

Prof. Dr. Stefan Horlacher

HS **Constructions of Masculinity in** **Thu (3)** **W 48/001**
S **British Literature at the Turn of the**
 20th Century

This course explores the challenges which the emerging field of Masculinity Studies presents to literary studies by introducing different theories concerning the conceptualization of masculinity and, more specifically, male gender identities. Moreover, we will examine the specificities of literary representations, or better: creations of masculinities, with the help of a series of British novels.

These include Thomas Hardy's *Jude the Obscure* (1895) and D.H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers* (1913) as well as a number of short stories. We will pay special attention to the various ways in which literary texts create different and alternative versions of masculinity, how they enforce or contradict cultural norms and what this implies for the individual protagonists concerned. In a final step, we will discuss the question of transferability of literary knowledge (also about gender identity) into everyday life.

Bibliography

Thomas Hardy: *Jude the Obscure*. London: Penguin, 2012. [ISBN 0140435387]
D.H. Lawrence. *Sons and Lovers*. London: Penguin, 2006. [ISBN 0141441445]
D.H. Lawrence. *The Fox*. [any edition]

A syllabus and comprehensive bibliography will be available in the first session. Further materials will be provided online (via OPAL).

NB: This course prepares students for the "Schriftliches Staatsexamen: Klausur Englische Literaturwissenschaft" (altes Staatsexamen) in fall 2015.

The first session takes place in the second week of term.

You do not have to register in advance – just be there for the first meeting.