

Staffel VIII

ERFOLG IN SERIE

Amerikanische TV-Serien als Gesellschaftsdramen



Gefördert durch das
Auswärtige Amt



Auswärtiges Amt

FILMVORTRÄGE

One Day at a Time

Astrid M. Fellner (UdS)

Di | 20.10.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

Better Call Saul

Raphael Morschett (UdS)

Di | 27.10.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

Fargo

Bärbel Schlimbach (UdS)

Di | 10.11.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

True Detective

Magdalena Pfalzgraf (UdS)

Di | 24.11.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

Modern Family

Isis Luxenburger (UdS)

Di | 01.12.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

Bones

Svetlana Seibel (UdS)

Di | 08.12.2020 | 20:00 Uhr



Alle Veranstaltungen um 20:00 Uhr im Kino achteinhalb, Nauwieserstraße 19
Eintritt frei





One Day at a Time (2017 – 2019)

Creators: Gloria Calderon Kellett and Mike Royce
Referentin: Astrid M. Fellner (UdS)
Dienstag | 20.10.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

For decades, Latinx LGBTQ+ people have hardly been represented in North American popular culture. And when they were depicted on screen, they were grossly misrepresented. For the last 13 years, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) has conducted an annual "Where We Are On TV" study that tracks the progression of LGBTQ+ representation on the small screen. As can

be concluded, while the overall number of queer characters has increased, they remain mostly white and male, and mostly cisgender. In recent years, however, Latinx LGBTQ+ characters have increasingly gained more visibility on TV. Netflix's *One Day at a Time* (2017 – 2019) features queer Latinx characters, and the show can be seen as a forum for feminism, queer, and Latinx activism. The characters in this sitcom not only help push the boundaries of acceptance of marginalized groups in film and television, but also contribute to the cultural politics of television.



Better Call Saul (2015 –)

Creators: Vince Gilligan, Peter Gould
Referent: Raphael Morschett (UdS)
Dienstag | 27.10.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

„By „Following in the footsteps of modern television classic *Breaking Bad* (2008 – 2013) could be seen as both a blessing and a curse. For although the prequel spin-off *Better Call Saul* (2015 –) might benefit from the enormous popularity of its predecessor starting out with a much wider potential audience, fans might be skeptical about major deviations from the

atmosphere set by the AMC-original. And although *Better Call Saul* explores similar themes such as moral ambiguity, the value of family, the psychological transformation of the protagonist as he descends into the criminal milieu of Albuquerque, the story of con man lawyer Jimmy McGill / Saul Goodman does differ from the story of Walter White in terms of its tone, pacing, and narration. The introduction will try to show how the series manages to stand on its own while at the same time playing with the viewers' sense of familiarity with the world and aesthetics of *Breaking Bad*.



Fargo (2014 –)

Creator: Noah Hawley
Referentin: Bärbel Schlimbach (UdS)
Dienstag | 10.11.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

Fargo is a crime drama anthology series with four seasons so far, the latest of which started to air in the U.S. end of September 2020. The first season premiered in 2014 on FX and was loosely based on the 1996 film *Fargo* directed by the Coen Brothers. Joel and Ethan Coen act as executive producers for the series along with Noah Hawley who is also the lead writer for all seasons. Typically for an

anthology series, each season narrates a concluded story, set in a different time and location. Each season features a different cast of characters, although there are some characters who show up in several seasons which allows for interconnections between the different seasons. Although seasons 2–4 are not directly based on the movie *Fargo*, they convey intertextual/interfilmic references to several Coen Brothers movies. Among other aspects, my presentation will investigate these interconnections between movies and series, look at the genre "crime drama" and try to find explanations why this is one of the most popular genres. Moreover, I will consider possible functions of the black humor which is an essential feature of the series.



