

# **Englisches Seminar**

Newsletter | July 2025





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## **DEADLINES & DATES**



#### **APPLICATION FOR MASTER'S PROGRAMS**

You can now apply for the first semester of our Master's programs at the English Department to begin your studies in the winter semester 2025/26:

- British and North American Cultural Studies (M.A.)
- English Literatures and Literary Theory (M.A.)

Deadline? July 31, 2025 (EU-Citizens)

English (M.Ed.)

Deadline? July 15, 2025

The application is only possible online via HISinOne (Studies offered > Application). An FAQ and useful tips for the application in HISinOne can be found here. Please also note that applications to a higher semester differ from the above deadline and application. More information on this application form can be found on the website of the Service Center Studium. A comprehensive overview of the Master's programs at the University of Freiburg can be found here.

#### **RÜCKMELDUNG FOR THE WINTER SEMESTER 2025/26**

You can re-enroll for the 2025/26 winter semester until August 15 via HISinOne. For more information, please consult the website of the Service Center Studium.

#### **SEMESTER BREAK**

The semester break will last from Sunday, July 28 until Sunday, October 12. Teaching in the 2025/26 winter semester will begin on Monday, October 13. You can find an overview of semester dates and holidays here.

## FROM THE DEPARTMENT



# COLLOQUIUM LitCult Colloquium

This colloquium, organized by J.Prof Dr. Maria Sulimma and Prof. Dr. Eva von Contzen, provides a venue for current research projects in literary studies and cultural studies (including media studies, American studies, Anglophone studies, medieval and early modern studies) at the English Department. We feature a number of guest speakers from other departments of the University of Freiburg as well as external guests from other universities both national and international. The colloquium is open to all interested.

- **July 1: Inventing Emotion in "Renaissance" Drama** | Prof. Dr. Katherine Little (Colorado Boulder)
- July 8: The Politics of Genre Fiction in China | JProf. Dr. Jessica Imbach (Freiburg)
- July 15: Lámatyávë or Holmey Wejwa' Evaluating Invented Languages by their Sound | Mareike Huber, M.A. (Freiburg)
- July 22: Journalism in 21st-Century British Fiction An Approach and Two Films (Lee, 2023 and Scoop, 2024) | Prof. Dr. Barabara Korte (Freiburg)

When? Tuesdays | 4.15–5.45 pm Where? HS 3118

#### **PUBLICATION**

'In Focus' Section in the Graduate Journal In Progress

The Graduate Journal In Progress has just published its newest issue which contains a special section of peer-reviewed essays by students from the English Department. Based on their term papers for JProf. Dr. Maria Sulimma's Seminar "Gentrification on the Page and Screen" (Winter semester 2023/2024), the contributions by Adam Hollstein, Jacob Hovde, and Kieu Jenny Vi comprise an "In Focus" section of the Journal on "Gentrification Narratives."

From the introduction of the journal editors: "Adam Hollstein works with Mary Louise Pratt's concept of the contact zone and compares the shopkeepers Sal from Spike Lee's film Do the Right Thing (1989) with Fadi from Ivy Pochoda's novel Visitation Street (2013) in order to discuss the special role of shops as conflict spaces and contact zones within neighborhoods that are facing gentrification. In the second article, Jacob Edmund Hovde applies Jacques Derrida's concept of hauntology to the televisual representation of urban change in Showtime's limited series The Curse (2023). He shows how the television show engages with the lingering presence of the settler colonial past, thus foregrounding cultural displacement and erasure which, as Hovde argues, tend to be obscured in gentrification narratives. And finally, Kieu Jenny Vi explains the interconnectedness between food and gentrification in her analysis of the FX television show The Bear (2022–). Tracing the transformation from Italian sandwich shop to gourmet restaurant, Vi explores how this kind of retail gentrification affects the neighborhood and characters in the show. Taken together, these three articles provide a panorama of analyses across different media that sheds light on the timely and highly contested topic of gentrification."

The articles are available open-access <u>here</u>.

#### **PUBLICATION**

#### DFG Roundtable "Future of the English Major

Back in February, the English Department hosted a DFG Roundtable to talk about the "Future of the English Major." Prof. Eva von Contzen, Dr. Anne Rüggemeier, and JunProf. Maria Sulimma brought together a small group of scholars from British and American Studies programs across Germany, with some great input from colleagues in the US and Ireland. Together, we discussed the challenges the humanities are facing and brainstormed where we might go from here.

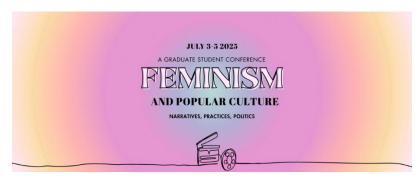
Out of those conversations, a few working groups formed—and we're excited to share two pieces which were co-authored by members of the English Department that have already come out of that work:

The first is an article in Forschung & Lehre (Issue 5/25), co-authored by Dr. Roman Barton, available to read here.

