Every day, the practitioners of the writing (and reading) craft are confronted with the maxims of economy of time and signification—with their requirements and effects, ideals and strays. But what is linguistic economy? And what is poetic economy? As a walk along the edge of the (situative, aesthetic, medial…) “appropriate” amount between excess and lack – with boredom, superfluity, formlessness on the one side and incomprehensibility, ambiguousness, crudity on the other, how can these economies be measured and against which scale? How short (or how long) is too short? How long (or how short) is too long? When is a text’s length (or brevity) “exactly right”? When is something superfluous, when inexhaustible? Can we quantify the “Appropriate” – in the sense of an ideal number of signs, as the duration of production or reception (in the words of Edgar Allan Poe: “to be read in one sitting”)?

In summer 2020, these and further questions will be discussed in a workshop hosted by the GrK 1808 in cooperation with Literary Colloquium Berlin (LCB).

Workshop

“Kleine Formen”

Date: June 11-12, 2020

Location: LCB at the Wannsee

Organizers: Matthias Bauer, Robert Kirstein, Britta Stolterfoht, Angelika Zirker (GrK 1808), Maren Jäger (GrK 2190)