Classics, Standards, and Values in English Studies

Anglistiktag 2026 will convene under the main theme Classics, Standards, and Values in **English studies**. Following the recently established format, the conference invites joint panels, interactive discussions, and individual contributions across the sub-disciplines of Anglistik. While the Essen conference (2025) emphasized interactions between Anglophone studies and the broader public, Munich 2026 will foreground what internally unites our diverse academic field. We seek to explore questions central to our shared scholarly and pedagogical endeavours: What are the foundational sources and resources that inspire and shape research and teaching in English studies, in universities, schools, and other contexts today? What common ground do we identify when defining what constitutes our discipline? What are the "classics" – both canonical literary texts and influential academic theories, studies, and methods – that still hold general relevance or consensus? Indeed, is there still such a thing as universally agreed-upon classics, and if not, (why) should we seek consensus, or look for a shared text that we can all disagree about? Which theories and/or studies have fallen by the wayside and perhaps deserve to be revisited? Lastly, what specific standards and values underpin our scholarly and educational practices and peer evaluations beyond general academic integrity and excellence?

Exploring classics, standards, and values may initially seem retrospective, yet the intention is far from conservative nostalgia or celebrating an outdated (literary) canon. Nor does this conference aim to engage systematically in the history of our discipline or to reopen the canon debates of previous decades. Instead, Anglistiktag 2026 encourages participants to reflect critically and constructively on which aspects of our academic community—whether dominant or dormant, residual or emergent—we consider particularly compelling, relevant, and deserving of attention.

Suggested formats include, but are not limited to:

- Individual presentations (20 minutes + Q&A)
- Short research pitches (5 minutes + Q&A)
- Thematic panels (please specify proposed length, number of presentations, and speakers)
- Round tables, workshops, or other interactive formats (please specify proposed length and speakers)
- Poster presentations (A1 format, accompanied by brief talks)
- Networking sessions to facilitate project initiation or joint publications
- Book talks presenting recent or forthcoming publications

Additionally, we invite contributions to an open 'work in progress' section designed for both early-career researchers and senior colleagues interested in discussing nascent or ongoing research.

We strongly encourage the submission of abstracts for formats that emphasize the coherence and collaboration between our sub-disciplines.

Submission details:

Please send proposals to <u>Anglistiktag2026@anglistik.uni-muenchen.de</u> by 23 January 2026.

Notifications of acceptance will be sent by 13 March 2026.