

## AMERIKA-INSTITUT - Wintersemester 11/12

**Fachstudienberatung: Thea Diesner, Zi 209, Tel.: 2180-2797, [thea.diesner@lmu.de](mailto:thea.diesner@lmu.de)**

**Bibliothek:** Raum 101, Tel.: 2180-2841, Bibliothekarin: C. Höhn, Zi. 104, Tel.: - 2846

**Sprechstunden der Mitarbeiter** während des Semesters (in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit andere Termine – bitte hierfür Aushänge und Homepage – [www.amerikanistik.lmu.de](http://www.amerikanistik.lmu.de) – beachten):

### Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte

|                                       |                  |                      |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Prof. Dr. Christof Mauch              | s. Aushang       | Rachel Carson Center |                              |
| Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp                | Mi 16-18         | Zi 205               | 2180-2842                    |
| Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender     | Mo 15-16         | Zi 207               | 2180-2738                    |
| Prof. Dr. Ursula Prutsch              | Mi 10-12         | Zi 203               | 2180-3896                    |
| Dr. Martin Lütke                      | Di 16-18 u.n.V.  | Zi 201               | 2180-2138                    |
| Torsten Kathke, M.A.                  | Mo 13-14         | Zi 206               | 2180-2138                    |
| Bärbel Obermeier, M.A.                | Di 11-13         | Zi 202               | 2180-3564                    |
| Dr. Michelle Engert                   | n. Vereinb.      |                      |                              |
| <br>                                  |                  |                      |                              |
| Renate Krakowczyk (Sekretariat)       | Di-Do 9:30-11:30 | Zi 204               | 2180-2739<br>Fax: 2180-16523 |
| <br>                                  |                  |                      |                              |
| Karen Weilbrenner, M.A. (Sekretariat) | Fr 12-14         | Zi 204               | 2180-2739<br>Fax: 2180-16523 |

### Amerikanische Literaturgeschichte

|                                |                    |        |                             |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Prof. Dr. Klaus Benesch        | s. Aushänge        | Zi 208 | 2180-2730                   |
| Prof. Dr. Christof Decker      | Do 10-11           | Zi 211 | 2180-3565                   |
| PD Dr. Kerstin Schmidt         | beurlaubt          | Zi 212 | 2180-2847                   |
| Dr. Anna Flügge                | beurlaubt          | Zi 210 | 2180-5820                   |
| Dr. Sascha Pöhlmann            | s. Aushang         | Zi 210 | 2180-5820                   |
| Dr. Amy Mohr                   | Di 14-15           | Zi 212 | 2180-2847                   |
| Anita Vrzina, M.A.             | Di 15-16           | Zi 213 | 2180-2848                   |
| Benedikt Feiten, M.A.          | Mo 16-17           | Zi 213 | 2180-2848                   |
| <br>                           |                    |        |                             |
| Thea Diesner (Geschäftszimmer) | Mo-Do 10-12 u.n.V. | Zi 209 | 2180-2797<br>Fax: 2180-5423 |

**Bitte beachten Sie, dass die Einschreibung für Kurse im Rahmen des Bachelor-Studiengangs "Nordamerikastudien" nur online über das LSF-System erfolgen kann.**

**Für Magisterstudierende gilt weiterhin eine persönliche Anmeldung für alle Pro- und Hauptseminare: Di 4. Okt., 9:30 - 12 sowie 14 -16 und Mi 5. Okt., 9:30-12 Uhr in den jeweiligen Sekretariaten – auch wenn kein Schein erworben wird! Dies gilt auch für Magisterstudierende, die noch einen Grundkurs besuchen müssen.**

*Für Studierende, die noch im Magisterstudiengang "Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte" oder "Amerikanische Literaturgeschichte" eingeschrieben sind, werden auch in Zukunft die entsprechenden Kurse angeboten!*

**C-TEST (SPRACHTEST): Dienstag, 11. Oktober 2011, 14 – 17 Uhr, Raum 420a (Multimedia-Sprachlabor), Schellingstr. 3/VG, 4. Stock. Bitte Personalausweis mitbringen.**

**Anmeldung (1.8. – 7.10.) per E-Mail an:** c-test-ai@lrz.uni-muenchen.de (unter Angabe von Namen, Geburtsdatum, ggf. Matrikel-Nr. sowie Fächerkombination).

Wir empfehlen allen B.A.-Studienanfängern, den C-Test zu absolvieren. Falls er mit mind. 65 Punkten bestanden wird, kann er als Leistung im Basismodul 2 "Sprachkompetenz" angerechnet werden.

### **Allgemeine Hinweise:**

Soweit nicht anders angegeben, finden alle Lehrveranstaltungen in der Schellingstr. 3/VG statt und beginnen in der Woche vom 17. – 21. Oktober 11.

Bitte beachten Sie für aktuelle Informationen sowie evtl. Änderungen die Aushänge im Schaukasten neben der Bibliothek im 1. Stock bzw. die Homepage ([www.amerikanistik.lmu.de](http://www.amerikanistik.lmu.de))

R = Raum/Räume; HS = Hörsaal; HG = Hauptgebäude, RG = Rückgebäude

**Einführungsveranstaltung für Studienanfänger (B.A.): Dienstag, 27. Sept., 10 Uhr c.t., Raum wird per Aushang und auf der Homepage bekannt gegeben.**

# Programmübersicht

Im B.A.-Studiengang müssen in best. Modulen Vorlesungen belegt werden. Diese stehen aber darüber hinaus allen Studierenden im Bachelor- und den Magisterstudiengängen offen!

## Bachelor "Nordamerikastudien"

### 1. Fachsemester B.A.

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>P 1: Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte</b> (mit integrierter Übung) (ECTS 6), 4st, Mo 14-16, HS: S 004 und Mi 8:30-10, HS: S 005                            | Prutsch/<br>Kathke          |
| <b>P 1: Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Literatur- und Medienwissenschaft</b> (ECTS 3) 2st, Do 8:30-10, HS: S 004   | Decker                      |
| <b>P 1: Übung zum Grundkurs I "Literaturgeschichte"</b> (ECTS 3), 6 Parallelkurse, jew. 2st, Mo 12-14, R 201; Di 11-13, R 106 + 16-18, R 201; Mi 12-14, R 201 u. 105 sowie Do 14-16, R 201 | Vrzina/Fink<br>Feiten/Huber |
| <b>P 2 (SP 1): General Language Course</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, 3 Parallelkurse, Mi 10-12, 14-16, Marx und 16-18, jew. R 105   |                             |
| <b>P 2 (SQ 1): Vorlesung zur Schlüsselqualifikation "Recherche"</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, 6 Termine: Fr 12-14 (11.11.; 25.11.; 9.12.; 13.1.12; 27.1.; 3.2. (Universitätsbibliothek)               | Ostmann                     |

