

## BA-Studiengang

**4508877**      **O-Phase North American Studies**  
Vortrag SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 35 *Künnemann, Vanessa*

Kommentar      Dear all,  
welcome to the North American Studies program at the University of Goettingen -- we are delighted to have you here as new BA and MA students!  
Due to the Corona pandemic, the North American Studies orientation week/induction days will be held online in the winter semester 2021/22. Also, most of our classes will still be online, with only some classes being taught on campus and/or in hybrid form this semester.  
In the **week from 11 to 15 October 2021**, your degree coordinator, Dr. Vanessa Künnemann, will host you in small groups to introduce the North American Studies programs, advise on class scheduling etc. You will receive an email which invites you to join one of these video meetings with Dr. Künnemann. These video meetings are geared to our new BA students; new MA students are kindly asked to contact Dr. Künnemann by email to discuss further proceedings individually.  
Those BA students who cannot make it to one of the video sessions in the week from 11 to 15 October are strongly advised to attend a **video session on Monday, 18 October or Wednesday, 20 October** as outlined on the website of the "Orientierungsphase 2021": <http://o-phase.phil.uni-goettingen.de/major/91>.  
Please contact Dr. Künnemann by email in case of further questions:  
[vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

Please also go to the "Download" section on the website of the O-Phase North American Studies, <http://o-phase.phil.uni-goettingen.de/major/91> to access material (BA/MA brochures of NAS as well as an introductory PPT and a list of BA first-semester classes in the fall/winter 2021/22).

## I. Kerncurriculum

### B.AS.101: Analysis and Interpretation

**4508920**      **Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture**  
Einführung SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20 *Künnemann, Vanessa*  
Mo 10:00 - 12:00 wöchentlich Von: 25.10.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022  
Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Mo - Portfolio am: 28.02.2022  
Bemerkung zum Termin:

Prüfungsleistung: Portfolio aus Seminarleistungen und Take Home Exam

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.01.1A: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

B.EP.01.1B: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

Mo 10:00 - 12:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

Mo 10:00 - 12:00 Raum: Verfügungs VG 1.101 , Klausur am:  
14.02.2022

**Bemerkung zum Termin:**

Klausur wird voraussichtlich durch das Portfolio (siehe unten) ersetzt!

**Module zum Termin:**

B.EP.01.1A: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

B.EP.01.1B: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

**Module**

B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

B.EP.01.1B: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

B.EP.01.1A: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

**Kommentar**

This class is designed to introduce students to standard concepts, methods, and resources of (American) literary and cultural studies. We will discuss the major literary genres, with a particular focus on American narrative fiction, poetry, and drama. A reader with course material will be made available at the beginning of the semester via Stud.IP.

Requirements: credits may be obtained on the basis of regular attendance, active participation, minor reading quizzes, writing assignments, and a final exam.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP is required.

Registration period for BA English students: between 21 October (15:00h) and 29 October (23:59h) via StudIP.

Registration for BA North American Studies students: please contact me by email between 25 October and 29 October so that I can sign you up (and do not register directly via StudIP).

All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the **second** week of the semester (01 November). For final registration, participants need to attend the first session.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4509474****Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture**

Einführung SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Künnemann, Vanessa*

Mo 12:00 - 14:00wöchentlich Von: 25.10.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Mo - Portfolio am: 28.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

Die Prüfungsleistung dieses Kurses ist im WiSe aufgrund der Corona-Epidemie voraussichtlich nicht eine Präsenzklausur am 07.02.22, sondern ein Portfolio aus den Seminarleistungen und einem Take Home Exam (statt Klausur) mit Abgabe des Take Home Exam-Anteils der Prüfungsleistung am 28.02.22 nach zweiwöchiger Bearbeitungszeit.

Prüfungsleistung: Portfolio aus Seminarleistungen und Take Home Exam

Der endgültige Beschluss der Prüfungskommission hierzu wird schnellstmöglich bekanntgegeben/bestätigt.

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.01.1A: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

B.EP.01.1B: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft

Mo 12:00 - 14:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

Module B.EP.01.1B: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft  
B.EP.01.1A: Grundlagen der Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft  
B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

Kommentar This class is designed to introduce students to standard concepts, methods, and resources of (American) literary and cultural studies. We will discuss the major literary genres, with a particular focus on American narrative fiction, poetry, and drama. A reader with course material will be made available at the beginning of the semester via Stud.IP.

Requirements: credits may be obtained on the basis of regular attendance, active participation, minor reading quizzes, writing assignments, and a final exam.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP is required.

Registration period for BA English students: between 21 October (15:00h) and 29 October (23:59h) via StudIP.

Registration for BA North American Studies students: please contact me by email between 25 October and 29 October so that I can sign you up (and do not register directly via StudIP).

All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the **second** week of the semester (01 November). For final registration, participants need to attend the first session.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

4508891

### Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

Einführung SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Zappe, Florian*

Mi 14:30 - 16:00 Raum: KWZ KWZ 0.609 , wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 09.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

Module B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

Kommentar This class is designed to introduce students to standard concepts, methods, and resources of (American) literary and cultural studies. We will discuss the major literary genres, with a particular focus on American narrative fiction, poetry, and drama. A reader with course material will be made available at the beginning of the semester via Stud.IP.

Requirements: credits may be obtained on the basis of regular attendance, active participation, minor reading quizzes, writing assignments, and a final exam.

Please note that this introductory class is for students studying in the BA North American Studies program only!

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 18 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 20 October (15:00h) and 24 October (23:59h) is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught on campus ("in Präsenz").

For further information: [florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

4508881

### Square America: A Counterhistory of the Counterculture

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Daalder, Jurrit

Mo 16:30 - 18:00 Raum: KWZ KWZ 0.609 , wöchentlich Von: 01.11.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 28.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

Module

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Kommentar

When, in 1957, Miles Davis released his seminal record *Birth of the Cool*, it did not just mark a pivotal moment in the history of jazz, but it also crystallized a larger postwar development that would have major ramifications for decades to come, namely the division of the country's cultural landscape into those who are cool and those who are not, those who are hip and those who are square. It is precisely this division that we will explore in this class—though not in the way it is usually done.

Much of postwar American history, as it is usually passed down to us, is essentially the history of the hipster, a cool character for whom Norman Mailer laid the blueprint in his widely-read essay "The White Negro," which also appeared in 1957. This hipster figure is one we all know from those oh-so familiar montages of the Sixties: he (yes, it is almost always a "he") is the bearded Beat poet, the snide postmodern ironist, the long-haired anti-Vietnam protestor marching on the White House to the tune of "All Along the Watchtower." We will choose to ignore him.

Instead, the focus of our class will be on the hipster's critically-neglected counterpart: member of the Nixonian Silent Majority, resident of the Real America, which is to say, the square American. By way of various different media, ranging from documentary footage and personal essays to the novel and graphic fiction, we will trace the evolution of a squa-

re white identity between the publication of Mailer's "The White Negro" in 1957 and Bret Easton Ellis's *White* in 2019. Our ultimate goal, in doing so, will be to delve into the heart of America's current culture wars and to examine the emergence of a particular narrative of victimhood premised on cultural neglect—a narrative that has taken on a, if not, *the* central role in our present-day constructions of whiteness in general and white masculinity in particular.

Please be advised that this course will start one week later than usual (i.e. on 01 November 2021). To compensate for this late start, our final meeting will be a double session (further details in class).

Please make sure to have purchased the following books well in advance of our first session. Other materials will be provided in class.

Required reading:

John Williams, *Stoner* (Vintage Classics)

Chris Ware, *Jimmy Corrigan, the Smartest Kid on Earth* (Pantheon Graphic Library)

Mark Costello and David Foster Wallace, *Signifying Rappers: Rap and Race in the Urban Present* (Penguin)

Bret Easton Ellis, *White* (Picador)

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the second week of the semester (i.e. 01 Nov.). For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught on campus ("in Präsenz").

For further information: jurrit.daalder@phil.uni-goettingen.de

4508882

**Nineteenth Century Women's Anti-Slavery Narratives**

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Künnemann, Vanessa

Di 12:00 - 14:00 wöchentlich Von: 26.10.2021 Bis: 08.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 28.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.GeFo.07.HA: Sprache, Literatur, Text- und Bildmedien, Glaubens- und Wissenssysteme

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

Module

B.GeFo.07.HA: Sprache, Literatur, Text- und Bildmedien, Glaubens- und Wissenssysteme

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)  
 B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I  
 B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

## Kommentar

"America is now wholly given over to a damned mob of scribbling women, and I should have no chance of success while the public taste is occupied with their trash -- and should be ashamed of myself if I did succeed. What is the mystery of these innumerable editions of *The Lamplighter*, and other books neither better nor worse? -- worse they could not be, and better they need not be, when they sell by the 100,000."

This is what an outraged, frustrated, and potentially envious (?) Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote to his publisher in 1855 about the (commercial) success of contemporary women's writing in America. These lines draw attention to questions revolving around literary taste, quality, and modes of writing that are - supposedly - contingent on gender.

This class sets out to discuss the origins and the dynamic development of this "damned mob of scribbling women" in the American literary scene of the middle of the nineteenth century, assessing these questions through the lens of the genre of anti-slavery fiction - by women, and, most often, for female audiences and revolving around the (fictional/ized) fates of female figures. Frequently, the 'slavery question' of the mid-nineteenth century was addressed in an interesting nexus of sentimentalism and abolitionism. Harriet Beecher Stowe, as arguably the most powerful of these women writers attacking the institution of slavery, was - at least according to rumor - dubbed by Abraham Lincoln as "the little woman who wrote the book that started this war", an alleged quotation in which he identifies *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852) as the key text to have initiated the American Civil War. Clearly, Beecher Stowe wrote from a distinctly white perspective. We will read and discuss this novel against the texts by two other Harriets that were African American: Harriet Jacobs's slave narrative *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861), an autobiographical text in which Jacobs renders her story under the guise of her narrator Linda Brent; and Harriet Wilson's *Our Nig; Or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black* (1859), an autobiographical novel long forgotten and only rediscovered in 1981 by the African-American scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr., which is often seen as a sort of twin text to Jacobs's narrative.

