

**Prof. Dr. Stefan Horlacher**

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**The British Campus Novel**

**Tues (4)**

**HSZ 405**

*"High above the North Pole, on the first day of 1969, two professors of English literature approached each other at a combined velocity of 1200 miles per hour..."* This is the first sentence of David Lodge's novel *Changing Places*, a novel which has been called on of the funniest books about academic life by "one of the best novelists of his generation" (Anthony Burgess).

The *Campus Novel* is certainly one of the most popular genres in British and American literature, especially among students and academics. The two novels we are going to read and discuss have both been bestsellers and make for fascinating reading.

After a short introduction to the genre of the campus novel we will focus on the following questions: How are universities presented in these novels, how are professors and students characterised and to what effect? Further questions pertain to the comic elements in the novels, the functioning of satire, the socio-critical dimensions of the texts, and the narrative techniques used.

This course is also aimed at students who have not yet attended the introductory lecture to Literary Studies.

Please buy:

David Lodge. *Changing Places*. London: Vintage, 2011.

—. *Nice Work*. London: Vintage, 2011.

A syllabus and comprehensive bibliography will be available in the first session in April.

You are expected to have read *Changing Places* before the start of the term.

*Please note:* You are not required to enrol for this seminar in advance. If you would like to join this course, simply turn up at the first session and sign up then.