

## 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 Campus

SPRACH- UND LITERATURWISSENSCHAFTLICHE FAKULTÄT

## Host Institution Faculty

## Host Institution Degree

## Host Institution Department

Anglistik und Amerikanistik

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