

## Course Outline KULIS

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| Course title   | <b>The Hogwarts Lectures. Literary critical, philosophical and theological Exegeses of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels</b> |
| Date/duration  | <b>6:15 to 7:45 pm (CET / MEZ)<br/>Oct 11 and 18; Nov 8, 15 and 29; Dec 6 and 13</b>  |
| Lecturer   | <b>Christoph Niemand</b>  |
| Teaching language  | <b>English</b>  |
| ECTS   | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Contents</b>  |   |
| <p>In seven units of 90 minutes – each with one hour lecture and half an hour open discussion – the course will be held along the following agenda:</p> <p><i>1. A literary critic analysis of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A tale unfolding: the overall-plot and its seven sub-plots</li> <li>• Personnel: designing individual characters and building-up a rich cosmos of figures</li> <li>• Shifting narrated time(s) and space(s): platform 9 3/4 and the room of requirement ...; Hermione's time-turner and Dumbledore's pensive ...</li> <li>• Narrative devices in Fantastic literature: Suspense and surprise; horror and humor; role models and stereotypes; intertextuality; high and low levels of narrative plausibility</li> </ul> <p><i>2. Specials Items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Trelawney's prophecy</li> <li>• The Last enemy to be destroyed: "Voldemort's project" and the Horcruxes</li> <li>• Why Harry became "good" while Tom Riddle became "evil"?</li> <li>• The <i>Boy who lived</i> and the <i>Chosen One</i>: Harry's way to be a „Savior and Redeemer“</li> <li>• The wisdom of Albus Dumbledore</li> <li>• Possible levels of reading: entertainment, philosophy, religion, biblical theology</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>Learning Outcomes</b>   |   |
| <p>After having followed the lectures and written their papers students should be able to discuss the impact of J. K. Rowling's series of novels on individual readers and its contribution to popular culture in a scholarly informed manner. And - as a personal extra benefit – this should enable them to reread the Harry Potter-tale with still more pleasure than hitherto.</p>   |   |
| <b>Teaching and learning methods</b>   |   |
| Seven units of 90 minutes: each with one hour lecture and half an hour open discussion   |   |
| <b>Course preparation</b>  |   |
| <p>Having read the seven books. (Attention: Having seen the films – which I do love a lot – is something different. Analyzing the Harry Potter films would be another course and out of the realm of my expertise.)</p>  |   |

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| <b>Literature/ Selected Bibliography</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Christoph Niemand</i>, The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. Biblical intertextuality in the sub-text of Joanne K. Rowling's Harry Potter novels, in: ET-Studies (Journal of the European Society for Catholic Theology) 3 (2012) 111-131</li> <li>• <i>Oliver Reis</i>, Die Prophezeiung der Sibyll Trelawney. Biographie unter Erwartungen, in: Dormeyer, D. / Munzel F. (Hgg.), Faszination Harry Potter: Was steckt dahinter? (Wissenschaft aktuell – Theologie 5). Münster 2005, 57-67</li> <li>• <i>Paul Nuechterlein</i>, Harry Potter and the Power of Love. Online (n.y.): <a href="http://girardianlectionary.net/potter/hpatpol-p.htm">http://girardianlectionary.net/potter/hpatpol-p.htm</a> (visited : 03.08.2021)</li> <li>• <i>Nikolaus Wandinger</i>, (): "Sacrifice" in "Harry Potter" from a Girardian Perspective. Online 2009: <a href="http://www.uibk.ac.at/theol/leseraum/texte/819..html">http://www.uibk.ac.at/theol/leseraum/texte/819..html</a> (visited: 03.08.2021).</li> </ul> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Assessment (%)</b><br/>(methods of examination, requirements for awarding credit points)</p>   |
| continuous frequentation and participation in discussions – 1 paper (ca. 8 to 10 pages) – final colloquium<br>--- each 33,33%  |
| <b>Contact details (lecturer)</b>  |
| <a href="mailto:c.niemand@ku-linz.at">c.niemand@ku-linz.at</a>   |