### 3. Fachsemester B.A.

#### Vorlesung und Übungen in P 4:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| <b>Vorlesung "American Classics: Literature, Film, Theory"</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 10-12, HS: S 007 | Benesch |
| <b>Immigration in Contemporary American Women's Fiction</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 12-14, R 201        | Mohr    |
| <b>Native American Literature</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 8:30-10, R 201                                | Mohr    |
| <b>Ethics and Aesthetics in the Works of Toni Morrison</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 8:30-10 R 201        | Vrzina  |
| <b>The Idea of Wilderness and American Literature</b> (ECTS 3), 3st, Mo 14-17, R 201              | Crimmel |
| <b>A Modern American Short Story</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 16-18, R 106                               | Feiten  |
| <b>A History of Drugs in the U.S.</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 17-19, R 105                              | Estes   |

#### Vorlesung und Übungen in P 5:

- Vorlesung "Roll Jordan Roll: The History of African Americans"** (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 14-16, HS: S 004 Ortlepp
- A Cultural History of Basketball** (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 14-16, R 105 Lütke
- Fight the Power: The Sound of Protest in American Popular Song, 1965-Present** (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 12-14, R 105 Buckley
- Indigenous Peoples and Environment in Canada** (ECTS 3), 2st, Blockseminar im November (5.11., 10-16:30; 6.11., 10-15:30; 12.11., 10-16:30, 13.11., 10-15:30) Konferenzraum im Rachel Carson Center, Leopoldstr. 11a, 4. OG Schreiber

**The Wire, an Exploration of Modern Urban Life in America** (ECTS 3), 3st, Do 16-19, R 201 Engert

**"A Nation Talking to Itself": The Story(ies) of Journalism in the US** (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 12-14, R 105 Kathke

Zu P 6 Aufbaumodul Methoden

**Methoden der Amerikastudien** (ECTS 3), 2st, 3 Parallelgruppen: Di 14-16, R 105; Mi 12-14, R 106 u. Mi 16-18, R 201 Lütke/  
Pöhlmann

**SQ 3: Presentation Skills** (ECTS 3), 2st, 3 Parallelübungen: Gruppe 1: Mo 10-12, R 201; Gruppe 2: 22./23. Okt. + 17. Dez., jew. 10-18; Gruppe 3: 19./20. Nov. + 18. Dez. jew. 10-18. Gruppe 2 + 3 im Konferenzraum des Rachel Carson Centers, Leopoldstr. 11a Feiten/Lerg/  
Kathke

**5. Fachsemester B.A.**

zu P 7: Praxismodul

**A Possible Path to Screenwriting** (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 14-16, R 106 Weinshanker

**Printjournalismus** (ECTS 6), 2st als Blockseminar. Termine werden noch bekannt Gegeben. Meyer

**Praxis-Ü Kulturgeschichte** (ECTS 6), 2st, Fr 14-16, R 201 N.N.

Zu WP 1 (Fortgeschrittenenseminare und Übungen im Vertiefungsmodul Literatur)

**FS: Willa Cather and William Faulkner: Regionalism and Modernism** (ECTS 6), 3st, Fr 9-12, R 105 Mohr

**FS: African Oral Traditions in der afroamerikanischen Literatur und Kultur** (ECTS 6), 3st, Mo 13-16, R 106 Feiten

**Ü: Ethnic Postmodernism** (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 12-14, R 106 Vrzina

**Ü: Place, Landscape Painting, and American Literature** (ECTS 3), 3st, Di 13-16, Crimmel

R 106

Zu WP 3 (Sprachpraxis 4 im Vertiefungsmodul Literatur)

**Writing Skills** (ECTS 3), 2st, 2 Parallelübungen: Di 12-14, R 105 u. Do 12-14, R 201 Quaintance

Zu WP 2 (Fortgeschrittenenseminare und Übungen im Vertiefungsmodul Kultur)

**FS: "Looking Forward to the Day I Retire!" Die Geschichte und Repräsentation des zivil-militärischen Verhältnisses in den USA** (ECTS 6), 2st, Di 10-12, R 105 Lütke/Just

**FS: Von Biopolitik und Cyborgs: Geschichte(n) nach dem Cultural Turn** (ECTS 6), 2st, Do 10-12, R 105 Lütke

**FS: *Christian Pop* – Geschichte und Trends** (ECTS 6), 2st, Fr 12-14, R 106 N.N.

**Ü: Primary Season: Prelude to the 2012 Presidential Election** (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 17-19, R 201. ACHTUNG: dieser Kurs beginnt erst am 24.10. Hünemörder

**Ü: Famous for Fifteen Minutes: A Comparative Analysis of the Influence of Pop Art on American and British Popular Music** (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 16-18, R 105 Buckley

**Ü: Territories Foreign and Domestic: The West and America's Borderlands** (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 10-12, R 106 Kathke

Zu WP 4 (Quellen und Kritik im Vertiefungsmodul Kultur)

**Quellen und Forschungen zu den nordamerikanischen Indianern** (ECTS 3), 2st, Fr 10-12, R 106 Hochgeschwender

**Englisch- und deutschsprachige Einwanderung nach Amerika (17.-19.Jhdt)** (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 10-12, R 105 Prutsch

**Cold War Culture – Cultural Cold War** (ECTS 3), 2st. Blockseminar: 3./4.12. (im Amerika Haus, Karolinenplatz) sowie Sa, 28.1.12, R 201, jew. 10-18 Uhr Lerg

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**Magister "Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte"**

Grundkurse, Vorlesungen, Übungen

**Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte** (mit integrierter Übung), 4st, Mo 14-16, HS: S 004 + Mi 8:30-10, HS: S 005 Prutsch/Helmick

