**ANG 313 ‘Bad’ Mothers in American Literature (Seminar (Intermediate Level))**

**EN**

**Lecture type:**

Seminar (Intermediate Level)

**ECTS:**

6.0

**Course suitable for:**

**Language of instruction:**

English

**Hours per week:**

2

**Attendance:**

Online, live

**Learning target:**

By studying different literary texts featuring depictions of “bad” mothers, students will critically explore the above-mentioned aspects of motherhood. Furthermore, they will learn to critically question and analyze the contemporary ideal of motherhood.

**Examination achievement:**

Oral Exam OR Seminar Paper

**Instructor(s):**

Juliane Strätz

**Date(s):**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Thursday  (weekly) | 04.03.2021 – 17.06.2021 | 08:30 – 10:00 | PHIL-ZOOM-05; Virtuelles Gebäude |

**Description:**

In this class, we will analyze the fictional depiction of “bad” mothers in US-American literature to address several critical topics which are connected to the mother figure. These topics include, but are not limited to, the construction of motherhood and the social role of the mother in the United States throughout history, the maternal ideal and its determinants, the affective and emotional implications of motherhood, intersectional factors impacting the experience of maternity, and affective labor and care work. In our class, we will analyze these topics by drawing on literary texts which will help us to explore how the representation of the “bad” mother can function as a critical instrument to uncover the ideologies underlying motherhood.

This class will be held online in a mostly synchronous manner. Therefore, please be prepared to attend the class at the scheduled time.