

COUNTERFACTUAL THINKING / COUNTERFACTUAL WRITING

Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), September 28-30, 2009

September 27, 2009

7 pm Welcome and Conference Warming (FRIAS Lounge)

September 28

9.30 am DOROTHEE BIRKE, MICHAEL BUTTER, TILMANN KÖPPE (FREIBURG)
Introduction

10.15 am Coffee Break

Counterfactual History in Literature

10.45 am ANDREAS MARTIN WIDMANN (LONDON/MAINZ)
Plot vs. Story: Towards a Typology of Counterfactual Historical Novels

11.15 am GALA REBANE (CHEMNITZ/BOCHUM)
Poesis and Praxis of Possible Worlds in Historiographic Metafiction:
Baudolino by Umberto Eco

11.45 am Discussion

12.30 am Lunch

The Cognitive Value of Counterfactual Scenarios

3.00 pm GEORG CHRISTOPH BERGER-WALDENEGG (HEIDELBERG/VIENNA)
"What if?": Counterfactuality and Historiography

3.30 pm NED LEBOW (DARTMOUTH, HANOVER/LONDON)
Counterfactual Case Studies and Experimental Research in
International Relations

FIRST DRAFT – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

4.00 pm Discussion

4.45 pm Coffee Break

Counterfactual Thinking in the History of Science

5.15 pm BERNHARD KLEEGER (KONSTANZ)

Retrospective Prognoses: Modeling Historical Counterfactuals

5.45 pm LUTZ DANNEBERG (BERLIN)

Use and Misuse of Counterfactuals in Certain Arguments in the History
of Science: The Case of Ex-Post-In/Determinism

6.15 pm Discussion

September 29

Counterfactuals and Cognition

9 am MICHAEL BRENNER (FREIBURG)

“If Androids Dreamt of Electric Sheep”:
Counterfactual Reasoning in Artificial Intelligence

9.30 am MARTIN HILPERT (FREIBURG)

The Cognitive Linguistics of Counterfactuals

10 am Discussion

10.45 am Coffee Break

The Psychology of Counterfactual Thinking

11.15 am CHRISTOPH KLAUER (FREIBURG)

Psychological Research on Counterfactual Processing

FIRST DRAFT – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

11.45 am PATRIZIA CATELLANI (MILAN)
Counterfactuals in the Social Context:
The Case of Political Interviews and Their Effects

12.15 am Discussion

1 pm Lunch

Counterfactuality as a Narrative Strategy

3 pm JAN ALBER (FREIBURG)
Impossible Storyworlds: An Extreme Case of Counterfactuality

3.30 pm ROBYN WARHOL-DOWN (COLUMBUS, OHIO)
“What Might Have Been is Not What Is”:
Dickens’s Narrative Refusals

4 pm Discussion

4.45 pm Coffee Break

Literature as a Counterfactual Discourse

5.15 pm TOBIAS KLAUK (GÖTTINGEN)
Thought Experiments and Literature

5.45 pm DANIEL DOHRN (KONSTANZ)
Counterfactual Explanation in Literature and the Social Sciences

6.15 pm Discussion

8 pm Conference Dinner

September 30

Counterfactual Scenarios in Literature

- 9.30 am RÜDIGER HEINZE (BRAUNSCHWEIG)
 A Sound of Thunder:
 Time Travel, Possible Worlds and Counterfactuality
- 10 am BIRTE CHRIST (BONN/FREIBURG)
 "If I Were a Man": The Counterfactual as Feminist Analytic
- 10.30 am Discussion
- 11.15 am Coffee Break

Counterfictionality

- 11.45 am RICHARD SAINT-GELAIS (QUÉBEC)
 How to Do Things with Worlds:
 From Counterfactuality to Counterfictionality
- 12.15 pm (Final) Discussion