**Vorlesung "Roll Jordan Roll: The History of African Americans"**, 2st, Do 14-16, HS: S 004 Ortlepp

**Lektürekurs zur Vorlesung**, 2st, Do 16 s.t.-17:30, R 106 Ortlepp

|   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>Methoden der amerikanischen Kulturgeschichte</b> (Übung nur für M.A.-Hauptfachstudierende), 2st, Mo 10-12, R 106   | Kathke                      |
| <u>Proseminare</u>  |                             |
| <b>An Age of Fracture? Die USA unter der Präsidentschaft von Ronald Reagan</b> , (ECTS 6), 2st, Do 10-12, R 106   | Hochgeschwender             |
| <b>Criminal Law and Justice in America</b> (ECTS 6), 2st, Mi 10-12, R 201   | Engert                      |
| <b>The Female Frontier – Frauen im amerikanischen Westen</b> (ECTS 6), 2st, Di 9-11, R 106  | N.N.                        |
| <b>US Immigration: History, Policies, and Debates</b> (ECTS 6), 2st, Do 8:30-10, R 106  | Zwingenberger               |
| <u>Hauptseminare</u>  |                             |
| <b>Die USA und Afrika</b> (ECTS 9), 2st, Di 10-12, R 201  | Ortlepp/<br>Hochgeschwender |
| <b>Cold War Cultures: American Society in the Age of Antagonism</b> (ECTS 9), 2st, Di 14-16, R 201  | Ortlepp                     |
| <b>Pursuit of Happiness: Eine Kulturgeschichte der Glücksdiskurse in den USA (18.-21. Jahrhundert)</b> , (ECTS 9), 2st, Di 16-18, R 105   | Hochgeschwender             |
| <b>"Civilizing the Tropics": Die USA in Zentralamerika und der Karibik</b> (ECTS 9), 2st, Mi 16-18, R 106   | Prutsch                     |
| <b>Coming Together or Coming Apart? Europe and America in the 1960s</b> (ECTS 9), 3st als zweiwöchiges Blockseminar im September in Berlin (Details s. Aushänge und Homepage)   | Waldschmidt-Nelson          |
| <b>The Permanent Disaster? Natural Hazards, Natural Catastrophes, and Climatic Challenges in American History</b> (ECTS 9), 2st als Blockseminar im Rachel Carson Center, Leopoldstr. 11a, 4. OG. Date will be announced shortly. | Lübken                      |
| <u>Oberseminare und Kolloquien</u>  |                             |
| <b>Oberseminar für Magistranden</b> , 1st, Mo 12 s.t.-13, R 106   | Hochgeschwender             |
| <b>Oberseminar für Doktoranden</b> , 1st, Mo 18 s.t.-19, R 106  | Hochgeschwender             |
| <b>Wissenschaftliches Kolloquium: Der Postkolonialismus und seine Kritiker</b> , 2st, Mo 19 s.t.-20:30, R 106   | Hochgeschwender             |
| <b>Wissenschaftliches Kolloquium</b> , 2st, Mi 18 s.t.-19:30, R 106   | Ortlepp                     |
| <b>Oberseminar für Magistranden und Doktoranden</b> , 2st, Di 18-20, R 106  | Prutsch                     |

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## Magister "Amerikanische Literaturgeschichte"

### Grundkurse, Vorlesungen, Übungen:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| <b>Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Literatur- und Medienwissenschaft</b> (ECTS 3) 2st, Do 8:30-10, HS: S 004 | Decker  |
| <b>Vorlesung "American Classics: Literature, Film, Theory"</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 10-12, HS: S 007                         | Benesch |
| <b>Übung: Composition</b> , 1st, Do 15-16, R 213  | Vrzina  |

### Proseminare

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| <b>Immigration in Contemporary American Women's Fiction</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 12-14, R 201 | Mohr    |
| <b>Native American Literature</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 8:30-10, R 201                         | Mohr    |
| <b>Ethics and Aesthetics in the Works of Toni Morrison</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 8:30-10 R 201 | Vrzina  |
| <b>The Idea of Wilderness and American Literature</b> (ECTS 3), 3st, Mo 14-17, R 201       | Crimmel |
| <b>A Modern American Short Story</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 16-18, R 106                        | Feiten  |
| <b>A History of Drugs in the U.S.</b> (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 17-19, R 105                       | Estes   |

### Hauptseminare

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| <b>Realism and Neo-Realism</b> (ECTS 9), 2st, Mi 14-16, R 201               | Decker  |
| <b>The History and Legacy of Film Noir</b> (ECTS 9), 3st, Fr 10-13, R 201   | Decker  |
| <b>Environmental Literature and Criticism</b> (ECTS 9), 3st, Do 9-12, R 201 | Crimmel |

### Oberseminare

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| <b>Kolloquium für Examenskandidaten</b> , 3st, Do 17:30-20, R 106 | Benesch |
| <b>Magistranden-/Doktorandenkolloquium</b> , 2st, Do 14-16, R 106 | Decker  |

## Kursbeschreibungen WiSe 11/12

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### Bachelor "Nordamerikastudien"

#### 1. Fachsemester B.A.

P 1: Prof. Dr. Ursula Prutsch/Torsten Kathke, M.A.: Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte (mit integrierter Übung) (ECTS 6), 4st, Mo 14-16, HS: S 004 und Mi 8:30-10, HS: S 005

Grundkurs I covers American social, political, and cultural history from colonial times to the end of Reconstruction (1492-1890). The historical background knowledge from this class serves as the foundation for the entire American Cultural History program. For each session of the Übung that accompanies the GK, some historical documents must be read; the identification and analysis of these documents will be part of the final exam.

P 1: Prof. Dr. Christof Decker: Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Literatur- und Medienwissenschaft (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 8:30-10, HS: S 004

Der Einführungskurs vermittelt literatur- und medienwissenschaftliche Grundlagen. Im Zentrum stehen Fragen der Analyse, Methodik, Interpretation und Theorie, die an Texten aus den Bereichen Prosa, Lyrik und Drama sowie an audiovisuellen Beispielen erläutert werden. Der Kurs ist obligatorisch für den BA-Studiengang „Nordamerikastudien“.

P 1: Anita Vrzina, M.A./Benedikt Feiten, M.A./Moritz Fink, M.A.: Übung zum Grundkurs I "Literaturgeschichte" (ECTS 3), 6 Parallelkurse, jew. 2st, Mo 12-14, R 201; Di 11-13, R 106 + 16-18, R 201; Mi 12-14, R 201 u. 105 sowie Do 14-16, R 201

Diese Übung vertieft und erweitert den Stoff der Grundkurs-I-Vorlesung in kleineren Gruppen und anhand weiterführender Beispiele. Sie ist obligatorisch für den B.A. Studiengang "Nordamerikastudien" und kann nur in Verbindung mit der Grundkurs-I-Vorlesung belegt werden.

P 2: Emily Marx, M.A.: General Language Course (ECTS 3), 2st, 3 Parallelkurse, Mi 10-12, 14-16 sowie 16-18, jew. R 105

Dieser Sprachkurs ist Bestandteil des Basismoduls P 2 "Sprachkompetenz" und Pflicht für diejenigen, die den C-Test entweder nicht absolviert oder nicht bestanden haben.

P 2: Torsten Ostmann, M.A.: Vorlesung zur Schlüsselqualifikation "Recherche" (ECTS 3), 2st, 6 Termine: Fr 12-14 (11.11.; 25.11.; 9.12.; 13.1.2012; 27.1.; 3.2.), Universitätsbibliothek

Finden Sie alles, was Sie brauchen? Einen Zeitschriftenartikel, eine Rezension, eine biographische Angabe? Ohne Bibliographien, Kataloge, Nachschlagewerke und Fachdatenbanken ist vertieftes wissenschaftliches Arbeiten unmöglich: Recherchetechniken sind gleichzeitig Grundlagen der Wissenschaft und Schlüsselqualifikationen für das Berufsleben, die im elektronischen Zeitalter immer wichtiger werden.