In this class, we will thus discuss how the network of gender inequality, the promotion of abolitionism and women's political participation, the oscillation between the private and the public sphere, or the concept of 'true womanhood' are taken up in these texts. In order to trace these topics and concepts, we will investigate theoretical texts that engage with abolitionism and the genre of sentimentalism as well as with the so-called "feminization of American culture" (Ann Douglas) of the mid-nineteenth century, and then relate those discussions to the texts by Beecher Stowe, Jacobs, and Wilson.

A number of readings will come in the form of excerpts, articles, or single chapters; most texts will be made available in an e-reader via Stud.IP, but you are asked to purchase the following three novels/slave narratives which we will discuss in full length:

Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852; Norton Critical Edition by Elizabeth Ammons preferred), Harriet Jacobs's *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* (1861, Norton Critical Edition by Frances Smith Foster and Richard Yarborough preferred), and Harriet Wilson's *Our Nig; Or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black* (1859, Penguin Classics edition with an introduction by P. Gabrielle Foreman preferred).

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning

this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4509454**

**Contemporary American Short Stories**

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Künnemann, Vanessa*

Di 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 26.10.2021 Bis: 08.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 28.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

Module

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Kommentar

This class will introduce you to the American short story by way of discussing recent and contemporary versions of this genre - a genre, that is, which has sometimes been disregarded as being a form less important than the other 'suspect' in prose: the 'big novel.' In this course, we will counter such arguments that this very short and condensed form of narration is inferior to the 'greatness' of the novel form and thus become aware that the short story is anything but minor or amateurish, but instead a genre that needs a lot of skill on the part of its writer (and its audience's attempts to understand it).

We will trace the critical debates around the emergence and development of the American short story as a form through engaging in close readings and paying attention to its aesthetics and styles; also, we will consider the historical and literary contexts that have influenced the texts on our syllabus. With that, we will rely on the theories and methods of New American Studies.

The list of the short stories discussed in this class will be finalized by the beginning of the winter semester, but this will definitely be a class with readings that center on the importance of race/ethnicity, class, and gender - i.e., we will pay close attention to traditionally marginalized groups of writers and thematic issues and agendas in American Studies scholarship. With that, we will rely on the revisionist insights and methods that characterize New American Studies and thus take seriously the variegated and complex hi/stories of Americanness and diversity. In this vein, readings will (potentially) include short stories by authors like Native American Sherman Alexie, Japanese American Karen Tei Yamashita, Chinese American Gish Jen, Indian American Jhumpa Lahiri, Nigerian American Chima-

manda Ngozi Adichie, Jewish American Jonathan Safran Foer, African American Jesmyn Ward, or the working-class fiction by authors like Brady Udall and George Saunders.

Class readings will come in the form of excerpts, articles, or single chapters; these texts, i.e. our theoretical/background readings as well as our primary texts, the short stories, will be made available in an e-reader via Stud.IP prior to the semester. Disclaimer: While short stories are by definition, well, short, this does not at all mean that the reading/working load in this class will be slim - please be prepared for in-depth and complex readings and assignments throughout the semester.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on StudIP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on StudIP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4509094**

### **Representations of Contagion**

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Gross, Andrew S.*

Mi 12:15 - 13:45 Raum: Verfügungs VG 1.105 , wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 28.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

B.WLI.123b.Mp: Englischsprachige Literatur im nordamerikanischen Raum

Module

B.WLI.123b.Mp: Englischsprachige Literatur im nordamerikanischen Raum

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Kommentar

Language is often described as contagious, as when we say a text or a message "goes viral." This is of course a metaphor. Language circulates through communities in patterns that differ significantly from vectors of infection. Patterns of language can be social and hierarchical, creating differences that are sometimes unjust but that can also serve as barriers (or gateways) to disease. The patterns of language can also be literary, assuming familiar shapes like the novel, and depending on figures of speech like the one mentioned above. This seminar will explore literary responses to contagion, paying attention both to the epidemiological fact of disease and to the social structures impacting its intensity and scope. Starting with Poe's gothic short stories, we will explore how contagion has fascinated generations of writers who have represented it as an existential threat, an occasion for mourning or compassion, as a figure of the apocalypse, and as a test case for theories of social reform and cohesion. This seminar takes a necessarily selective approach to the



vast amount of literature dealing with succeeding waves of epidemics and diseases. Nevertheless, it will expose students to some major themes and trends while exploring the way contagion serves as counter-figure of representation in North American literature, the point where communication breaks down—perhaps to reconstitute itself?—on the fact of communicability.

Reading List (please note this is subject to change)

Edgar Allan Poe, "The Masque of the Red Death" (1842) and "King Pest" (1835); both of these texts will be provided in class

Zitkala-Ša, autobiographical essays (1900); these texts will be provided in class

Katherine Anne Porter, "Pale Horse, Pale Rider" (1939; please note this refers to the short story, and not the entire collection that contains it)

Richard Matheson, *I Am Legend* (1954)

Susan Sontag, *Illness as Metaphor* (1978)

Margaret Atwood, *Oryx and Crake* (2003)

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught in hybrid form, i.e. with sessions on campus ("in Präsenz") incl. online supplements as well as with online sessions.

For further information: [andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

4508899

**"And the dead tree gives no shelter": Representations of Melancholia and Depression in Literature and Culture**

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Zappe, Florian

Do 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 28.10.2021 Bis: 10.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do 14:00 - 16:00 Präsentation am: 10.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 28.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Di - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 01.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung

B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III  
(Hausarbeit)

Module B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)  
B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation  
B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I  
B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien  
M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar  
B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung  
B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

Kommentar When Susan Sontag noted that "[d]epression is melancholy minus its charms" she highlighted an inherent ambiguity ingrained in the conceptual dyad of the two terms. While "depression" describes an emotional state of despair in relation to the world, "melancholy" or "melancholia" refers to the apotheosis of this mood, both as an aesthetic category and an alleged source of creativity which can be traced back to antiquity. Based on various theoretical engagements with this complex topic#including Robert Burton's *The Anatomy of Melancholy* (1621), Sigmund Freud's "Mourning and Melancholia" (1918) or Susan Sontag's "Melancholy Objects" (1973)#we will discuss a variety of artistic representations of melancholia and depression. The (tentative) list of works we will be focusing on includes literature by Edgar Allan Poe, Emily Dickinson, T. S. Eliot, Sylvia Plath, David Foster Wallace (who was recently dubbed "depression laureate" by the critic Rob Mayo) and examples of the tradition that Éva Tettenborn has defined as "African American literary melancholia." In addition to that, we will also discuss cinematic portrayals of melancholy and/or depression by, among others, Gus Van Sant, Sofia Coppola, and Charlie Kaufman.

**Important:** If you take this class as part of modules B.EP.44 or B.AS.103, you need to have successfully completed the "Introduction to Film and Media Analysis" class of the same module before. Please note that this is a mandatory prerequisite.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

4508915

### Tutorial Writing Term Papers and Take Home Exams

Tutorium SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Lassahn, Iris

Fr 12:00 - 15:00wöchentlich Von: 29.10.2021 Bis: 11.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Module B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric  
B.AS.103.PrVor: Introduction to Film and Media Analysis  
B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation  
B.AS.102.PrVor: Research and Professional Skills  
B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing  
B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture  
B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

**Kommentar** The aim of this workshop is to give students a chance to enhance their writing and composition skills and to practice the format of the 'Hausarbeit' (term paper) and the Take Home Exam. Using hands-on exercises, the stages of the writing process will be discussed from finding a topic to the final revisions. We will talk about the most common mistakes and how to avoid them as well as plagiarism and other writing-related topics. As this course is voluntary, students may choose to come to single sessions only, although a continuous attendance is highly recommended. Individual writing can be handed in and discussed during office hours. Please sign up on Stud.IP for details on session topics and organization. This workshop is especially recommended for students in the 'Proseminare' in literary and media studies. Yet, all other students writing term papers and Take Home Exams in North American Studies classes are also more than welcome to participate.

Please note that this tutorial will take place in block sessions which will be announced by the beginning of the semester.

Registration: Please register on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 November 2021. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: iris.lassahn@stud.uni-goettingen.de

## B.AS.102: Language and Academic Skills

4509582

### Academic Writing

Seminar SWS: 1; Anz. Teiln.: 15

*Lough, Amber*

Di 10:00 - 11:00wöchentlich Von: 26.10.2021 Bis: 08.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Di - Portfolio am: 08.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing

**Module** B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing

**Kommentar** This course is designed to give students theoretical understanding as well as practice in aspects of academic writing. Topics include features of successful academic writing and academic style, essay structure, how to write a good paragraph, academic reporting, language of critiquing, referencing and support.

Requirements: credits may be obtained on the basis of regular attendance, active participation, minor writing assignments, and a portfolio (a compilation of written work throughout the semester of about 1,500 word-length).

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 15 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 20 October (15:00h) and 24 October (23:59h) is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session. The class will start in the first week of the semester.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

This class is part of module B.AS.102 in the BA North American Studies degree program and only open for this degree program. As this class is offered in the winter semester only, first-semester students should make sure to take this class now. The second part of the module will be taught in the summer.

