

Professor Monika Kaup (University of Washington)

“New Ecological Realisms in Contemporary Post-Apocalyptic Fiction”

Wednesday, 12 July 2017, noon to 2pm

R12 R04 B02 (Universitätsstraße 12, 45141 Essen)



Monika Kaup's current book project, "What Comes after Poststructuralism? New Ecological Realisms in Contemporary Theory and Postapocalyptic Fiction" examines a paradigm shift in the wake of structuralism and poststructuralism — a trend towards new realisms. Within the broader movement of this ontological turn after poststructuralism, she orients herself towards a realism of complex wholes, actor-networks, and ecologies, rather than a realism of isolated parts and things. Kaup explores applications of these ideas in close readings of recent postapocalyptic fiction (such as Atwood's *Maddaddam* series and McCarthy's *The Road*) that depicts life after the destruction of modern civilization as we know it.

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