

Englische Literaturwissenschaft

Dr. Wieland Schwanebeck

PS/Ü

Dracula

Tue (2) Ort (wird von
Bearbeiterin
eingetragen)

Ask the Guinness Book of World Records who the most frequently portrayed literary character on screen is, and you're in for a surprise: it's neither Hamlet nor Sherlock Holmes, but a charismatic, blood-sucking villain of the late 19th century. It is, of course, Count Dracula, who took readers of the late Victorian Age by storm when he made his first appearance in Bram Stoker's famous novel (1897). A romance, a gothic horror story, and an epistolary novel, *Dracula* continues to fascinate readers with its morbid charm, its complex interweaving of different media, and with its subtextual allusions to turn-of-the-century cultural and political fears and debates.

In this seminar, we will apply traditional narratological concepts to Stoker's book, and analyse it from a variety of angles, addressing *Dracula's* psychosexual dimension, the theme of masculinity, class issues, and religion, amongst others.

In the second half of the term, we will widen the scope to include a variety of *Dracula* adaptations in our discussion. Students will collaborate in small groups to work on case studies of the influential *Dracula* films by Tod Browning (1931), John Badham (1979), and Francis Ford Coppola (1992), amongst others. The films will be available in an *Audiovisueller Semesterapparat* in the SLUB (Mediathek), so you can watch them in the library at the beginning of the semester.

Please buy:

Bram Stoker: *Dracula* [1897]. Eds. Nina Auerbach and David J. Skal. New York:
London: Norton, 1997. ISBN 0393970124

You can join this class no matter if you have already attended the introductory course or not. You do not have to register beforehand – just be there for the first meeting.