Further information: [amber.lough@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:amber.lough@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4508893****Academic Writing**

Seminar SWS: 1; Anz. Teiln.: 15

*Lough, Amber*

Di 12:00 - 13:00wöchentlich Von: 26.10.2021 Bis: 08.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Di - Portfolio am: 08.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing

Module

B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing

Kommentar

This course is designed to give students theoretical understanding as well as practice in aspects of academic writing. Topics include features of successful academic writing and academic style, essay structure, how to write a good paragraph, academic reporting, language of critiquing, referencing and support.

Requirements: credits may be obtained on the basis of regular attendance, active participation, minor writing assignments, and a portfolio (a compilation of written work throughout the semester of about 1,500 word-length).

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 15 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 20 October (15:00h) and 24 October (23:59h) is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session. The class will start in the first week of the semester.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

This class is part of module B.AS.102 in the BA North American Studies degree program and only open for this degree program. As this class is offered in the winter semester only, first-semester students should make sure to take this class now. The second part of the module will be taught in the summer.

Further information: [amber.lough@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:amber.lough@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4508915****Tutorial Writing Term Papers and Take Home Exams**

Tutorium SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Lassahn, Iris*

Fr 12:00 - 15:00wöchentlich Von: 29.10.2021 Bis: 11.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Module

B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric

B.AS.103.PrVor: Introduction to Film and Media Analysis

B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

B.AS.102.PrVor: Research and Professional Skills

B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing

B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Kommentar

The aim of this workshop is to give students a chance to enhance their writing and composition skills and to practice the format of the 'Hausarbeit' (term paper) and the Take Home Exam. Using hands-on exercises, the stages of the writing process will be discussed

from finding a topic to the final revisions. We will talk about the most common mistakes and how to avoid them as well as plagiarism and other writing-related topics. As this course is voluntary, students may choose to come to single sessions only, although a continuous attendance is highly recommended. Individual writing can be handed in and discussed during office hours. Please sign up on Stud.IP for details on session topics and organization. This workshop is especially recommended for students in the 'Proseminare' in literary and media studies. Yet, all other students writing term papers and Take Home Exams in North American Studies classes are also more than welcome to participate.

Please note that this tutorial will take place in block sessions which will be announced by the beginning of the semester.

Registration: Please register on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 November 2021. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: iris.lassahn@stud.uni-goettingen.de

## B.AS.103: Film and Media Studies

4508897

### Introduction to Film and Media Studies: Analyzing Screen Media

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 25

*Tischleder, Babette B.*

Mi 12:00 - 14:00 wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Mi 12:00 - 14:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 09.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.103.PrVor: Introduction to Film and Media Analysis

B.EP.44.PrVor: Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation (Prüfungsvorleistung)

Module

B.AS.103.PrVor: Introduction to Film and Media Analysis

B.EP.44.PrVor: Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation (Prüfungsvorleistung)

Kommentar

This course introduces students to the methods for the analysis and interpretation of visual media, with a special focus on film, video, and television. Taking a closer look at a number of examples from American film and television history, from the silent era to New Hollywood and the contemporary cinema, we will consider various parameters such as storytelling and narrative style, mise-en-scène and setting, cinematography, editing, sound, color, and special effects. At least one session will be dedicated to each of these aesthetic dimensions: we will closely examine selected scenes and discuss how they can be related to a film in its entirety. We will also consider how movies can be read according to genre—the western, melodrama, or the road movie—and explore how generic parameters contribute to the overall form and interpretation of a film. While feature and documentary films will constitute the primary material for close analysis, we will also consider specific television formats, especially serial forms. Here narrative modes depart significantly from feature films, due to the different spatiotemporal dimensions of storytelling.

Learning how to read films and television shows with regard to formal aspects will acquaint students with the aesthetic and narrative features of screen media. Students will acquire the analytical skills to critically read and interpret screen media by relating their formal features and modes of storytelling to theme and sociopolitical contexts.

Class discussions will be based on Timothy Corrigan and Patricia White's *The Film Experience*, a comprehensive introduction to the study of film, methods of film analysis, and key concepts of cinema and television studies featuring many examples and images.

A list of about five movies that we will use as examples for analysis throughout the course will be announced with the syllabus at the beginning of the term.

Please acquire a copy of this book that we will use throughout the semester:

- Timothy Corrigan and Patricia White, *The Film Experience: An Introduction*, New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, **Fifth Edition**, 2018; ISBN: 978-1319059514.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 25 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: Tischleder@phil.uni-goettingen.de

**4509397**

### **TV's Women/Women's TV**

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Knipping, Marleen*

Mo 14:15 - 15:45 Raum: Verfügungs VG 0.110 , wöchentlich Von: 25.10.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022

Mo 14:00 - 16:00Präsentation am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.GeFo.07.HA: Sprache, Literatur, Text- und Bildmedien, Glaubens- und Wissenssysteme

B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung

B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

Module

B.GeFo.07.HA: Sprache, Literatur, Text- und Bildmedien, Glaubens- und Wissenssysteme

M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar

B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung

B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

Kommentar

Against the rise of cable television in the late 1990s and early 2000s, networks, especially attuned to women as audiences and consumers, produced an unprecedented number of TV series that spotlighted women as protagonists and central characters; from *Buffy* and *Ally McBeal* to *Gilmore Girls* and *Sex and the City*. Apart from offering a refreshing shift from the overall absence of "female-centered dramas" on the small screen and captivating though sheer narrative multiplicity, these shows confirmed traditional gender roles but mainly overrode and gave new meaning to others, resulting in a television landscape filled with representations of complex women. Today, we may consider the complexity of portrayals of women and diversity of programs as a given - we cannot, however, do without an analysis, discussion, and renegotiation of the gender portrayals and narratives contemporary television shows generate, partly through interactive relationships with networks and audiences. Therefore, this course takes a feminist and intersectional approach to contemporary TV shows created by and for women to ask, amongst others, which performances and narratives of gender we encounter, which prioritizations of gen-

der portrayals recur, and which roles the producers and audiences play in the generation of gender images. This course zones in on five shows in particular: *Killing Eve* (BBC America, 2018-), *Fleabag* (BBC Three/Amazon Studios, 2016-19), *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* (Amazon Studios/2017-), *Sex Education* (Netflix, 2019-), and one further series we are going to select in the first session.

Required watching: Please watch (at least) the first seasons of *Killing Eve*, *Fleabag*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* (all three available on or via Amazon Prime), and *Sex Education* (Netflix) before the first session. As we cannot provide access to these shows, you unfortunately will have to find a way of accessing them yourselves. This course's syllabus and the reading materials will be made available on Stud.IP at the beginning of the term.

### Important:

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught in hybrid form, i.e. with sessions on campus ("in Präsenz") incl. online supplements as well as with online sessions.

For further information: marleen.knippling@uni-goettingen.de

4508898

### Japan in America's Cinematic Imagination: A Critical Retrospect from 'Mr. Moto' to 'Kill Bill'

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Zappe, Florian

Mi 10:30 - 12:00 Raum: KWZ KWZ 0.609 , wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Mi 10:00 - 12:00 Präsentation am: 09.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar

Di - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 01.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung

B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

Module

M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar

B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung

B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

Kommentar

The forceful "opening" of Japan by Commodore Matthew C. Perry in the 1850s not only marked a turning point in the (previously basically non-existent) political and economic relationship between the United States and Japan but also the beginning of an increasing interest in Japanese culture among American audiences. The Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition of 1876 started a 50-year vogue of *Japonisme* (mocked by contemporaries as "Japan craze") in American arts and crafts that was quickly embraced by the new medium of cinema at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

In this class, we will retrace the complex cultural history of the representation of Japan in America's cinematic imagination that began with films like Reginald Barker's *The Typhoon* (1914) and Cecil B. DeMille's *The Cheat* (1915), both starring Sessue Hayakawa, the first Japanese Hollywood star. Our discussion will take a distinctly critical stance towards the depiction of Japanese culture in American cinema which often oscillates between orientalist fascination and xenophobic demonization (especially after the attack on

Pearl Harbor in 1941). The list of films that we will discuss includes mystery films such as Norman Foster's *Mr. Moto* series (1937-39) or Dorrell and Stuart E. McGowan's *Tokyo File 212* (1951), anti-Japanese propaganda films produced during World War II (including "Popeye the Sailor" and "Looney Tunes" cartoons), post-WW II melodramas such as King Vidor's *Japanese War Bride* (1952), but also films such as Paul Schrader's *Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters* (1985), Sofia Coppola's *Lost in Translation* (2003), Howard Zwick's *The Last Samurai* (2003), or Quentin Tarantino's *Kill Bill Vol. 1 & 2* (2003-2004). (Please note that this list is subject to change).

**Important:** If you take this class as part of modules B.EP.44 or B.AS.103, you need to have successfully completed the "Introduction to Film and Media Analysis" class of the same module before. Please note that this is a mandatory prerequisite.

Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught on campus ("in Präsenz").