True Detective (2014 –)

Creator: Nic Pizzolatto
Referentin: Magdalena Pfalzgraf (UdS)
Dienstag | 24.11.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

The first season of HBO's crime mystery *True Detective*, written by Nic Pizzolatto and starring Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson, follows a pair of Louisiana State detectives who hunt a serial killer over a period of 17 years. The fictional story about corruption, child trafficking, sexual abuse, and occult practices evokes other filmic engagements with provincial horror and noir mysteries, some of which are at least partly inspired by real crimes, such as the British trilogy *Red Riding* (2009) (loosely based on the so-called "Yorkshire Ripper" killings), *La Isla Minima* (Marshland) (2014) by Alberto Rodriguez Librero and its German adaptation *Freies Land* (2019). Like these works, *True Detective* excels at exploring home as unheimlich and presents a fascinating contemporary treatment of the uncanny. It captures the lushness of the Southern swamps as well as the moral decay of local leaders and the quiet complicity of ordinary citizens, leaving viewers to detect the horror that can lurk in the home and in the beauty of the open landscape.



Modern Family (2009 – 2020)

Creators: Christopher Lloyd & Steven Levitan
Referentin: Isis Luxenburger (UdS)
Dienstag | 01.12.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

In der Sitcom *Modern Family* werden drei Haushalte einer Familie im Stil eines Mockumentary mit der Kamera begleitet. In den einzelnen Folgen der Serie werden Handlungsstränge unterschiedlicher Familienmitglieder bzw. Haushalte mit gleichen, ähnlichen oder zusammenhängenden Problemen miteinander verwoben. Durch die Lösung der/s Handlungsknoten(s) am Ende der jeweiligen Folge eröffnet sich dem Zuschauer eine Moral, die den handelnden Figuren selbst jedoch oft verborgen bleibt. Die zirkuläre Dramaturgie der Serie ist ebenso typisch für das Format der Sitcom wie ihre stereotypisierte Figurenzeichnung. Jedoch brechen die Figuren immer wieder aus den ihnen zugeschriebenen Rollen aus und oszillieren situationsbedingt zwischen entgegengesetzten Polen (z.B. Macho/Softie, emotional/rational oder kindlich/erwachsen). Für den Rückfall in ihre Stereotype, der den Status Quo wiederherstellt und ein Dazulernen verhindert, ist eben die epistemologische Differenz verantwortlich, durch die den Figuren die übergeordnete Moral der einzelnen Episoden verborgen bleibt. Wird dieser Umstand aus der privilegierten Perspektive des Zuschauers auf das Gesamtgeschehen reflektiert, eröffnet sich eine Ebene der Metakommunikation, die die Serienmacher in ihre Sitcom eingewoben haben und die als eine Art Handbuch über Kommunikation, Eigen- und Fremdwahrnehmung verstanden werden kann.



Bones (2005 – 2017)

Creator: Hart Hanson
Referentin: Svetlana Seibel (UdS)
Dienstag | 08.12.2020 | 20:00 Uhr

"It was the kind of science that I had not seen on television before," says executive producer Barry Josephson, looking back at the inception of *Bones*. Based on a mixture of the biography and fictional stories of forensic anthropologist and bestselling author Kathy Reichs, *Bones* is a show that focuses on the life and work of Dr. Temperance Brennan (Emily Deschanel), aka Bones, and her relationship with FBI Special Agent Seeley Booth (David Boreanaz). As the two become crime-solving partners, the show uses the backdrop of criminal cases in order to advance characterization and explore interpersonal dynamics between these two protagonists and an ever-evolving group of colleagues-friends at the medico-legal lab of the Jeffersonian Institution and the FBI. By doing so, the show achieves and largely maintains a remarkable balance between its focus on the character development, a spotlight on the forensic science, and the driving force of humor. Apart from bringing romantic comedy and the science of forensic anthropology to the screen, however, the show also investigates some of the central aspects of American cultural mindset, setting up its characters in a way that allows it to meditate on topics such as individualism, patriotism, history, (in)equality, etc. This talk will provide a general introduction to the show and unpack some of the main themes in relation to its narrative and to the broader context of American culture.

Alle Veranstaltungen um 20:00 Uhr im Kino achteinhalb
Nauwieserstraße 19 | Tel. 0681 3 90 88 80 | kinoachteinhalb.de
Eintritt frei | Gefördert durch das Auswärtige Amt

Informationen:
DAI Saarland | Tel. 0681 3 11 60 | dai-saarland.de

Lehrstuhl Amerikanistik, Universität des Saarlandes, Tel. 0681 302 2770,
amerikanistik@mx.uni-saarland.de

vhs Regionalverband Saarbrücken | Tel. 0681 5 06 43 35 | vhs-saarbruecken.de