The second is a newspaper piece co-written by Dr. Anna-Lena Oldehus, published in DIE ZEIT on May 28—both in print and online, available to read <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a>

#### **GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE**

Feminism and Popular Culture: Narratives, Practices, Politics



From July 3-5, 2025, students from JProf. Dr. Maria Sulimma's Seminar "Postfeminism in Film and Television" (Summersemester 2025) will participate in the conference "Feminism and Popular Culture: Narratives, Practices, Politics" at the Leibniz University Hannover. The conference is enabled through a

teaching collaboration with Prof. Dr. Kathleen Loock and students of the English Department Hannover, as well as funding by the "Programm zur Unterstützung von Studium und Lehre" of the University of Freiburg.

The students will give talks, participate in roundtable discussions, and close readings of movies such as Legally Blonde (2001) or Barbie (2023) and TV shows such as Fleabag (2016-2019) or Gilmore Girls (2000-2007). The Keynote will be held by Annelot Prins (Freie Universität Berlin) on "The old Taylor can't come to the phone because she's dead': Paradoxes of Celebrity Victimhood and the Promise of Post-Feminist Self-Reinvention in Popular Music."

The program and information for registration is available <u>here</u>.

## **OPPORTUNITIES**



#### LAURA BASSI SCHOLARSHIP

The Laura Bassi Scholarship was established in 2018 with the aim of providing editorial assistance to postgraduates and junior academics whose research focuses on neglected topics of study, broadly construed. The scholarships are open to every discipline, and the next round of funding will be awarded in Summer 2025:

**Application deadline:** 31 July 2025

Results: 10 August 2025

All currently enrolled master's and doctoral candidates are eligible to apply, as are academics in the first five years of full-time employment. Applicants are required to submit a completed application form along with their CV through the application portal by the relevant deadline. Further details, including previous winners, and the application portal can be found here.

## **READING GROUPS**



# READING GAMES Everybody's Gone to the Rapture (2015)

Reading Games (as in "we are reading games," not as if a series of gamified reading sessions) is a book club for video games instead of books. Reading Games is a discussion group meeting on a monthly basis to talk about digital games, examining them from an interdisciplinary perspective, including literary and cultural studies approaches. The meetings take place between 20:00-21:03 pm on the second Tuesday of the month via Discord (online) and are open to all students, faculty members, and external guests. Participants are expected to complete a playthrough of the selected game in advance of each session.



In June, the club will continue their theme **Liminal Spaces** by discussing **Blue Prince (2025).** 

Welcome to Mt. Holly, where every dawn unveils a new mystery. Navigate through shifting corridors and ever-changing chambers in this genre-defying strategy puzzle adventure. But will your unpredictable path lead you to the rumored Room 46?

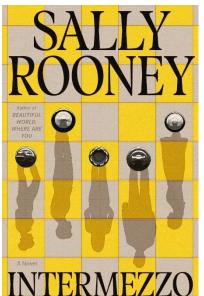
When? Tuesday, July 15 | 20.00–21.30 pm Where? Discord (Online)

The selected reading for this theme is **Gregory Whistance-Smith**, **Expressive Space**: **Embodying Meaning in Video Game Environments (2022)**.

For more information or questions on how to access the Discord server, please contact <u>Kübra Aksay.</u> You can find past and upcoming sessions on <u>the Reading Games website.</u>

# **CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE BOOK CLUB Orbital** (2023)

The Contemporary Literature Book Club is a meeting group intended for the discussion of contemporary literature in the English language. Students, faculty, and staff are always welcome to join us.



This month, the group will discuss **Sally Rooney**, Intermezzo (2024)

Aside from the fact that they are brothers, Peter and Ivan Koubek seem to have little in common. Peter is a Dublin lawyer in his thirties - successful, competent and apparently unassailable. But in the wake of their father's death, he's medicating himself to sleep and struggling to manage his relationships with two very different women - his enduring first love Sylvia, and Naomi, a college student for whom life is one long joke.

Ivan is a twenty-two-year-old competitive chess player. He has always seen himself as socially awkward, a loner, the antithesis of his glib elder brother. Now, in the early weeks of his bereavement, Ivan meets Margaret, an older woman emerging

they love, this is a new interlude - a period of desire, despair and possibility - a chance to find out how much one life might hold inside itself without breaking.

> When? Thursday, July 3 | 2.00-3.00 pm Where? Breisacher Tor | R 104



This month, the group will discuss also **Natasha Brow**, **Universality** (2025)

Remember - words are your weapons, they're your tools, your currency.

On a Yorkshire farm, a man is brutally bludgeoned with a solid gold bar. A plucky young journalist sets out to uncover the truth surrounding the attack, connecting the dots between an amoral banker landlord, an iconoclastic columnist, and a radical anarchist movement. She solves the mystery, but her viral longread exposé raises more questions than it answers.