For further information: [florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

4508899

### **"And the dead tree gives no shelter": Representations of Melancholia and Depression in Literature and Culture**

Proseminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Zappe, Florian*

Do 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 28.10.2021 Bis: 10.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do 14:00 - 16:00 Präsentation am: 10.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 28.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

Di - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 01.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung

B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

Module

B.EP.41.HA: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Hausarbeit)

B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.EP.T21.Mp: Top Up Nordamerikastudien



M.AS.01.2: Kulturtheoretisches oder medienwissenschaftliches Einführungsseminar  
B.EP.44.Mp: Medienprüfung  
B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation

**Kommentar** When Susan Sontag noted that "[d]epression is melancholy minus its charms" she highlighted an inherent ambiguity ingrained in the conceptual dyad of the two terms. While "depression" describes an emotional state of despair in relation to the world, "melancholy" or "melancholia" refers to the apotheosis of this mood, both as an aesthetic category and an alleged source of creativity which can be traced back to antiquity. Based on various theoretical engagements with this complex topic#including Robert Burton's *The Anatomy of Melancholy* (1621), Sigmund Freud's "Mourning and Melancholia" (1918) or Susan Sontag's "Melancholy Objects" (1973)#we will discuss a variety of artistic representations of melancholia and depression. The (tentative) list of works we will be focusing on includes literature by Edgar Allan Poe, Emily Dickinson, T. S. Eliot, Sylvia Plath, David Foster Wallace (who was recently dubbed "depression laureate" by the critic Rob Mayo) and examples of the tradition that Éva Tettenborn has defined as "African American literary melancholia." In addition to that, we will also discuss cinematic portrayals of melancholy and/or depression by, among others, Gus Van Sant, Sofia Coppola, and Charlie Kaufman.

**Important:** If you take this class as part of modules B.EP.44 or B.AS.103, you need to have successfully completed the "Introduction to Film and Media Analysis" class of the same module before. Please note that this is a mandatory prerequisite.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4508915**

### **Tutorial Writing Term Papers and Take Home Exams**

Tutorium SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Lassahn, Iris*

Fr 12:00 - 15:00wöchentlich Von: 29.10.2021 Bis: 11.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

**Module** B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric  
B.AS.103.PrVor: Introduction to Film and Media Analysis  
B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation  
B.AS.102.PrVor: Research and Professional Skills  
B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing  
B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture  
B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

**Kommentar** The aim of this workshop is to give students a chance to enhance their writing and composition skills and to practice the format of the 'Hausarbeit' (term paper) and the Take Home Exam. Using hands-on exercises, the stages of the writing process will be discussed from finding a topic to the final revisions. We will talk about the most common mistakes and how to avoid them as well as plagiarism and other writing-related topics. As this course is voluntary, students may choose to come to single sessions only, although a continuous attendance is highly recommended. Individual writing can be handed in and discus-

sed during office hours. Please sign up on Stud.IP for details on session topics and organization. This workshop is especially recommended for students in the 'Proseminare' in literary and media studies. Yet, all other students writing term papers and Take Home Exams in North American Studies classes are also more than welcome to participate.

Please note that this tutorial will take place in block sessions which will be announced by the beginning of the semester.

Registration: Please register on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 November 2021. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: iris.lassahn@stud.uni-goettingen.de

## B.AS.201a-d: Literary History I-IV

4508901

### A Cultural History of American Literature I

Vorlesung SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 200

Gross, Andrew S.

Do 12:00 - 14:00 wöchentlich Von: 28.10.2021 Bis: 10.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do 12:00 - 14:00 Klausur am: 10.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.03b.Mp: Cultural History of American Literature II

M.AS.03a.2: Vorlesung zur amerikanischen Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte zu einer weiteren Epoche

M.AS.03a.1: Vorlesung zur amerikanischen Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte zu einer von 6 Epochen

B.AS.201a.Mp: Cultural History of American Literature I

B.EP.41.KI: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Klausur)

B.WLI.123b.Mp: Englischsprachige Literatur im nordamerikanischen Raum

Module

B.WLI.123b.Mp: Englischsprachige Literatur im nordamerikanischen Raum

M.EP.01b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Basismodul

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.AS.03a.2: Vorlesung zur amerikanischen Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte zu einer weiteren Epoche

M.AS.03b.Mp: Cultural History of American Literature II

M.AS.03a.1: Vorlesung zur amerikanischen Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte zu einer von 6 Epochen

B.EP.41.KI: Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft im nordamerikanischen Raum III (Klausur)

B.EP.31.Mp: Aufbaumodul 2: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums II

B.EP.21.Mp: Aufbaumodul 1: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums I

B.AS.201a.Mp: Cultural History of American Literature I

Kommentar

This is the first in a series of four lecture courses offered consecutively over a period of two years. It is designed to acquaint students with the literature and culture of North America from the late sixteenth- through the early nineteenth-centuries, i.e. the period of exploration and settlement, the American Revolution, the Early Republic, and the Age of Jackson. We will discuss some of the exemplary texts from these periods, analyzing their cha-

racteristic forms and themes as well as the history of their interpretation. Specific attention will be paid to key literary concepts, debates, and interpretive methodologies. We will also discuss important issues such as the role of religion in American culture and the separation of church and state; the theory and practice of federalism; enlightenment notions of commerce; slavery; western expansion; and the wars waged against Native American tribes. We will read examples of the sermon, epic, mock epic, occasional poetry; philosophical, religious, revolutionary, and anti-slavery tracts; travel narratives, captivity narratives, pamphlets, broadsides, dramas, speeches, letters; excerpts from early novels; and we will discuss contacts and exchanges between native and colonial cultures and the translation/transcription of traditionally oral tales. Students should walk away from this course with a deeper understanding of the various cultural traditions and innovations that helped lead to new nationhood, and with knowledge of the first literature to self-consciously call itself American.

Attendance for this class is limited to 200 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 10 November 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

## B.AS.202: American Cultural History and Rhetoric

4508903

### Cultural History and Rhetoric: Foundational Texts

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Zappe, Florian*

Di 16:00 - 18:00 wöchentlich Von: 26.10.2021 Bis: 08.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 24.01.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.31.Mp: Aufbaumodul 2: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums II

B.EP.T31.Mp: Top-Up-Modul American Cultural History

B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric

Module

B.EP.T31.Mp: Top-Up-Modul American Cultural History

B.EP.31.Mp: Aufbaumodul 2: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums II

B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric

Kommentar

By analyzing document speeches, pamphlets, essays, and articles from the colonial period to the 20th century against the backdrop of their specific political and cultural contexts, this class will retrace and critically reassess the formation of the cultural identity of the United States in all its complexity. The reading list includes John Winthrop's sermon "A Model of Christian Charity" (1630), seminal political and legal texts like the "Declaration of Independence" and the "Bill of Rights," but also writings from Benjamin Franklin, J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois, Alain Locke, or Frederick Jackson Turner.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning

this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4508902****Cultural History and Rhetoric: Foundational Texts**

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Zappe, Florian*

Do 10:00 - 12:00wöchentlich Von: 28.10.2021 Bis: 10.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Mo - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 24.01.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.EP.31.Mp: Aufbaumodul 2: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums II

B.EP.T31.Mp: Top-Up-Modul American Cultural History

B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric

Module

B.EP.T31.Mp: Top-Up-Modul American Cultural History

B.EP.31.Mp: Aufbaumodul 2: Kultur- und Literaturwissenschaft des nordamerikanischen Raums II

B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric

Kommentar

By analyzing document speeches, pamphlets, essays, and articles from the colonial period to the 20th century against the backdrop of their specific political and cultural contexts, this class will retrace and critically reassess the formation of the cultural identity of the United States in all its complexity. The reading list includes John Winthrop's sermon "A Model of Christian Charity" (1630), seminal political and legal texts like the "Declaration of Independence" and the "Bill of Rights," but also writings from Benjamin Franklin, J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois, Alain Locke, or Frederick Jackson Turner.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:florian.zappe@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

**4508904****Advanced Cultural History and Rhetoric: American Sublimities**

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 25

*Sommerfeld, Stephanie*

Di 10:00 - 12:00wöchentlich Von: 26.10.2021 Bis: 08.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Di - Klausurähnliche Hausarbeit am: 08.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.01b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Basismodul

M.AS.01.1: Kulturwissenschaftliche Übung 'American Cultural Studies II'

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.202.2: Advanced Cultural History and Rhetoric

Module M.EP.01b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Basismodul  
M.AS.01.1: Kulturwissenschaftliche Übung 'American Cultural Studies II'  
B.AS.202.2: Advanced Cultural History and Rhetoric

Kommentar Our current moment urgently calls for rethinking both the relations among the species and the stratifications produced by the notion of modernity as an anthropocentric, patriarchal, White supremacist success story of progress and appropriation. In this class, we will trace how the discourse of Burkean and Kantian sublimity was adapted to the North American context to foster nationalism and reinforce such teleological notions of modernity. We will ask how its promise of transcendence was instrumental in justifying a White Euro-American universalism and settler colonialism, while simultaneously offering conceptions of media agency in the face of increasing commodification. Our main three thematic clusters will be the natural and the technological sublime as well as the relationship between trauma and sublimity. In each case, we will think about how and to which end the discourse of the sublime emphasizes and/or occludes processes of mediation and also reproduces and/or challenges hierarchies of gender and race. We will explore the pictorial language and politics of the natural sublime in nineteenth century US and Canadian landscape paintings. Subsequently, we will work with Ansel Adams's twentieth century photography as well as Mark Rothko and Barnett Newman's abstract paintings and ultimately consider the ecological and political implications of how contemporary North American artists such as Kent Monkman and Valerie Hegarty engage with sublimity to come to terms with colonialist violence and the relationship between the human and the more-than-human. Our discussion of the technological sublime spans from the transcontinental railroad to the spectacular designs at World's Fairs in the late nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth century to the industrial sublime of Edward Burtynsky's photographs. Our final thematic cluster centers on the aftermath of slavery and that of 9/11. We will investigate how trauma and the sublime are linked, working with Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Alejandro González Iñárritu's cinematic treatment of 9/11.

The required reading will be available on StudIP.