Dieser Kurs ermöglicht es Ihnen, Ihre Kenntnisse auf diesem Gebiet wesentlich zu erweitern. Das begleitende Tutorium bietet Ihnen die Möglichkeit, Ihre Fähigkeiten fachnah – anhand praktischer Beispiele – intensiv zu trainieren.

ACHTUNG! Die Veranstaltung findet nicht wöchentlich statt, sondern umfasst insgesamt sechs Termine! (s.o.). Ansprechpartner: Torsten Ostmann – torsten.ostmann@ub.uni-muenchen.de oder 089/2180-3288

#### 3. Fachsemester B.A.

P 4: Prof. Dr. Klaus Benesch: Vorlesung "American Classics: Literature, Film, Theory" (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 10-12, HS: S 007

In this class I'll be discussing individual texts (both from fiction and theory), films, and iconic images that have become by now "American classics". Samples will range from the eighteenth through the end of the twentieth century and cover areas (and genres) as wide as American autobiography, novel writing, short stories, ethnic literature, the myth-and-symbol school, philosophy, counter culture, ecocriticism/nature writing, mobility, war, gender, and class/poverty. The idea is to alert students via selected texts and images to important discursive fields, to social and historical issues, and, finally, to the problem of canonization and the very notion of 'classics' itself. A syllabus with selected primary and secondary material will be available in the first session.

P 4: Dr. Amy Mohr: Immigration in Contemporary American Women's Fiction (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 12-14, R 201

This course will address issues related to immigration and ethnicity in women's fiction over the past thirty years, especially regarding family and intergenerational relationships. We will consider critical scholarship on these works, and compare constructions of identity, cultures of origin, and experiences within American culture.

Course Texts: Sandra Cisneros, *Caramelo*; Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club* (and film); Gish Jen, *The Love Wife*; Bharati Mukherjee, *Jasmine*, Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake* (and film).

P 4: Dr. Amy Mohr: Native American Literature (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 8:30-10, R 201

We will consider major themes and motifs in Native American Literature, including the role of religion and spirituality, folklore and oral traditions, visual and media culture, family and community, locale and mobility within the context of inter-American studies. Our study will take a comparative approach, discussing the texts as both individual and cultural expressions.

Texts include Zitkala-Sa's *American Indian Stories*, N. Scott Momaday's *House Made of Dawn*, Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony*, Sherman Alexie's film *Smoke Signals*, Louise Erdrich's *The Plague of Doves*. Critical scholarship will be addressed in class and in presentations.

P 4: Anita Vrzina, M.A.: Ethics and Aesthetics in the Works of Toni Morrison (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 8:30-10, R 201

"The best art," writes Toni Morrison, is "unquestionably political and irrevocably beautiful at the same time". In this course, we will read Morrison's novels, short stories, as well as her non-fictional texts as places where literary aesthetics, history/archive, identity, and cultural politics intersect. Keeping in mind this dual quality of art, we will try to define the role of the artist and art in developing critical strategies for remembering, reconceptualizing, and transforming society, and also delve into the questions of beauty in and of a work of art.

P 4: Dr. Hal Crimmel: The Idea of Wilderness and American Literature (ECTS 3), 3st, Mo 14-17, R 201. ACHTUNG: Kursdauer 17. Oktober – 19. Dez.!

This course explores constructions of wilderness as expressed in American literature and as explicated in critical texts. Course participants can expect to leave the class with a better understanding of how formulations of the idea of wilderness have evolved over centuries, as well as a better understanding of the central importance of wilderness to American identity and the American literary tradition. We'll explore the idea of wilderness through the lenses of transcendentalism, conservation vs. preservation, industrial tourism, environmental problems and more. To that end we will read works that explore American relationships to the heavily forested regions of the eastern United States, the Great Plains, Alaska, the deserts of the Southwest, and California. Students should purchase the following books in paperback: Abbey, Edward: *Desert Solitaire*; Krakauer, Jon: *Into the Wild*; Nash, Roderick: *Wilderness and the American Mind*. Requirements: One 10-15 minute class presentation (Referat). One 8 page (double-spaced) final paper.

P 4: Benedikt Feiten, M.A.: A Modern American Short Story (ECTS 3), 2st, Di 16-18, R 106  
Kursbeschreibung im September auf der Homepage!

P 4: Andy Estes, M.A.: A History of Drugs in the U.S. (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 17-19, R 105

This course will trace the historical development of some of the discourses on drugs in America. We will examine topics like tobacco growing in the southern states as an example of legal drugs and prohibition as experiment in criminalizing what had been a legal drug. Drugs were often employed as symbol and means of dissent during the social unrest of the 60's. Drugs are intimately linked to transnationalism; Reagan's escalation of the "War on Drugs" inaugurated an era of massive spending coupled with police and military action that frequently crossed national borders. Thirty years later the success of this "war" is highly questionable both in the U.S. and in Latin America; now states like California have legalized some uses of marijuana—this despite the oft-heard theories of its being a "gateway drug" that leads users to try other more dangerous substances. Patterns of drug use can be analyzed along demographic lines. We'll examine drugs with an eye to race, gender, class and space (e.g. urban, sub-urban). This course is project-based which means that students will be responsible for leading sessions on topics of their choice.

P 5: Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp: Vorlesung "Roll Jordan Roll: The History of African Americans" (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 14-16, HS: S 004

This lecture will explore the history of African Americans. It will begin with the origins of slavery in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and end with the election of Barack Obama as president of the United States. Literature: Peter Kolchin, *American Slavery 1619-1877* (New York: Hill & Wang, 1993); Nell Painter, *Creating Black Americans: African-American History and Its Meanings, 1619 to the Present* (New York: Oxford UP, 2006).

P 5: Dr. Martin Lütke: A Cultural History of Basketball (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 14-16, R 105

Basketball is truly a North American invention. In this "Übung" we analyze the cultural forms and functions of basketball from its American inception in the 1890s to its more recent global dissemination. This course will allow students to learn about and tackle some of the key questions of sports history.

P 5: Dr. David Buckley: Fight the Power: The Sound of Protest in American Popular Song, 1965-Present (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 12-14, R 105

'It's been a long time coming', said Barack Obama on the night of his 2008 Presidential election win, paraphrasing the words of soul singer Sam Cooke, written over four decades earlier, 'But tonight...change has come to America'. This seminar tracks the history of protest song in America from the protest singers of the Sixties, the attack on Reagan from alternative rock in the Eighties, up to today. We ask what sort of protest songs affect us and how, and what sort of musicians are credible social commentators.

