Universität Leipzig
Institut für Anglistik
Abteilung Literatur

Themenvorschläge für Abschlussarbeiten

Maria Fleischhack
Arbeiten aus folgenden Bereichen:
- Sherlock Holmes
- Arthur Conan Doyle and his work
- Mummy Fiction
- Tolkien and his work
- Literary adaptations

Stefan Lampadius:
Arbeiten aus folgenden Bereichen:
- Literatur und Wissenschaft/Science Fiction
- Utopie und Dystopie, Reiseliteratur
- Neuseeländische Literatur und Film, Pazifik
- Australische Literatur und Film (Zweitkorrektur)

Prof. Dr. Stefan Welz:
Arbeiten aus folgenden Bereichen:
1) Literatur des Viktorianismus und der Edwardianischen Übergangsperiode
2) Literatur des Modernismus 1910-1939
4) Literatur zum Kolonialismus und zum British Empire
5) Gegenwartsliteratur Großbritanniens, insbesondere Ian McEwan, Jeanette Winterson, Doris Lessing, Kazuo Ishiguro, Zadie Smith
6) Das Verhältnis Mensch-Tier in Literatur und Kultur
7) Das Thema „Arbeit“ in der Literatur
8) Reiseliteratur/ Englischsprachige Schriftsteller und Schriftstellerkommunen außerhalb Großbritanniens, insbesondere in Frankreich und im Mittelmeergebiet
9) Theoretische Aspekte des Postkolonialismus
10) Aspekte der Erzählforschung

Prof. Dr. Elmar Schenkel
Here is a range of possible topics for BA and MA thesis in literary studies (many of them, of course, can be modified according to research interest).

1. Science and Literature
Frankenstein and Contemporary Science Brains in Literature
Electricity in Literature Drugs and Literature (de Quincey, Huxley, Welsh)
Science in the Sherlock Holmes Stories Alchemy in Shakespeare and Jonson
Mesmerism in Literature, Bulwer-Lytton: A Strange Story/ Zanoni
Alchemy in Chaucer
Railway: in Dickens, in Rider Haggard, in poetry (Betjeman)
Astrology and Literature, eg Chaucer, Shakespeare
Bicycles in 19th and 20th century literature Eating/ Drinking
British Bicycle Posters, Magical Potions
Bicycles in Film Volcanoes in Literature (Conrad, Lowry et al)
Genetics and Literature Victorian Ghost Stories and Psychology
Neurology and Literature (e.g. from Wells to Ian McEwan)
The Moon in Literature and Culture
Cheese in Literature and Film

2. Children’s Literature
Science in Children’s Literature Roald Dahl and Modern Educational Theories
Victorian Reality in E. Nesbit’s Books Charles Kingsley’s Writings for Children
Language Games in Ch Literature Mrs Molesworth

3. Travel Writing
River Travel Rebecca West in the Balkans
Rivers in Travel Writing (Thames, Danube, Rhine, Nile, Congo, Volga...)
Italian Travel
Patrick Leigh Fermor Russian Travel (Thubron, Byron et al)
Bruce Chatwin Eastern Europe

4. Religion
The role of religion in some 20th c. and 21st c writers
Occultism and the Esoteric in Contemporary Literature
Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity in individual authors and works
(Rushdie, Elizabeth Jennings, The Inklings, T.S. Eliot, T.E. Lawrence, E.M. Forster...)
Pilgrimage/ spiritual journeys in literature

5. Intercultural / Comparative Literature
British literature in its European context American-British literary relations
British-German literary relations Goethe in Britain today
The reception of British literary works in Germany/ France/ Italy and other countries
Freudian and /or Jungian psychoanalysis in British/Am. literature
The reception of German/French and other literary works in Britain
The ‘Gipsies’ in Literature

6. Neglected Authors
George Borrow W.H. Hudson Sylvia Plath Thomas de Quincey
Dorothy Richardson P.G. Wodehouse Leonora Carrington Leigh Hunt
John Cowper Powys Hugh McDiarmid Mervyn Peake William Hazlitt
Theodore Francis Powys
Michael Hamburger T.H. White Charles Lamb
Llewellyn Powys Ted Hughes Will Self Sylvia Townsend Warner

7. Unknown Works by Well-Known Writers
R.L. Stevenson: Essays, Kidnapped, The Master of Ballantrae
Lewis Carroll, Russian travel book
James Joyce: Poetry
Conan Doyle, Fantasy; The Parasite; historical novels: The White Company and the 100 Years’ War;
Napoleonic novels/stories (Brigadier Gerard); The Tragedy of the Korosko (Fundamentalism, Islam, Hostages)
Virginia Woolf: Flush Samuel Beckett: German diaries
Ergänzung 17.10.2012

Transylvania in Fiction and Travel Writing (Hope’s Ruritania, Stoker’s Dracula Country, in the Sherlock Holmes stories, travel writing by Emily Gerard and others)

The Balkans under Western Eyes (e.g. Olivia Manning, Balkans Trilogy)

WWI Fiction and Poetry: an international comparison / Comparison with German or French literature (Siegfried Sassoon, Robert Graves, Isaac Rosenberg et al., / compared to Henri Barbusse, Ernst Jünger, Alexander Frey et al)

Laurens van der Post (South Africa, Bushmen, ethnology, Japanese prison camps, Russia, C.G. Jung, The Prince of Wales)

The Myth of Tibet in Literature (Harrer, Seven Years in Tibet, Colin Thubron et al.)

Invasion novels

Alternative histories: Kingsley Amis, Philip K. Dick et al.

Prehistory in fiction/poetry

Gipsies (Roma) in Literature and Culture: George Borrow, William Starkie et al.

Alchemy/Astrology in Contemporary Literature

Ghost stories/Horror
- M.R. James
- Women Writers on Ghosts
- Amelia Edwards
- Vernon Lee
- Henry James
- Sheridan le Fanu
- Edith Nesbit
- Kingsley Amis
- after 1945
- in the Victorian Age
- in the Edwardian Age
- Walter Scott

Studies in Autobiography/Biography:
Laurie Lee, Travel Writing, Autobiography
John Cowper Powys, Autobiography
Arthur Conan Doyle
Robert Graves, Goodbye to All That
Yeats: A Vision – Occultism and History

Journeys to the Moon

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- historical novels
- sports in Doyle’s works
- politics in Doyle’s works
- Clash of civilisations in The Korosko Adventure
- the role of science in the Holmes stories

Doyle and WWI
Doyle and the Boer War
Doyle and Germany
The Biography of Sherlock Holmes

Neglected, but interesting authors:
Walter de la Mare – poetry, short stories, fantasy
The short stories of George Saki
Theodore Francis Powys
Llewellyn Powys
John Cowper Powys
Stevie Smith
Mary Webb
Dorothy Richardson
Michael Hamburger (poet, critic, translator)
Matthew Sweeney (contemporary Irish poet)

**London/the city in Literature:**
London in John Hollingshead, *Under the Bow Bell*
Lady Blessington, *The Magic Lantern – London*
London in Dickens’s *The Uncommercial Traveller*

**Chesterton:**
Politics in the Father Brown Stories
Science and Technology in the Father Brown Stories
Chesterton’s Biographies
Chesterton’s Essays on Railways, on Modern Life, on Technology, Feminism, Science and Fads

**Martin Gardner and Literature**
Children’s literature
Russell Hoban
Cartoons and Comics
C.S. Lewis
Unknown Victorian Writers (Sinclair, Anstey, Moleworth et al.)