Content warning: We will engage with potentially triggering content as we will be discussing racism, sexism, and violence.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 25 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Please note that this class will be taught online in the winter term 2021/22.

For further information: [stephanie.sommerfeld@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:stephanie.sommerfeld@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

4508915

### Tutorial Writing Term Papers and Take Home Exams

Tutorium SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Lassahn, Iris

Fr 12:00 - 15:00wöchentlich Von: 29.10.2021 Bis: 11.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Module B.AS.202.1: Cultural History and Rhetoric

B.AS.103.PrVor: Introduction to Film and Media Analysis  
 B.AS.103.Mp: Seminar Medienwissenschaftliche Analyse und Interpretation  
 B.AS.102.PrVor: Research and Professional Skills  
 B.AS.102.Mp: Academic Writing  
 B.AS.101.PrVor: Introduction to the Study of American Literature and Culture  
 B.AS.101.Mp: Analysis and Interpretation

**Kommentar** The aim of this workshop is to give students a chance to enhance their writing and composition skills and to practice the format of the 'Hausarbeit' (term paper) and the Take Home Exam. Using hands-on exercises, the stages of the writing process will be discussed from finding a topic to the final revisions. We will talk about the most common mistakes and how to avoid them as well as plagiarism and other writing-related topics. As this course is voluntary, students may choose to come to single sessions only, although a continuous attendance is highly recommended. Individual writing can be handed in and discussed during office hours. Please sign up on Stud.IP for details on session topics and organization. This workshop is especially recommended for students in the 'Proseminare' in literary and media studies. Yet, all other students writing term papers and Take Home Exams in North American Studies classes are also more than welcome to participate.

Please note that this tutorial will take place in block sessions which will be announced by the beginning of the semester.

Registration: Please register on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 November 2021. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: iris.lassahn@stud.uni-goettingen.de

## **B.AS.301: Critical Theory**

**4508905**

### **Introducing Critical Theory II: Approaches and Methods in Media Studies**

Vorlesung SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 40

*Tischleder, Babette B.*

Di 12:00 - 14:00wöchentlich Von: 26.10.2021 Bis: 08.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Di 12:00 - 14:00Klausur am: 08.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.301.2: Introducing Critical Theory II

**Module**

M.EP.01b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Basismodul

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.301.2: Introducing Critical Theory II

**Kommentar**

The two-semester lecture series aims at introducing students to major approaches, traditions, and key figures in the fields of cultural and media theory. The second part of the lecture series, "Approaches and Methods in Media Studies," will focus on media theory, visual culture, material culture and cultural studies. The lecture will be concerned with media history, the relation between (mass) media and society, media aesthetics, models of communication, and questions of cultural memory, technology, materiality and embodiment. Other relevant issues are medial configurations of time and space, networks and systems, concepts of hyperreality, postmodernity and the digital. We will also consider theories of single media: photography, the cinema, television, the computer and mobile media.

The lecture will introduce a number of key texts and major schools that have been influential in the development of critical media and cultural studies: The Toronto School, the Frankfurt School, German media theory, British Cultural Studies, theories of postmodernism and visual culture, film and television theory, theories of material culture, systems theory, and actor-network theory.

Individual lectures are concerned with selected key thinkers, such as Theodor W. Adorno, Walter Benjamin, Jean Baudrillard, Bill Brown, James Carey, Richard Dyer, John Fiske, Stuart Hall, Mark Hansen, Miriam Hansen, Donna Haraway, Katherine Hayles, Max Horkheimer, Harold Innis, Fredric Jameson, Friedrich Kittler, Bruno Latour, Marshall McLuhan, Jason Mittell, Laura Mulvey, John Durham Peters, Claude Shannon, Raymond Williams, or Geoffrey Winthrop-Young.

The texts for this class will be made available on Stud.IP.

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 40 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: Tischleder@phil.uni-goettingen.de

**4508916**

### **Tutorial Critical Theory**

Tutorium SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 25

*Quentin, Annika*

Mi 16:00 - 18:00 wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Module

M.EP.01b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Basismodul

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

B.AS.301.2: Introducing Critical Theory II

Kommentar

This - voluntary but highly recommended - tutorial is taught in conjunction with the class "Introducing Critical Theory II" (modules: B.AS.301; M.EP.01b; M.EP01b-L). The tutorial provides an opportunity to discuss the texts covered in the course, to address questions and to support the comprehension of the theories and critical concepts in question by means of close readings and in-depth discussion. Difficulties and questions regarding the theoretical texts can be addressed and revisited according to students' needs. Hence participating in the tutorial will also be helpful as a preparation for the final exam in the Critical Theory class.

Further material will be provided on Stud.IP.

Details about the organization of this tutorial will be announced in the first session.

Registration: Please register on Stud.IP between 01 September and 15 November 2021. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: annika.quentin@stud.uni-goettingen.de

**B.AS.401: Theory and Practice of American Studies (Vertiefungsmodul)**

**4509088****Climate Fiction: Writing, History, and Ethics in a Planetary Age**

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Tischleder, Babette B.*

Mo 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 25.10.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Mo 14:00 - 16:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

Mo 14:00 - 16:00 mündliche Prüfung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

M.EuCu.55.Mp: Research Focus #Culture# (Advanced course)

M.EuCu.14.Mp: Thematic Focus #Society and Culture#

Module

M.EuCu.55.Mp: Research Focus #Culture# (Advanced course)

M.EuCu.14.Mp: Thematic Focus #Society and Culture#

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies



## Kommentar

Climate change is not a matter of the future, climate change is happening now. These days, the Pacific Northwest is experiencing a heatwave that is not just unprecedented and record-breaking, it has been unimaginable and hazardous for this North American region. "Temperatures reached a shocking 47.9 C in British Columbia, Canada. Amid temperatures more typically found in the Sahara desert, dozens have died of heat stress, with 'roads buckling and power cables melting'" (*The Guardian*, June 30, 2021). "Climate change is driving a dangerous confluence of extreme heat and prolonged drought," commented President Biden, linking the current heat wave to the larger weather phenomena whose anthropogenic causes are no longer denied.

Climate change and global warming in their variant expressions, from heat waves, tropic storms, wild fires, melting ice caps and other extreme weather events, not only challenge the health of human beings, they pose a threat to the very habitability of many regions on our planet and to all earth-dwellers, however unequally. As Dipesh Chakrabarty has argued, climate change "up-ends long-standing ideas of history, modernity, and globalization" (*The Climate of History on a Planetary Age*, 2020). What it takes in order to face these phenomena is not just geologists, climatologists, or biologists that predict ever graver scenarios of our planetary future; what it takes is also forms of (re)imagining "living on damaged planet" and stories that have done so for a while. In this seminar we will read stories--novel, short stories, nonfiction of the "CliFi" genre--that reflect upon our lives, human and nonhuman, in times of immense and often unfathomable global and planetary challenges. Storytelling is an important cultural practice necessary to imagine and reflect on climate change both critically and creatively. While often seen as part of the Anthropocene, the new "human" geological age, global warming is not simply "man-made," but requires a more diversified perspective that enables us to see how both the causes and the effects of global warming, pollution, consumption, and emissions are distributed unequally among our planet's populations.

How do fictions represent these phenomena and changes? What worlds do they envision? What ethical questions do they pose? How can human, nonhuman, and planetary time scales and life forms be related? Next to literary texts by Margaret Atwood, Octavia Butler, Don DeLillo, Jonathan Franzen, Amitav Ghosh, Robin Wall Kimmerer, Barbara Kingsolver, Lydia Millet, and Jenny Offill, we will also engage with critical approaches, such as Dipesh Chakrabarty's important new book *The Climate of History in a Planetary Age* (2021), Donna Haraway's *Staying with the Trouble* (2016), Rob Nixon's *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor* (2011), and the essay collection *Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet: Ghosts and Monsters of the Anthropocene* (eds. Anna Tsing et al., 2017).

Please read the following two novels before the start of the semester:

- Jenny Offill, *Weather* preferably the original edition by Knopf: 978-0385351102
- Lydia Millet, *A Children's Bible*, preferably the Norton paperback edition: 978-0393867381

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

For further information: Tischleder@phil.uni-goettingen.de

**4508908****Representations of France in American Literature and Culture**

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Künnemann, Vanessa*

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 09.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 mündliche Prüfung am: 16.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

M.GeFo.70.Ha: Geschlecht, mediale Repräsentationen und symbolische Ordnungen

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

M.Kom.008.Mp: Intermedialität

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

Module

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

M.Kom.008.Mp: Intermedialität

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.GeFo.70.Ha: Geschlecht, mediale Repräsentationen und symbolische Ordnungen

M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
 B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies  
 B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

**Kommentar** "French habits and manners have their roots in a civilization so profoundly unlike ours - so much older, richer, more elaborate and firmly crystallized - that French customs necessarily differ from ours more than those of more primitive races." This is what Edith Wharton wrote in *French Ways and their Meaning* about the fascination of the hexagon on Americans. Wharton, of course, was not the first or only American writer to be engaged in this 'dangerous liaison,' i.e., America's perennial love-hate relation with France. What former U.S. Secretary of Defence, Donald Rumsfeld, scornfully dubbed part of 'Old Europe' in 2003 has in fact fascinated American literary and cultural history from the birth of the American nation onwards. Thomas Jefferson's years as American ambassador in Paris are notorious and legendary; Henry James's occupation with the international theme and his interest in European characters and settings is a cornerstone of his oeuvre. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, France and Paris in particular gained increasing importance in the American mind when the so-called Lost Generation (expatriate writers and artists like Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, Josephine Baker, H.D., and F. Scott Fitzgerald, to name just a few) found refuge there. Ever since then, the French *savoir vivre* has lived on in literary, cultural, and filmic representations by Americans. Thus, it is certainly no coincidence that *Friends'* Rachel Green is on the verge of leaving for France at the end of the series, or that a certain Miss Carrie Bradshaw finds herself in Parisian exile in the last episodes of *Sex and the City*.