> When? Thursday, July 24 | 2.00-3.00 pm Where? Breisacher Tor | R 104

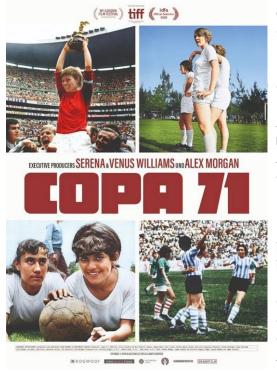
More information on the selected books as well as an overview of past sessions can be found on the English Department's website. For more information or to join, contact Eva von Contzen or Philomena Wolf.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**



#### **DOKUMENTARFILM** COPA 71

COPA 71 ist ein Dokumentarfilm über die erste (inoffizielle) Frauenfußball WM in Mexico City. Ein Stück Fußballgeschichte, ein Stück Emanzipationsgeschichte und vollkommen unterhaltsam.



#### COPA 71

Großbritannien 2023, 91 Min., Englisch/Spanisch/Italienisch/Französisch mit deutschen Untertiteln

August 1971: Mexico City ist Austragungsort für ein riesiges Fußballspektakel, bei dem Teams aus England, Argentinien, Mexiko, Frankreich, Dänemark und Italien aufeinandertreffen. Über 100.000 Fans verwandeln das historische Azteca-Stadion Spiel für Spiel in einen Ort der Begeisterung, das Fernsehen berichtet durchgehend. Die Atmosphäre erinnert an die größten Momente der internationalen Fußballgeschichte. Aber dieses Turnier ist anders als alles, was es vorher gab, denn auf dem Platz sind ausschließlich Frauen. Es handelt sich um die Copa '71, die erste inoffizielle Frauenfußball-WM. Von der FIFA und den nationalen Fußballverbänden abgelehnt, wurde dieses historische Ereignis aus den Annalen des Fußballs verdrängt. Doch nun erinnert ein Dokumentarfilm an dieses Turnier, das über zehn Jahre

vor der ersten offiziellen Frauenfußball-Weltmeisterschaft stattfand, und rückt die Spielerinnen der damaligen Zeit, die charismatischen Pionierinnen ihrer Sportart, endlich ins Rampenlicht. Seit 26.6.25 in Freiburger Kinos.

### **LEHRAMTSBERATUNG** Veranstaltungen

Die Lehramtsberatung der Abteilung Gymnasiales Lehramt möchte auf folgende Angebote im Juli aufmerksam machen:

- Infoveranstaltung: Das Berufliche Schulwesen Do, 03.07.25 | 12:30-13:30 | HS 1009 Mehr Informationen findet man auf der Webseite.
- Pop-up-Café zur Studienplanung Mi, 16.07.25 | 9-12 | Sedanstr. 6, 2. OG (SCS) Mehr Informationen findet man auf der Webseite.
- Pop-up-Café zur Studienplanung Do, 17.07.25 | 9-12 | Sedanstr. 6, 2. OG (SCS) Mehr Informationen findet man auf der Webseite.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSISTANT PROGRAM Information Event

Would you like to spend some time abroad during your studies that will really benefit you in your future job as a teacher? Where you can work at a school, try things out and get to know the culture of a country? Then the foreign language assistant program is just right for you. It can be partially credited as part of the SPS in your M.Ed. Possible target countries include France, Italy, Great Britain, Ireland, Canada, Australia and the USA, but there are many more.

An online information event will take place on 15. July 2025 at 6 p.m. Learn more about the program and first-hand experience reports from Ireland, Spain and France. Please contact the campus ambassador Jelena for the link at the following e-mail address: <a href="mailto:freiburg@fsa-pad.de">freiburg@fsa-pad.de</a>

For more information about the FSA-Program check out their website or instragram account @fsa\_pad.

# CARL-SCHURZ-HAUS Upcoming Events

During this month, the **Carl-Schurz-Haus** offers various events of interest to members of the English Department:

Further information as well as other events organized by the Carl-Schurz-Haus can be found on their website.

- Friday, July 4, 4.00 pm | Ganter Hausbiergarten, Leo-Wohleb-Str. 4
   Independence Day Party
   Live Music | Kids' Corner | Spare Ribs & Drinks | Fun & Games
- Tuesday, July 8, 7 pm | Schloß Ebnet, Schwarzwaldstr. 278
   Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare
   Freilichttheateraufführung in englischer Sprache mit TNT Theatre Britain und American Drama Group Europe
- Saturday, July 19, 11.00 am | Carl-Schurz-Haus, Eisenbahnstr. 62
   Schurz Shorts Filmmaking Club
   mit Ashley Matthäus & Raphael Büchel, Freiburg