Lektüreprojekte BA: Information

Requirements:

- a) Submit a proposal for a reading list
- b) Submit a reading journal
- c) 1 office hour appointment during the semester + 1 final discussion about your readings (c. 15 min)

a) Reading List:

- The texts on your reading list should amount to c. 1000 pages in total
- Please choose texts from 3 different centuries

When choosing texts for your reading list, follow your own interests but try to explore a little outside your comfort zone. If you have never read a Gothic novel, for example, but you feel like this genre would be fun to familiarise yourself with, now might be the time to give it a go. Do not only look into novels; also consider other forms and genres such as novellas, (collections of) short stories or poetry.

See me during office hours to discuss your reading project. We will then have a look at the texts you have picked and discuss changes or think about alternative suggestions if necessary. Having discussed your ideas, please submit your reading list via e-mail to me (sprang@anglistik.uni-siegen.de).

b) Reading Journal:

Your reading journal should consist of about 4,000-5,000 words in total, reflecting your experience with the texts you chose. Please write it by hand and hand it in, either in person or with Anja Weber (IF 114) or by putting it in my mail box on the ground floor of AR-IF.

Your reading journal is NOT meant to be a term paper. If you would like to incorporate a secondary source or two, you may do that, but this is optional. The aim of this module is to make you reflect on the texts you read and on your personal impressions. When writing about the texts you read, you could, for example, ask yourselves what your expectations for the texts were and whether they were fulfilled / disappointed / subverted. What aspects of the texts – form, language, narrative perspective etc. – felt particularly fascinating to you and why? How do these texts compare to each other as well as to what you usually like to read? What is different about them? What elements appealed to you and why? How does the language and rhythm of, for instance, a poem affect your reading experience in comparison to long-form texts like novels or novellas?

The reading journal is there for you to record your own ideas and interpretations. It does not need to be extremely polished or read like an academic paper. Be honest and see if you do not surprise yourself.

c) Discussions:

Once you started reading, sign up for a slot in my office hours (c. 15 mins) some time before the deadline for the reading journal. Talk to me about your progress, any possible difficulties you have encountered, or ask any questions you might have.

Final conversation (c. 15 mins): This will take place after you submitted your reading journal. (I will notify you via e-mail). This is NOT an exam situation – you do not need to prepare for this excessively. As with the reading journal, during this final discussion I would like to hear *your* thoughts and impressions. There are no right or wrong answers and I am not a member of the Spanish Inquisition. Simply make sure you remember what you read and be open to discussing the texts with me. Bring your own perspective, creativity, and critical thinking skills!