In this class we will be concerned with the literary and cultural connections between America and France, and investigate the development of a relationship that can by no means be limited to love stories. We will trace the early period (e.g., Jefferson's years in Paris, Alexis de Tocqueville's contemplations on the two nations) and read Edith Wharton's *French Ways and Their Meaning* (1919; excerpts) as well as Henry James's novel *The American* (1877) to set the groundwork for representations of the (later) 20<sup>th</sup> century. Selected writings of the Lost Generation and their depiction of Franco-American relations will be covered; moreover, filmic representations will be analyzed. Time and again, love, deception, cultural misunderstandings and stereotypes, as well as questions of morality and vice have been at the center of these representations. In his novel *Giovanni's Room* (1956) James Baldwin, too, makes use of the transatlantic love plot - however, in a subversive way. We will read this text as an alternative to the well-established 'boy-meets-girl' pattern.

A number of readings will come in the form of excerpts, single chapters, or articles; most texts will be made available in an e-reader via Stud.IP prior to the semester, but you are asked to purchase the two novels which we will discuss in full length: Henry James's *The American* (1877; Penguin edition with an introduction by William Spengemann preferred) and James Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room* (1956; Penguin edition preferred). A third novel might be added to the reading list, so please check updates in Stud.IP.

Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

<b>4508909</b>	<p><b>Narrating Injustice: Murder and the Death Penalty in Mailer, Baldwin, and Stevenson</b> Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20 <span style="float: right;"><i>Gross, Andrew S.</i></span> Fr 10:30 - 12:00 Raum: Verfügungs VG 0.111 , wöchentlich Von: 29.10.2021 Bis: 11.02.2022 Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022 Module zum Termin: M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)  Fr 10:00 - 12:00Prüfungsvorleistung am: 11.02.2022 Module zum Termin: B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)  Fr 10:00 - 12:00mündliche Prüfung am: 11.02.2022 Module zum Termin: M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies  Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022 Module zum Termin: M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien  M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul  B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture  M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron  M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)  M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität  B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies  B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)  B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies</p>
Module	<p>M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays) M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit) B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation) B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation) B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies</p>
Kommentar	<p>This seminar will explore three major works on murder and the death penalty published since the U.S. Supreme Court confirmed the legality of capital punishment in 1976. Stevenson's book, and his work for prisoners on death row, has gotten a lot of attention in recent years. He is scheduled to speak at the Bavarian American Academy (BAA) this fall. We will structure our seminar around that talk and in coordination of two partner seminars—one in Erlangen and the other in Munich—that will focus on different aspects of the history of the death penalty and its literary and cultural significance. These seminars will be offered independently but also in coordination with each other, building up to a joint-</p>

student conference in January. We are currently applying for funding from the BAA to cover the travel and lodging costs for students participating in that conference, which will be held at the Amerika Haus in Munich in January.

The course in Munich will focus on court cases, rulings, and protests pertinent to the history of the death penalty in the United States. The course in Erlangen will focus on representations of gender and ethnicity in fictional representations of capital punishment. Our class will focus on issues of literary technique as authors search for ways to narrate the injustice of murder and the death penalty. Mailer is a pioneer here with his new journalistic techniques that foreground the personal nature of reporting but also the literary aspects of reportage. His case study is Gary Gilmore, the first man executed in Utah after the reinstatement of the death penalty (he was killed by a firing squad). Gilmore is a noteworthy figure because he demanded to be executed after his conviction, rejecting all petitions on his behalf to avoid or suspend the death sentence. Baldwin's book-length essay is the last major work to stem from his pen. It is a commissioned report on a series of child murders in Atlanta that targeted the African American community. The murders, and the trial they led up to, provides Baldwin with an occasion to talk about racism in the legal system. The case has been reopened in recent years because of irregularities in the proceedings—irregularities that suggest the justice system was biased in ways Baldwin exposed. Stevenson's book tells of the author's efforts to help those convicted of murder, particularly in the South, where racism has played a well-documented role in placing innocent Black men on death row. Like Mailer, he tells his own story in relation to those of the prisoners, and he employs literary techniques to imagine their suffering. Together, these three books turn to language to repair a broken justice system, but they also recognize the limits of what language can do. The death penalty is final. So is murder. Faced with the incontrovertible fact of morality, these books push against the generic limits of style in their efforts to comprehend what death means in the age of the death penalty.

Reading List (Please note this is subject to change):

Norman Mailer, *The Executioner's Song* (1979)

James Baldwin, *The Evidence of Things Not Seen* (1985)

Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy* (2014)

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught in hybrid form, i.e. with sessions on campus ("in Präsenz") incl. online supplements as well as with online sessions.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

For further information: [andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

## II. Profil fachwissenschaftliche Vertiefung

### B.AS.402: Advanced American Studies

4509088

**Climate Fiction: Writing, History, and Ethics in a Planetary Age**

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Tischleder, Babette B.*

Mo 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 25.10.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

## ONLINE

Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Mo 14:00 - 16:00Prüfungsvorleistung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

Mo 14:00 - 16:00mündliche Prüfung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

M.EuCu.55.Mp: Research Focus #Culture# (Advanced course)

M.EuCu.14.Mp: Thematic Focus #Society and Culture#

## Module

M.EuCu.55.Mp: Research Focus #Culture# (Advanced course)

M.EuCu.14.Mp: Thematic Focus #Society and Culture#

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

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B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis &amp; Interpretation)

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

## Kommentar

Climate change is not a matter of the future, climate change is happening now. These days, the Pacific Northwest is experiencing a heatwave that is not just unprecedented and record-breaking, it has been unimaginable and hazardous for this North American region. "Temperatures reached a shocking 47.9 C in British Columbia, Canada. Amid temperatures more typically found in the Sahara desert, dozens have died of heat stress, with 'roads

buckling and power cables melting" (*The Guardian*, June 30, 2021). "Climate change is driving a dangerous confluence of extreme heat and prolonged drought," commented President Biden, linking the current heat wave to the larger weather phenomena whose anthropogenic causes are no longer denied.

Climate change and global warming in their variant expressions, from heat waves, tropical storms, wild fires, melting ice caps and other extreme weather events, not only challenge the health of human beings, they pose a threat to the very habitability of many regions on our planet and to all earth-dwellers, however unequally. As Dipesh Chakrabarty has argued, climate change "up-ends long-standing ideas of history, modernity, and globalization" (*The Climate of History on a Planetary Age*, 2020). What it takes in order to face these phenomena is not just geologists, climatologists, or biologists that predict ever graver scenarios of our planetary future; what it takes is also forms of (re)imagining "living on damaged planet" and stories that have done so for a while. In this seminar we will read stories--novel, short stories, nonfiction of the "CliFi" genre--that reflect upon our lives, human and nonhuman, in times of immense and often unfathomable global and planetary challenges. Storytelling is an important cultural practice necessary to imagine and reflect on climate change both critically and creatively. While often seen as part of the Anthropocene, the new "human" geological age, global warming is not simply "man-made," but requires a more diversified perspective that enables us to see how both the causes and the effects of global warming, pollution, consumption, and emissions are distributed unequally among our planet's populations.

How do fictions represent these phenomena and changes? What worlds do they envision? What ethical questions do they pose? How can human, nonhuman, and planetary time scales and life forms be related? Next to literary texts by Margaret Atwood, Octavia Butler, Don DeLillo, Jonathan Franzen, Amitav Ghosh, Robin Wall Kimmerer, Barbara Kingsolver, Lydia Millet, and Jenny Offill, we will also engage with critical approaches, such as Dipesh Chakrabarty's important new book *The Climate of History in a Planetary Age* (2021), Donna Haraway's *Staying with the Trouble* (2016), Rob Nixon's *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor* (2011), and the essay collection *Arts of Living on a Damaged Planet: Ghosts and Monsters of the Anthropocene* (eds. Anna Tsing et al., 2017).

Please read the following two novels before the start of the semester:

- Jenny Offill, *Weather* preferably the original edition by Knopf: 978-0385351102
- Lydia Millet, *A Children's Bible*, preferably the Norton paperback edition: 978-0393867381

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

For further information: Tischleder@phil.uni-goettingen.de

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 09.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 mündliche Prüfung am: 16.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

M.GeFo.70.Ha: Geschlecht, mediale Repräsentationen und symbolische Ordnungen

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

M.Kom.008.Mp: Intermedialität

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

## Module

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

M.Kom.008.Mp: Intermedialität

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.GeFo.70.Ha: Geschlecht, mediale Repräsentationen und symbolische Ordnungen

M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

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B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies



Kommentar "French habits and manners have their roots in a civilization so profoundly unlike ours - so much older, richer, more elaborate and firmly crystallized - that French customs necessarily differ from ours more than those of more primitive races." This is what Edith Wharton wrote in *French Ways and their Meaning* about the fascination of the hexagon on Americans. Wharton, of course, was not the first or only American writer to be engaged in this 'dangerous liaison,' i.e., America's perennial love-hate relation with France. What former U.S. Secretary of Defence, Donald Rumsfeld, scornfully dubbed part of 'Old Europe' in 2003 has in fact fascinated American literary and cultural history from the birth of the American nation onwards. Thomas Jefferson's years as American ambassador in Paris are notorious and legendary; Henry James's occupation with the international theme and his interest in European characters and settings is a cornerstone of his oeuvre. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, France and Paris in particular gained increasing importance in the American mind when the so-called Lost Generation (expatriate writers and artists like Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, Josephine Baker, H.D., and F. Scott Fitzgerald, to name just a few) found refuge there. Ever since then, the French *savoir vivre* has lived on in literary, cultural, and filmic representations by Americans. Thus, it is certainly no coincidence that *Friends'* Rachel Green is on the verge of leaving for France at the end of the series, or that a certain Miss Carrie Bradshaw finds herself in Parisian exile in the last episodes of *Sex and the City*.