P 5: Dr. Dorothee Schreiber: Indigenous Peoples and Environment in Canada (ECTS 3); 2st, Blockseminar im November (5.11., 10-16:30 Uhr; 6.11., 10-15:30 Uhr; 12.11., 10-16:30 Uhr; 13.11., 10-15:30 Uhr), Konferenzraum im Rachel Carson Center, Leopoldstr. 11a

This course will provide you with an overview of the historical experience of indigenous peoples in Canada since the arrival of non-native settlers. We will trace the broad outlines of colonialism in its past and present forms, and discuss how native peoples have participated in, adapted to, and resisted changing economic and environmental conditions, including the fur trade and the industrial resource economy. In addition, case studies will highlight the local, culturally specific ways in which First Nations have experienced assimilative pressures and interacted with a settler society, on the west coast, on the prairies, and in the east. The campaign for aboriginal rights and title in the courts has brought together the study of anthropology and history and these legal struggles have been a crucial component of recent First Nations efforts at political and cultural revival.

P 5: Dr. Michelle Engert: The Wire, an Exploration of Modern Urban Life in America (ECTS 3), 3st, Do 16-19, R 201

The Wire tells the story of urban life and decay in contemporary America. Through a fictionalized truth, it shows the challenges of modern urban life and the effects of inequality on the communities and people of Baltimore, Maryland. Over five seasons, it takes the watcher on a journey through Baltimore's drug trade, shipping docks, city hall, public schools and newspaper room, raising issues about the war on drugs, poverty, access to employment, education, urban policy, political corruption and the mass media coverage of these issues. Students will watch the series and analyze the issues it presents about contemporary America.

P 5: Torsten Kathke, M.A.: "A Nation Talking to Itself": The Story(ies) of Journalism in the US (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 12-14, R 105

From the first newspaper to today's plethora of news outlets – papers, magazines, radio, television, new media – journalism in America is both always changing and always relevant. This class traces the many variants of journalism from the first printer-journalists and the early republic's party press, to the 19th century's yellow press, to radio, tv and internet reporting. We will discuss what the ideal of 'objectivity' means for journalism, then and now.

P 6: Dr. Martin Lüthe/Dr. Sascha Pöhlmann: Methoden der Amerikastudien (ECTS 3), 2st, 3 Parallelgruppen: Di 14-16, R 105; Mi 12-14, R 106 u. Mi 16-18, R 201

Der Kurs bietet einen Überblick über methodische und theoretische Grundlagen der Amerikastudien. Anhand ausgewählter Texte, die in einem Reader zur Verfügung gestellt werden, sollen zentrale Problemstellungen und Vorgehensweisen der amerikanischen Literatur- und Kulturwissenschaft diskutiert werden. Unter anderem werden folgende Themenbereiche besprochen: *gender/queer theory, (post)nationalism, authorship, race/ethnicity, space/place, visual culture, postmodernism/poststructuralism, ideology, etc.*

SQ 3: Dr. Charlotte Lerg/Torsten Kathke, M.A./Benedikt Feiten, M.A.: Presentation Skills (ECTS 3), 2st, 3 Parallelgruppen. Gruppe 1: Mo 10-12, R 201; Gruppe 2: 22./23. Okt. + 17. Dez., jew. 10-18 Uhr; Gruppe 3: 19./20. Nov. + 18. Dez., jew. 10-18 Uhr. Gruppe 2 + 3 im Konferenzraum des Rachel Carson Centers, Leopoldstr. 11a

Diese Übung ergänzt die Kurse zum wissenschaftl. Arbeiten und zu Theorien der Amerikanistik. Ziel ist es zu lernen, wie man einen Vortrag oder ein Referat hält. Besprochen werden verschiedene Arten des Vortragens, wie freies Reden, das Ablesen von vorbereiteten Manuskripten oder das Halten von Seminarsitzungen. Jeder Teilnehmer wird im Verlauf des Kurses eine Präsentation zu einem mit dem Dozenten abgesprochenen Thema halten.

## 5. Fachsemester B.A.

P 7: Burt Weinshanker, M.A.: A Possible Path to Screenwriting (ECTS 3); 2st, Mi 14-16, R 106

Burt Weinshanker started working with screenplays while studying literature at the Amerika-Institut in Munich; first screenplay translation, then script doctoring, and finally writing his own scripts for TV and cinematic release. The seminar is about passing on some of the experience he's picked up along the way. It's suited for all those who feel they have film stories to tell, but aren't sure how to get started. We'll read some theory (and probably some scripts), watch some films, take a closer look at character and story development, discuss problems inherent in translating film scripts (if there's interest), and talk about ways of possibly marketing your own ideas.

Recommended watching: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=soZ5ODeyQmE> (interview with Paul Haggis). Recommended reading: Stephen King's *Misery*.

P 7: Dr. Cordula Meyer: Printjournalismus(ECTS 3), 2st als Blockseminar. Termine werden noch bekannt gegeben.

P 7: N.N.: Praxisübung Kulturgeschichte (ECTS 3); 2st, Fr 14-16, R 201

FS WP 1: Dr. Amy Mohr: Willa Cather and William Faulkner: Regionalism and Modernism (ECTS 6), 3st, Fr 9-12, R 105

Willa Cather and William Faulkner, regionalist writers of the Great Plains and the South, respectively, are also considered literary modernists. We will explore recent developments in analyses of regional modernism, and scholarship such as Merrill Skaggs's *Axes: Willa Cather and William Faulkner* (2007) in a comparative study of their work.

Course Texts: Willa Cather: "Paul's Case," *My Antonia!*, *One of Ours*, *Sapphira and the Slave Girl*; William Faulkner: "Barn Burning," *Go Down, Moses*, *Soldier's Pay*, *The Sound and the Fury*.

FS WP 1: Benedikt Feiten, M.A.: African Oral Traditions in der afroamerikanischen Literatur und Kultur (ECTS 6), 3st, Mo 13-16, R 106. Kursbeschreibung in Kürze auf der Homepage!

Ü WP 1: Dr. Hal Crimmel: Place, Landscape Painting, and American Literature (ECTS 3), 3st, Di 13-16, R 106. ACHTUNG: Kursdauer 18. Okt. – 20. Dez.

