

## **GUEST LECTURE**

**26.06.2012**

**18-20 Uhr, ES 131 (alt H 19)**

**– everybody welcome!!!!**

**Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hallet (Gießen)**

### **Novelistic Narration across Modes and Media: The Multimodal Novel**

Since the 1990s there is a constantly growing number of novels that consist not merely of verbal text, but also incorporate (or: imitate) a wide range of generic modes such as letters and film-scripts, websites and academic writing, and different types of symbolic representation such as (the reproduction of) photographs and graphic elements, maps and diagrams, handdrawn sketches and handwriting, and many other semiotic modes. These different semiotic and generic forms co-constitute a novel's fictional world and its meaning and are therefore an integral part of the narrative discourse of the novel. The shift from exclusively verbal to multisemiotic and multigeneric narration across modes and media constitutes a fundamental generic change and the rise of a new sub-genre, the multimodal novel. This lecture will

- present exemplars of multimodal novels and multimodal narrative discourse
- describe the features of this genre in a narratological approach
- describe the shifts in the reader's cognition
- and address the demands and desiderata produced by this generic change both for literary studies and for the literature classroom.

### **Bio Sketch**

Wolfgang Hallet is professor for Teaching English Literature and Culture and a member of the Executive Board of the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC), and Head of its Teaching Centre at Justus Liebig University Giessen. He is co-editor of a series of handbooks on teaching literature and culture, of the Giessen Contributions to Foreign Language Research (Tübingen, Narr), the Giessen Contributions to the Study of Culture (Trier, WVT) and Concepts for the Study of Culture (Berlin & New York, de Gruyter). His research and publications, including several monographs, comprise study of culture-based theories of teaching literature and culture, cognition and literature, the methodology of the contextualization of literary texts, contemporary novels and narratology.

### **Pertinent recent publications (selection):**

The Multimodal Novel. The Integration of Modes and Media in Novelistic Narration. In: Heinen, Sandra & Sommer, Roy (eds.). *Narratology in the Age of Interdisciplinary Narrative Research*. Berlin & New York: de Gruyter, 2009. 129-153.

Medialisierung von Genres am Beispiel des Blogs und des multimodalen Romans: Von der Schrift-Kunst zum multimodalen Design. In: Nünning, Ansgar & Rupp, Jan (eds.). *Medialisierung des Erzählens im englischsprachigen Roman der Gegenwart. Theoretischer Bezugsrahmen, Genres und Modellinterpretationen*. Trier: WVT, 2011. 85-116.

Visual Images of Space, Movement and Travel in the Multimodal Novel. In: Brosch, Renate (ed.). *Moving Images - Mobile Viewers: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Visuality*. . 227-248.

The Rise of the Multimodal Novel: Generic Change and Its Narratological Implications. In: Ryan, Marie-Laure & Thon, Jan-Noël (eds.). *Storyworlds Across Media: Towards a Media-Conscious Narratology*. University of Nebraska Press. [in press].