In this class we will be concerned with the literary and cultural connections between America and France, and investigate the development of a relationship that can by no means be limited to love stories. We will trace the early period (e.g., Jefferson's years in Paris, Alexis de Tocqueville's contemplations on the two nations) and read Edith Wharton's *French Ways and Their Meaning* (1919; excerpts) as well as Henry James's novel *The American* (1877) to set the groundwork for representations of the (later) 20<sup>th</sup> century. Selected writings of the Lost Generation and their depiction of Franco-American relations will be covered; moreover, filmic representations will be analyzed. Time and again, love, deception, cultural misunderstandings and stereotypes, as well as questions of morality and vice have been at the center of these representations. In his novel *Giovanni's Room* (1956) James Baldwin, too, makes use of the transatlantic love plot - however, in a subversive way. We will read this text as an alternative to the well-established 'boy-meets-girl' pattern.

A number of readings will come in the form of excerpts, single chapters, or articles; most texts will be made available in an e-reader via Stud.IP prior to the semester, but you are asked to purchase the two novels which we will discuss in full length: Henry James's *The American* (1877; Penguin edition with an introduction by William Spengemann preferred) and James Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room* (1956; Penguin edition preferred). A third novel might be added to the reading list, so please check updates in Stud.IP.

Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

Fr 10:30 - 12:00 Raum: Verfügungs VG 0.111 , wöchentlich Von:  
29.10.2021 Bis: 11.02.2022  
Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022  
Module zum Termin:  
M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Fr 10:00 - 12:00Prüfungsvorleistung am: 11.02.2022  
Module zum Termin:  
B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

Fr 10:00 - 12:00mündliche Prüfung am: 11.02.2022  
Module zum Termin:  
M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022  
Module zum Termin:  
M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien  
M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul  
B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture  
M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron  
M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)  
M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität  
B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies  
B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

## Module

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität  
M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron  
M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul  
M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul  
M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien  
M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies  
M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)  
M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)  
B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture  
B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies  
B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

## Kommentar

This seminar will explore three major works on murder and the death penalty published since the U.S. Supreme Court confirmed the legality of capital punishment in 1976. Stevenson's book, and his work for prisoners on death row, has gotten a lot of attention in recent years. He is scheduled to speak at the Bavarian American Academy (BAA) this fall. We will structure our seminar around that talk and in coordination of two partner seminars—one in Erlangen and the other in Munich—that will focus on different aspects of the history of the death penalty and its literary and cultural significance. These seminars will be offered independently but also in coordination with each other, building up to a joint-student conference in January. We are currently applying for funding from the BAA to cover the travel and lodging costs for students participating in that conference, which will be held at the Amerika Haus in Munich in January.

The course in Munich will focus on court cases, rulings, and protests pertinent to the history of the death penalty in the United States. The course in Erlangen will focus on representations of gender and ethnicity in fictional representations of capital punishment. Our class will focus on issues of literary technique as authors search for ways to narrate the injustice of murder and the death penalty. Mailer is a pioneer here with his new journalistic techniques that foreground the personal nature of reporting but also the literary aspects of reportage. His case study is Gary Gilmore, the first man executed in Utah after the reinstatement of the death penalty (he was killed by a firing squad). Gilmore is a noteworthy figure because he demanded to be executed after his conviction, rejecting all petitions on his behalf to avoid or suspend the death sentence. Baldwin's book-length essay is the last major work to stem from his pen. It is a commissioned report on a series of child murders in Atlanta that targeted the African American community. The murders, and the trial they led up to, provides Baldwin with an occasion to talk about racism in the legal system. The case has been reopened in recent years because of irregularities in the proceedings—irregularities that suggest the justice system was biased in ways Baldwin exposed. Stevenson's book tells of the author's efforts to help those convicted of murder, particularly in the South, where racism has played a well-documented role in placing innocent Black men on death row. Like Mailer, he tells his own story in relation to those of the prisoners, and he employs literary techniques to imagine their suffering. Together, these three books turn to language to repair a broken justice system, but they also recognize the limits of what language can do. The death penalty is final. So is murder. Faced with the incontrovertible fact of morality, these books push against the generic limits of style in their efforts to comprehend what death means in the age of the death penalty.

Reading List (Please note this is subject to change):

Norman Mailer, *The Executioner's Song* (1979)

James Baldwin, *The Evidence of Things Not Seen* (1985)

Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy* (2014)

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught in hybrid form, i.e. with sessions on campus ("in Präsenz") incl. online supplements as well as with online sessions.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

For further information: [andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

## B.AS.403: Topics in Literary and Media Studies

4509088

### Climate Fiction: Writing, History, and Ethics in a Planetary Age

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

*Tischleder, Babette B.*

Mo 14:00 - 16:00wöchentlich Von: 25.10.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Mo 14:00 - 16:00Prüfungsvorleistung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

Mo 14:00 - 16:00mündliche Prüfung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

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M.EuCu.55.Mp: Research Focus #Culture# (Advanced course)

M.EuCu.14.Mp: Thematic Focus #Society and Culture#

## Module

M.EuCu.55.Mp: Research Focus #Culture# (Advanced course)

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M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

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For further information: Tischleder@phil.uni-goettingen.de

4508908

### Representations of France in American Literature and Culture

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Künnemann, Vanessa

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 wöchentlich Von: 27.10.2021 Bis: 09.02.2022

Bemerkung zum Termin:

ONLINE

Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022

**Module zum Termin:**

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 09.02.2022

**Module zum Termin:**

B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

Mi 14:00 - 16:00 mündliche Prüfung am: 16.02.2022

**Module zum Termin:**

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

**Module zum Termin:**

M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron

M.Kom.06.Mp: Epochen synchron

M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

M.GeFo.70.Ha: Geschlecht, mediale Repräsentationen und symbolische Ordnungen

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

M.Kom.008.Mp: Intermedialität

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

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**Module**

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität

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M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

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M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)

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B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)

B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies

B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

**Kommentar**

"French habits and manners have their roots in a civilization so profoundly unlike ours - so much older, richer, more elaborate and firmly crystallized - that French customs necessarily differ from ours more than those of more primitive races." This is what Edith Wharton wrote in *French Ways and their Meaning* about the fascination of the hexagon on Americans. Wharton, of course, was not the first or only American writer to be engaged in this 'dangerous liaison,' i.e., America's perennial love-hate relation with France. What former U.S. Secretary of Defence, Donald Rumsfeld, scornfully dubbed part of 'Old Eu-

rope' in 2003 has in fact fascinated American literary and cultural history from the birth of the American nation onwards. Thomas Jefferson's years as American ambassador in Paris are notorious and legendary; Henry James's occupation with the international theme and his interest in European characters and settings is a cornerstone of his oeuvre. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, France and Paris in particular gained increasing importance in the American mind when the so-called Lost Generation (expatriate writers and artists like Ernest Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, Josephine Baker, H.D., and F. Scott Fitzgerald, to name just a few) found refuge there. Ever since then, the French *savoir vivre* has lived on in literary, cultural, and filmic representations by Americans. Thus, it is certainly no coincidence that *Friends'* Rachel Green is on the verge of leaving for France at the end of the series, or that a certain Miss Carrie Bradshaw finds herself in Parisian exile in the last episodes of *Sex and the City*.

In this class we will be concerned with the literary and cultural connections between America and France, and investigate the development of a relationship that can by no means be limited to love stories. We will trace the early period (e.g., Jefferson's years in Paris, Alexis de Tocqueville's contemplations on the two nations) and read Edith Wharton's *French Ways and Their Meaning* (1919; excerpts) as well as Henry James's novel *The American* (1877) to set the groundwork for representations of the (later) 20<sup>th</sup> century. Selected writings of the Lost Generation and their depiction of Franco-American relations will be covered; moreover, filmic representations will be analyzed. Time and again, love, deception, cultural misunderstandings and stereotypes, as well as questions of morality and vice have been at the center of these representations. In his novel *Giovanni's Room* (1956) James Baldwin, too, makes use of the transatlantic love plot - however, in a subversive way. We will read this text as an alternative to the well-established 'boy-meets-girl' pattern.

A number of readings will come in the form of excerpts, single chapters, or articles; most texts will be made available in an e-reader via Stud.IP prior to the semester, but you are asked to purchase the two novels which we will discuss in full length: Henry James's *The American* (1877; Penguin edition with an introduction by William Spengemann preferred) and James Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room* (1956; Penguin edition preferred). A third novel might be added to the reading list, so please check updates in Stud.IP.

Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:vanessa.kuennemann@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

4508909

**Narrating Injustice: Murder and the Death Penalty in Mailer, Baldwin, and Stevenson**

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 20

Gross, Andrew S.