"Place, Landscape Painting and American Literature" explores how painters and writers interpreted the American landscape from the early 1800s to the twentieth century. We'll address such questions as: How did European traditions of landscape painting influence American artists? How did American painters' work reflect ideological, intellectual, and aesthetic currents in American culture? How did the literature of the era intersect with paintings? We'll likely begin with the work of European painters and then move to consider work from Hudson River School artists such as Frederic Edwin Church, Thomas Cole, Thomas Moran, and Albert Bierstadt. From there we'll investigate paintings by Winslow Homer, Frederick Remington, and Georgia O'Keeffe, among others. We may consider the work of Ansel Adams, Edward Hopper, and others focused on urban places. Our discussion of these visual arts will be complemented by the study of writers from the American romantic era, to the transcendentalists, to the modernists, to Western American writers. Students should purchase Malcolm Andrews' *Landscape and Western Art* (ISBN: 978-0192842336). Requirements: One 10-15 minute class presentation (Referat). One 8-10 page (double-spaced) final paper.

Ü WP 1: Anita Vrzina: Ethnic Postmodernism (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 12-14, R 106

In literary studies, the term postmodernism usually refers to the literature of the second half of the twentieth century. However, as Doreen Massey argues, for most inhabitants of the world—those who were subjected to slavery and colonialism—the experience of place and time, home and history, has been fractured for centuries, so that what is being proclaimed as a novel feature of postmodernism has in fact been long familiar to the West's 'others.' In this course we will read novels from different ethnic traditions in America together with a number of theoretical texts in an attempt to understand the relationship between postmodernism and ethnicity, experience and performance.

WP 3: Cherie Quaintance, M.A.: Writing Skills (ECTS 3), 2st, 2 Parallelgruppen: Di 12-14, R 105 u. Do 12-14, R 201

Students are introduced to the development, structure, argumentation forms, and stylistic issues of written English papers with special attention to North American usage.

FS WP 2: Dr. Martin Lütke/Peter Just, M.A.: "Looking Forward to the Day I Retire"! Die Geschichte der Repräsentation des zivil-militärischen Verhältnisses in den USA (ECTS 6); 2st, Di 10-12, R 105

Dieses Fortgeschrittenenseminar behandelt die oftmals fließend verlaufenden Trennlinien zwischen der zivilen Bevölkerung der USA und dem Militär. Neben theoretischen, rechtlichen und geschichtlichen Analysen, beispielsweise der Machtverteilung im Pentagon, Privatisierung des Militärs und Wiedereingliederung von Veteranen, sollen auch populärkulturelle Darstellungen des zivil-militärischen Verhältnisses in Musik, Filmen, Sportveranstaltungen und TV-Serien näher betrachtet werden.

FS WP 2: Dr. Martin Lütke: Von Biopolitik und Cyborgs: Geschichte(n) nach dem Cultural Turn (ECTS 6), 2st, Do 10-12, R 105

Im Fokus dieses Seminars stehen theoretische und methodische Ansätze und Debatten, die in Folge des linguistic und des cultural turns in den Geistes- oder Kulturwissenschaften der letzten vier Jahrzehnte hervorgebracht worden sind. Anders gesagt: Wie schreibt man eigentlich Geschichte in Zeiten der 'post-'ismen?

FS WP 2: N.N.: Christian Pop – Geschichte und Trends (ECTS 6), 2st, Fr 12-14, R 106

Seit den 1960er Jahren hat sich in den USA eine christliche Musikindustrie etabliert, die mit eigenen Awardshows, Musikfestivals und Fanzeitschriften aufwarten kann. Mit Künstlern wie P.O.D., The Fray und Sufjan Stevens fassen im musikalischen Mainstream immer mehr christliche Musiker Fuß. Das Seminar untersucht, wie Musik von *Christian Pop* Künstlern genutzt wird, welche Botschaften sie in den Texten vermitteln und welche Rolle Kommerzialisierungstendenzen spielen. Anhand der Analyse von Primärquellen wie Songtexten, Musikvideos und Interviews wird die Geschichte von *Christian Pop* – auch vor dem Hintergrund der evangelikalischen Bewegung – nachgezeichnet.

Ü WP 2: Dr. Markus Hünemörder: Primary Season: Prelude to the 2012 Presidential Election (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 17-19, R 201. ACHTUNG: Dieser Kurs beginnt erst am 24.10.

This course will examine the system of primary elections in the United States, both from a historical and a current perspective. We will look at how American political parties select their candidates for office, and why. Special attention will be given to the Republican side: who will run against Obama, and does she or he stand a chance?

Note on October 17, 2011: Students are invited to attend the lecture "The Obama Presidency: Achievements, Problems, and Current Issues" at Amerika Haus, Karolinenplatz 3, 5:30 p.m.

Ü WP 2: Dr. David Buckley: Famous for Fifteen Minutes: A Comparative Analysis of the Influence of Pop Art on American and British Popular Music (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 16-18, R 105

Andy Warhol's influence on popular music amounts to much more than his early patronage of the Velvet Underground (although that was significant enough). His ideas on celebrity have proved powerful, perhaps even more so in today's *X-Factor* culture of instant celebrity. This seminar looks at Warhol in the US, and at the impact of British Pop Art and the Art School inheritance on the work of Bryan Ferry, David Bowie, the New Wave and beyond. This interdisciplinary seminar focuses on music, iconography and the development of celebrity culture.

Ü WP 2: Torsten Kathke, M.A.: Territories Foreign and Domestic: The West and America's Borderlands (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 10-12, R 106

Manifest Destiny, the Wild West, Indian Wars, National Parks, and Hispanic culture all figure prominently in the many narratives connected with the (south)western United States. This class looks primarily at the history of the border states, but also the larger history of the West from multiple perspectives. These include aspects of political, social, environmental, and art history as well as depictions in popular culture.

WP 4: Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender: Quellen und Forschungen zu den nordamerikanischen Indianern (ECTS 3), 2st, Fr 10-12, R 106

In dieser Übung werden einerseits Quellen zur Geschichte der Indianer in Nordamerika gelesen und eingehend analysiert, zum anderen aber wird es überdies eine Einführung in die Theorien der modernen Kulturanthropologie geben.

Literatur: Colin G. Calloway, *The World Turned Upside Down: Indian Voices from Early America* (Boston: Bedford, 1994); Roland Girtler, *Kulturanthropologie: Eine Einführung* (Münster: LIT, 2006).

WP 4: Prof. Dr. Ursula Prutsch: Englisch- und deutschsprachige Einwanderung nach Amerika (17.-19. Jhdt.) (ECTS 3), 2st, Mo 10-12, R 105

Die Übung bietet eine Einführung in die Interpretation und Analyse unterschiedlicher historischer Text- und Bilddokumente (Berichte, Briefe, Tagebücher, Biographien, Karikaturen, Propagandaschriften) zur Geschichte der englisch- und deutschsprachigen Einwanderung nach „Amerika“. Anhand der Quellen soll auch das Spannungsfeld zwischen historischer „Wahrheit“ und Fiktion diskutiert werden.

