

Distinguished Lectures Series
Center for Cultural Studies
Faculty of Humanities
University of Bern

NEW WORLD LITERA- TURES

**DAVID
DAMROSCH**

**DJELAL
KADIR**

**PAUL
GILROY**

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UNIVERSITÄT
BERN

NEW WORLD LITERA- TURES

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DAVID DAMROSCH

**Europe After Eurocentrism:
Nation, Region, World**

Lecture **10 October 2011, 18.15–20.00**

Workshop **11 October 2011, 9.30–12.00**

David Damrosch is Professor of Literature and Comparative Literature at Harvard University and has written widely on world literature from antiquity to the present. He is the author of numerous publications, including *What Is World Literature?* (2003), and *How to Read World Literature* (2008). He is the founding general editor of the six-volume *Longman Anthology of World Literature* (2009), the editor of *Teaching World Literature* (2009) and co-editor of *The Text and the World: A Comparative Literature Sourcebook* (2009). In *What Is World Literature?* Prof. Damrosch discusses how literary works evolve as they cross temporal and spatial borders, and finds that, as texts move between cultural spheres, world literature gains in the process of translation. He has been instrumental in reviving and innovating the Goethean concept of "world literature", arguing that it should be perceived as a "mode of global circulation and reading" rather than a specific set of texts. His current research projects include the cultural history of the conquest of Mexico and its colonial aftermath, and a book on the role of global scripts in the formation of national literatures.



PAUL GILROY

**Fanon's Refusal:
Racism and the Value of the Human**

Lecture **5 December 2011, 18.15–20.00**

Workshop **6 December 2011, 9.30–12.00**

Paul Gilroy is Anthony Giddens Professor of Social Theory at the London School of Economics. He is the author of the recently published *Darker than Blue: On the Moral Economies of Black Atlantic Culture* (2010). Earlier and influential books include *Ain't no Black in the Union Jack* (1987), *Small Acts* (1993), *The Black Atlantic. Modernity and Double Consciousness* (1993), *Between Camps* (2000), *After Empire* (2004) and *Post-colonial Melancholia* (2005).

Prof. Gilroy's work has exerted an enormous influence on the burgeoning field of Transatlantic Studies, as well as contributed to the study of African diasporic intellectuals and political exchange. Moreover, his work on the politics of race, nation, and racism in Britain have been and continue to be of great relevance to academic and public debates on these issues.

All are welcome to join the workshops. If you would like to participate, please write to annie.cottier@ens.unibe.ch.

DJELAL KADIR

Literature, the World, and You

Lecture **21 November 2011, 18.15–20.00**

Workshop **22 November 2011, 9.30–12.00**

Djelal Kadir is Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Comparative Literature at Penn State University. He is the author of the recently published *Memos from the Besieged City: Lifelines for Cultural Sustainability* (2010), as well as of *The Other Writing. Postcolonial Essays in Latin America's Writing Culture* (1993) and *Columbus and the Ends of the Earth. Europe's Prophetic Rhetoric As Conquering Ideology* (1992), to name only a few titles of a long list of publications. He is currently co-editing, with David Damrosch and Theo D'Haen, the *Routledge Companion to World Literature* (forthcoming).

In a long-standing commitment to literary theory, Prof. Kadir's work revolves around world literature, comparative literature and globalization, as well as Latin American writing and postcolonial literature. In his most recent book, he argues for the institutional and cultural relevance of literary study through foundational figures. By looking at world historical crossroads, Prof. Kadir examines the importance and influence of unconventional writing on literacy, culture and intellectual commitment.

All lectures will take place at:
Universität Bern,
Hochschulstrasse 4, 3012 Bern,
Room HS 220 (first floor).

All workshops will take place at:
Haus der Universität,
Schlösslistrasse 5, 3008 Bern.