Fr 10:30 - 12:00 Raum: Verfügungs VG 0.111 , wöchentlich Von:  
29.10.2021 Bis: 11.02.2022

Do - Abgabe Essay am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)

Fr 10:00 - 12:00 Prüfungsvorleistung am: 11.02.2022

Module zum Termin:  
B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
Fr 10:00 - 12:00mündliche Prüfung am: 11.02.2022  
Module zum Termin:  
M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies  
Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022  
Module zum Termin:  
M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien  
M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul  
B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture  
M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron  
M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)  
M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität  
B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies  
B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

## Module

M.Kom.009.Mp: Interkulturalität  
M.Kom.07.Mp: Epochen diachron  
M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul  
M.EP.04b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Aufbaumodul  
M.EP.01b-L.Mp: Nordamerikastudien  
M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies  
M.AS.02.2: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturhistorische Analyse und Interpretation (Essays)  
M.AS.02.1: Fortgeschrittene Literatur- und Kulturtheoretische Analyse und Interpretation (Hausarbeit)  
B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture  
B.AS.403.PrVor: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
B.AS.403.Mp: Literary Studies / Media Studies (Analysis & Interpretation)  
B.AS.402.Mp: Seminar Advanced American Studies  
B.AS.401.Mp: Seminar Theory and Practice of American Studies

## Kommentar

This seminar will explore three major works on murder and the death penalty published since the U.S. Supreme Court confirmed the legality of capital punishment in 1976. Stevenson's book, and his work for prisoners on death row, has gotten a lot of attention in recent years. He is scheduled to speak at the Bavarian American Academy (BAA) this fall. We will structure our seminar around that talk and in coordination of two partner seminars—one in Erlangen and the other in Munich—that will focus on different aspects of the history of the death penalty and its literary and cultural significance. These seminars will be offered independently but also in coordination with each other, building up to a joint-student conference in January. We are currently applying for funding from the BAA to cover the travel and lodging costs for students participating in that conference, which will be held at the Amerika Haus in Munich in January.

The course in Munich will focus on court cases, rulings, and protests pertinent to the history of the death penalty in the United States. The course in Erlangen will focus on representations of gender and ethnicity in fictional representations of capital punishment. Our class will focus on issues of literary technique as authors search for ways to narrate the injustice of murder and the death penalty. Mailer is a pioneer here with his new journalistic techniques that foreground the personal nature of reporting but also the literary aspects of reportage. His case study is Gary Gilmore, the first man executed in Utah af-



ter the reinstatement of the death penalty (he was killed by a firing squad). Gilmore is a noteworthy figure because he demanded to be executed after his conviction, rejecting all petitions on his behalf to avoid or suspend the death sentence. Baldwin's book-length essay is the last major work to stem from his pen. It is a commissioned report on a series of child murders in Atlanta that targeted the African American community. The murders, and the trial they led up to, provides Baldwin with an occasion to talk about racism in the legal system. The case has been reopened in recent years because of irregularities in the proceedings—irregularities that suggest the justice system was biased in ways Baldwin exposed. Stevenson's book tells of the author's efforts to help those convicted of murder, particularly in the South, where racism has played a well-documented role in placing innocent Black men on death row. Like Mailer, he tells his own story in relation to those of the prisoners, and he employs literary techniques to imagine their suffering. Together, these three books turn to language to repair a broken justice system, but they also recognize the limits of what language can do. The death penalty is final. So is murder. Faced with the incontrovertible fact of morality, these books push against the generic limits of style in their efforts to comprehend what death means in the age of the death penalty.

Reading List (Please note this is subject to change):

Norman Mailer, *The Executioner's Song* (1979)

James Baldwin, *The Evidence of Things Not Seen* (1985)

Bryan Stevenson, *Just Mercy* (2014)

Registration: Attendance for this class is limited to 20 students. Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP as well. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught in hybrid form, i.e. with sessions on campus ("in Präsenz") incl. online supplements as well as with online sessions.

**Independent Study:** Please note that this class also has independent study components (as part of modules B.AS.401; B.AS.402; B.EP.51; and M.EP.04b).

For further information: [andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de)

## **B.AS.501: Bachelor-Abschlussmodul North American Studies**

4508911

### **BA & MA Colloquium**

Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 15

Gross, Andrew S.

Do 18:30 - 20:00 Raum: Verfügungs VG 1.108 , wöchentlich Von:

28.10.2021 Bis: 10.02.2022

Do 18:00 - 20:00Präsentation am: 10.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

B.AS.501.Mp: Bachelor-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

M.Edu.101-EP.1: Masterarbeitsmodul Lehramt - Englisch - Seminar

Do - Abgabe Präsentation Ausarbeitung am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.Edu.100.Mp: Masterabschlussmodul

Do 18:00 - 20:00mündliche Prüfung am: 10.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

	<p>Module zum Termin: M.EP.09b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien</p>
Module	<p>M.EP.09b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul M.Edu.101-EP.1: Masterarbeitsmodul Lehramt - Englisch - Seminar M.Edu.100.Mp: Masterabschlussmodul M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture B.AS.501.Mp: Bachelor-Abschlussmodul North American Studies</p>
Kommentar	<p>The colloquium is designed to help BA- and MA-level students who are in the process of writing—or thinking about—the theses (BA-Arbeit/MA-Arbeit) necessary for the completion of their degrees. Students will have the opportunity to present their work-in-progress to their peers. Many sessions will be devoted to discussing student work. Other sessions will deal with topics in academic research and writing. We will also discuss current trends and methods in American studies and in critical theory. Students are invited to propose their own topics and texts for general discussion. Please get your suggestions to me as soon as possible so I can try to include them in the syllabus.</p> <p>If you wish to take this colloquium as part of your "fachwissenschaftliche Vertiefung" (B.AS.501) or as part of your "Master-Abschlussmodul" (M.AS.04 or M.EP.06b), please consult the instructor's office hours well in advance. (Please note that for module M.AS.04, the oral exam (Prüfungsleistung) takes place in conjunction with the second class of the module, not this class!).</p> <p>Students who wish to take this class as part of module M.EP.09b and who need to write a 'Forschungsbericht' as a 'Prüfungsleistung' in this module, too, are asked to contact Prof. Gross before the beginning of the semester.</p> <p>Please also note that we recommend to take this colloquium as a voluntary component of module B.EP.51, i.e., before you prepare your B.A. thesis in North American Studies. While you will not be given credit for the colloquium in the context of this module, participation is still highly recommended.</p> <p>Registration: Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.</p> <p><u>Important disclaimer:</u> This class will be taught in hybrid form, i.e. with sessions on campus ("in Präsenz") incl. online supplements as well as with online sessions.</p> <p>For further information: <a href="mailto:andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de">andrew.gross@phil.uni-goettingen.de</a></p>
<b>4509598</b>	<p><b>BA &amp; MA Kolloquium: Current Issues in North American Studies</b> Seminar SWS: 2; Anz. Teiln.: 15 <span style="float: right;"><i>Tischleder, Babette B.</i></span> Mo 18:00 - 20:00 Raum: Jacob-Grim SEP 0.244 , wöchentlich Von: 25.10.2021 Bis: 07.02.2022 Bemerkung zum Termin:</p> <p>This class will be taught ONLINE.</p> <p>Mo 18:00 - 20:00Präsentation am: 07.02.2022 Module zum Termin: B.AS.501.Mp: Bachelor-Abschlussmodul North American Studies M.Edu.101-EP.1: Masterarbeitsmodul Lehramt - Englisch - Seminar</p>

Do - Abgabe Präsentation Ausarbeitung am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.Edu.100.Mp: Masterabschlussmodul

Mo 18:00 - 20:00mündliche Prüfung am: 07.02.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

Do - Abgabe Hausarbeit am: 31.03.2022

Module zum Termin:

M.EP.09b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

#### Module

M.EP.09b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien

M.EP.06b.Mp: Nordamerikastudien - Abschlussmodul

M.Edu.101-EP.1: Masterarbeitsmodul Lehramt - Englisch - Seminar

M.Edu.100.Mp: Masterabschlussmodul

M.AS.04.Mp: Master-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

B.EP.51.Mp: Wissenschaftsmodul Advanced Studies in American Literature and Culture

B.AS.501.Mp: Bachelor-Abschlussmodul North American Studies

#### Kommentar

The colloquium invites advanced students who are preparing or already working on their B.A. or M.A. thesis. It will provide the opportunity to present and discuss your work in progress and receive valuable feedback. Further sessions will be on academic writing, research, and current developments in American cultural and literary studies as well as critical theory.

The course also gives students the opportunity to suggest specific topics and/or theoretical texts relevant to the field of American Studies and with regard to current research projects that may be taken up in individual class discussions. If you have a particular topic or text in mind that you want to propose for discussion, please send an email to Prof. Tischleder before the beginning of the semester.

If you wish to take this colloquium as part of your "fachwissenschaftliche Vertiefung" (B.AS.501) or as part of your "Master-Abschlussmodul" (M.AS.04 or M.EP.06b), please consult the instructor's office hours well in advance. (Please note that for module M.AS.04, the oral exam (Prüfungsleistung) takes place in conjunction with the second class of the module, not this class!).

Students who wish to take this class as part of module M.EP.09b and who need to write a 'Forschungsbericht' as a 'Prüfungsleistung' in this module, too, are asked to contact Prof. Tischleder before the beginning of the semester.

Please also note that we also recommend to take this colloquium as a voluntary component of module B.EP.51, i.e., before you prepare your B.A. thesis in North American Studies. While you will not be given credit for the colloquium in the context of this module, participation is still highly recommended.

Registration: Binding (!) registration on Stud.IP between 01 September and 30 September 2021 is required. All news concerning this class will be posted on Stud.IP. The class will start in the first week of the semester. For final registration, participants need to attend the first session of class.

Important disclaimer: This class will be taught online.

For further information: [Tischleder@phil.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:Tischleder@phil.uni-goettingen.de)