WP 4: Dr. Charlotte Lerg: Cold War Culture – Cultural Cold War (ECTS 3), 2st. Blockseminar: 3./4.12. (im Amerika Haus, Karolinenplatz) sowie Sa, 28.1.12, R 201, jew. 10-18 Uhr.

Der Kalte Krieg schlug sich im Alltagsleben ebenso nieder wie in der sogenannten Hochkultur, im Intellektuellendiskurs ebenso wie in Pop und Lifestyle. Anhand von physisch greifbaren Originalquellen aus dem Nachlass und der Bibliothek des transatlantischen Journalisten Melvin J. Lasky (1920-2004), einem Kalten Krieger par excellence, wird die Rolle von Kultur im Kalten Krieg untersucht und dargestellt.

## **Magister "Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte"**

### Grundkurs, Vorlesung und Übungen

Prof. Dr. Ursula Prutsch/Torsten Kathke, M.A.: Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Kulturgeschichte (mit integrierter Übung) (ECTS 6), 4st, Mo 14-16, HS: S 004 **und** Mi 8:30-10, HS: S 005

Grundkurs I covers American social, political, and cultural history from colonial times to the end of Reconstruction (1492-1890). The historical background knowledge from this class serves as the foundation for the entire American Cultural History program. For each session of the Übung that accompanies the GK, some historical documents must be read; the identification and analysis of these documents will be part of the final exam.

Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp: Vorlesung "Roll Jordan Roll: The History of African Americans" (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 14-16, HS: S 004

This lecture will explore the history of African Americans. It will begin with the origins of slavery in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and end with the election of Barack Obama as president of the United States. Literature: Peter Kolchin, *American Slavery 1619-1877* (New York: Hill & Wang, 1993); Nell Painter, *Creating Black Americans: African-American History and Its Meanings, 1619 to the Present* (New York: Oxford UP, 2006).

Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp: Lektürekurs zur Vorlesung, 2st, Do 16 s.t. – 17:30, R 106

Torsten Kathke, M.A.: Methoden der amerikanischen Kulturgeschichte (Übung **nur** für M.A.-Hauptfachstudierende), 2st, Mo 10-12, R 106. ACHTUNG: Dieser Kurs wird zum letzten Mal gesondert für den Magisterstudiengang angeboten!

Der Kurs ist verpflichtend für Magister-HauptfachstudentInnen im Grundstudium. Er bietet eine grundlegende Einführung in wissenschaftliches Arbeiten sowie einen Überblick über Methodik und Theoriebildung in der kulturwissenschaftlichen Forschung. Neben der fachspezifischen Propädeutik liegt ein Schwergewicht darauf, historisch-kritische, hermeneutische und sozialwissenschaftliche Vorgehensweisen vorzustellen. Schwerpunkte sind Konstruktionen zentraler Begriffe wie Kultur, Nation, gender, race, ethnicity und class. Daran anschließend werden einige für das Fach relevante theoretische Ansätze zur Diskussion gestellt.

### Proseminare

Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender: An Age of Fracture? Die USA unter der Präsidentschaft von Ronald Reagan (ECTS 6), 2st, Do 10-12, R 106

Die Präsidentschaft Ronald Reagans (1981-1989) zählt zu den Phasen amerikanischer Geschichte, in denen es zu einem erheblichen Auseinanderklaffen, einer klaren sozialen und kulturellen Fragmentierung der US-Gesellschaft kam. Das Seminar wird sich vornehmlich mit der Innen- und Gesellschaftspolitik der Reagan-Ära, aber auch mit dem Versuch, das Trauma des Vietnamkrieges außenpolitisch zu bewältigen, befassen.

Literatur: Daniel T. Rodgers, *Age of Fracture* (Cambridge: Belknap, 2011); Haynes Johnson, *Sleepwalking through History: America in the Reagan Years* (New York: Norton, 1991).

Dr. Michelle Engert: Criminal Law and Justice in America (ECTS 6), 2st, Mi 10-12, R 201  
America has the highest incarceration rate of any country in the world, and a crime rate that rises every year. This course will look at the reasons behind the increase in the prison population and the system that processes people who are accused and convicted of crimes. It will discuss various components of the criminal justice system to include the constitutional rights of people charged with crimes, the police, the prosecution, the accused and the role of their defense attorneys, the courts, the prisons, and the probation/parole system. Students will be asked to critically examine the American model of criminal justice and discuss their ideas on what works, and what does not work, with respect to both crime prevention and punishment.

N.N.: The Female Frontier – Frauen im amerikanischen Westen (ECTS 6), 2st, Di 9-11, R 106

Der Mythos der *frontier* speist sich vor allem aus Abenteuergeschichten über die Männer des Wilden Westens. Frauen erscheinen an dieser durchweg männlichen *frontier* oft in Form von Stereotypen, als „Madonnas of the Prairies“, „Pioneers in Petticoats“ oder „Calamity Jane“. Das Seminar hinterfragt herkömmliche Mythen über Frauen im amerikanischen Westen und beleuchtet die vielfältigen Erfahrungen und Rollen der weiblichen Pioniere an der westlichen Besiedlungsgrenze. Vor allem Tagebücher, Erinnerungen und Briefe dienen als wichtige Quellen bei der Rekonstruktion der *female frontier*.

Dr. Meike Zwingenberger: US Immigration: History, Policies, and Debates (ECTS 6), 2st, Do 8:30-10, R 106

In chronological order the course will look at different waves of migrants and the three major eras of immigration from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The analysis takes into account how the US government has attempted to manage the flow of people from the first congressional act, to legislate naturalization and citizenship, and to enforce immigration restriction. Corporate interests, ethnic lobbies, environmentalist perspectives, humanitarian and ethical issues spur hot debates over immigration until today.

### Hauptseminare

Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp/Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender: Die USA und Afrika (ECTS 9), 2st, Di 10-12, R 201

Afrika und die USA verbindet eine ebenso lange wie komplizierte Geschichte, die allerdings, sieht man vom Sklavenhandel ab, in der Geschichtswissenschaft wenig Berücksichtigung gefunden hat. Dieses Seminar möchte den verschiedenen Facetten der amerikanisch-afrikanischen Begegnungen auf kultureller, politischer, wirtschaftlicher und populärkultureller Ebene nachgehen.

Einführende Literatur: Paul Gilroy, *The Black Atlantic* (London: Verso, 1993); Ulrike Schuerkens, *Geschichte Afrikas: Eine Einführung* (Stuttgart: UTB, 2009).

Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp: Cold War Cultures: American Society in the Age of Antagonism (ECTS 9), 2st, Di 14-16, R 201

For most Americans who lived in the postwar period, the Cold War was a defining element of how they experienced their lives. Families built nuclear shelters; Hollywood produced spy movies; the CIA chased spies in real life. This class will investigate cultural and political

developments to understand how Americans made sense of their complicated relationship to the Soviet Union.

