

Students Welcome!



Who or what is ASNEL?

ASNEL is an organisation founded in 1989 to represent academics, teachers and students from Germany, Europe and overseas engaged in the study of anglophone literatures from nations as diverse as India, Canada, Zimbabwe or Jamaica.

What are ASNEL's main areas of interest?

The studies in our field concentrate on those countries which were once colonies of Britain. Colonial rule, for some of them, has continued far into the twentieth century. Many of today's political and social issues are closely connected to this historical experience. At the same time, new forms of culture have emerged everywhere in the English-speaking world in the wake of cultural globalisation, based on transnational connections between societies and individuals, migratory movements and diasporic communities.

Why is ASNEL interesting for students?

For students interested in the New Literatures in English, ASNEL provides the opportunity to find out more about anglophone literatures from all around the world and to become involved in an active dialogue with scholars and authors from the field as well as to meet like-minded students. Students – and not only those who are ASNEL members – are more than welcome at the two major events which are organized in association with ASNEL:

The Summer School on the New Literatures in English

is a biannual event organized by ASNEL students and explicitly addressed to students of English who would either like to gain a first insight into the New Literatures in English or to increase their knowledge about and experience with the field. Students from various countries and an international selection of authors and academics are brought together for a week of lectures, seminars and readings to explore the cultural and literary variety of the anglophone regions of the world. ASNEL provides

organisational and financial support as well as academic specialists for lectures and seminars.

The annual ASNEL conference

is attended by numerous scholars and writers from anglophone countries who present their work to an academic audience, students and lecturers alike. The conference is an event at which academics and students mix easily and interact without the pressures of everyday university life. Furthermore, the ASNEL conference is an opportunity to complement university studies with a more practical experience of literary and cultural exchange.

What else is there to know about ASNEL?

ACOLIT, the ASNEL newsletter, once a semester informs members about new publications and offers the latest news on conferences, networking activities and NLE programs at German, Austrian and Swiss universities.

ASNEL is genuinely interested in supporting young academics and students in their studies. As the New Literatures in English are not yet a regular feature of research and teaching at all universities, the acceptance of theses and dissertations has often been a problem. ASNEL provides information and support for all interested academics and students about NLE programs in their respective universities.

The recently implemented GNEL-map (see www.gnel.de/map) allows students, post-graduates and other users to find universities in Germany, Austria and Switzerland where New Anglophone Literatures and Cultures as well as Varieties of English are regularly taught. It provides direct access to profiles of institutions and individual researchers specializing in these areas.

Becoming a member of the Association of the Study of the New Literatures in English means entering an academic network which is likely to complement and enrich your university studies in many ways, not only if you are planning an academic career. Currently, the annual membership fee for students is € 20,-.

Interested? Want to find out more? Check out our homepage at www.gnel.de or contact Michael Westphal, representative of students and doctoral candidates on the ASNEL Board: mwest_03@wwu.de