COURSE DETAIL

BESTSELLERS AND THE BUSINESS OF LITERATURE
Country Germany
Host Institution Humboldt University Berlin
Program(s) Humboldt University Berlin
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) English
UCEAP Course Number 111
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title BESTSELLERS AND THE BUSINESS OF LITERATURE
UCEAP Transcript Title BESTSELLERS&BUS LIT
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.70

Course Description
The seminar provides an entryway into some of the pressing questions around the role of literature and literary aesthetics in modern society. What is at stake, for example, when we let a “bestseller” label influence our choice of reading? On what grounds is the qualifier “best” defined? What is the status of bestsellers in higher education? By engaging with a selection of bestsellers from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, the idea is to consolidate a base of case studies from which to draw in dialogue with pertinent theoretical commentators of the likes of Pierre Bourdieu, Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, Bruno Latour, and Richard Hoggart. Among the primary sources are featured D.H. Lawrence’s LADY CHATTERLEY’S LOVER (1928), Virginia Woolf’s THE YEARS (1937), Vladimir Nabokov’s LOLITA (1955), and Arundhati Roy’s THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS (1996). The weekly seminar structure is comprised of two parts: the first two hours is dedicated to the discussion of theoretical texts and the remaining two hours are spent on the theoretically informed analysis of the chosen novels.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
5250072

Host Institution Course Title
BESTSELLERS AND THE BUSINESS OF LITERATURE

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
SPRACH- UND LITERATURWISSENSCHAFTLICHE FAKULTÄT

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Anglistik und Amerikanistik

Course Last Reviewed

Print