Literature: Scott C. Zeman and Michael Amundsen, *Atomic Culture: How We Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (Boulder: UP of Colorado, 2004).

Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender: Pursuit of Happiness: Eine Kulturgeschichte der Glücksdiskurse in den USA (ECTS 9), 2st, Di 16-18, R 105

In der Kulturgeschichte der USA spielt die Idee vom Streben nach Glück eine zentrale Rolle. In diesem Seminar wird es darum gehen, den unterschiedlichen Ebenen zum Teil erheblich divergierender Glücksdiskurse und Glückskonzepte in Religion, Gesellschaft, Literatur und Ökonomie nachzuspüren.

Literatur: Horst Kruse, ed., *From Rags to Riches: Erfolgsmythos und Erfolgsrezepte in der amerikanischen Gesellschaft* (München: Goldmann, o.J.).

Prof. Dr. Ursula Prutsch: "Civilizing the Tropics": Die USA in Zentralamerika und der Karibik (ECTS 9), 2st, Mi 16-18, R 106

Das Hauptseminar thematisiert, ausgehend vom Spanisch-Amerikanischen Krieg von 1898, die Geschichte der konfliktiven und komplexen Beziehungen zwischen den USA und den Staaten Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Kuba, Haiti und der Dominikanischen Republik. Schwerpunkte sind dabei die militärischen Interventionen, die ökonomischen Interessen, die kulturpolitischen „Zivilisierungsmissionen“ der USA sowie die z.T. anti-amerikanischen Reaktionen der betreffenden Gesellschaften.

PD Dr. Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson: Coming Together or Coming Apart? Europe and America in the 1960s (ECTS 9), 3st als Blockseminar im September in Berlin (Details s. Aushänge und Homepage)

In this course we will explore the most important social protest movements, literary, cultural, and political developments of the 1960s in the United States and in Europe. Our goal will be to come to a deeper understanding of the intercultural confluences of this era and the effects they had on a national and global level, especially regarding the interconnectedness of many social and cultural movements as well as the transnational collaboration of activist groups based on both sides of the Atlantic.

Literature: Klimke, *The Other Alliance* (2010); Monteith, *American Culture in the 1960s* (2008); Waldschmidt-Nelson et al., ed., *Europe and America: Cultures in Translation* (2006).

Dr. Uwe Lübken: The Permanent Disaster? Natural Hazards, Natural Catastrophes, and Climatic Challenges in American History (ECTS 9), 2st als Blockseminar im Rachel Carson Center, Leopoldstr. 11a. Date will be announced shortly.

### Kolloquien und Oberseminare

Prof. Dr. Anke Ortlepp: Wissenschaftliches Kolloquium, 2st, Mi 18 s.t. – 19:30, R 106

Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender: Wiss. Kolloquium: Der Postkolonialismus und seine Kritiker, 2st, Mo 19 s.t. – 20:30, R 106

Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender: Oberseminar für Magistranden, 1st, Mo 12 s.t. – 13, R 106

Prof. Dr. Michael Hochgeschwender: Oberseminar für Doktoranden, 1st, Mo 18 s.t. – 19, R 106

Prof. Dr. Ursula Prutsch: Oberseminar für Magistranden und Doktoranden, 2st, Di 18-20, R 106

## Magister "Amerikanische Literaturgeschichte"

### Grundkurse, Vorlesung und Übungen

Prof. Dr. Christof Decker: Grundkurs I: Einführung in die Amerikanische Literatur- und Medienwissenschaft (ECTS 3), 2st, Do 8:30-10, HS: S 004

Der Einführungskurs vermittelt literatur- und medienwissenschaftliche Grundlagen. Im Zentrum stehen Fragen der Analyse, Methodik, Interpretation und Theorie, die an Texten aus den Bereichen Prosa, Lyrik und Drama sowie an audiovisuellen Beispielen erläutert werden. Der Kurs ist obligatorisch für den BA-Studiengang „Nordamerikastudien“.

Prof. Dr. Klaus Benesch: Vorlesung "American Classics: Literature, Film, Theory" (ECTS 3), 2st, Mi 10-12, HS: S 007

In this class I'll be discussing individual texts (both from fiction and theory), films, and iconic images that have become by now "American classics". Samples will range from the eighteenth through the end of the twentieth century and cover areas (and genres) as wide as American autobiography, novel writing, short stories, ethnic literature, the myth-and-symbol school, philosophy, counter culture, ecocriticism/nature writing, mobility, war, gender, and class/poverty. The idea is to alert students via selected texts and images to important discursive fields, to social and historical issues, and, finally, to the problem of canonization and the very notion of 'classics' itself. A syllabus with selected primary and secondary material will be available in the first session.

Anita Vrzina, M.A.: Composition, 1st, Do 15-16, R 213

In dieser Übung können Fragen zu individuellen Hausarbeiten, von der Themenfindung bis zum Erstellen der Bibliographie, behandelt werden.

### Proseminare:

Dr. Amy Mohr: Immigration in Contemporary American Women's Fiction (ECTS 6), 2st, Di 12-14, R 201

This course will address issues related to immigration and ethnicity in women's fiction over the past thirty years, especially regarding family and intergenerational relationships. We will consider critical scholarship on these works, and compare constructions of identity, cultures of origin, and experiences within American culture.

Course Texts: Sandra Cisneros, *Caramelo*; Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club* (and film); Gish Jen, *The Love Wife*; Bharati Mukherjee, *Jasmine*, Jhumpa Lahiri, *The Namesake* (and film).

Dr. Amy Mohr: Native American Literature (ECTS 6), 2st, Di 8:30-10, R 201

We will consider major themes and motifs in Native American literature, including the role of religion and spirituality, folklore and oral traditions, visual and media culture, family and community, locale and mobility within the context of inter-American studies. Our study will take a comparative approach, discussing the texts as both individual and cultural expressions.

Texts include Zitkala-Sa's *American Indian Stories*, N. Scott Momaday's *House Made of Dawn*, Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony*, Sherman Alexie's film *Smoke Signals*, Louise Erdrich's *The Plague of Doves*. Critical scholarship will be addressed in class and in presentations.

Anita Vrzina, M.A.: Ethics and Aesthetics in the Works of Toni Morrison (ECTS 6), 2st, Mi 8:30-10, R 201

"The best art", writes Toni Morrison, is "unquestionably political and irrevocably beautiful at the same time". In this course, we will read Morrison's novels, short stories, as well as her non-fictional texts as places where literary aesthetics, history/archive, identity, and cultural politics intersect. Keeping in mind this dual quality of art, we will try to define the role of the

artist and art in developing critical strategies for remembering, reconceptualizing, and transforming the society, and also delve into the questions of beauty in and of a work of art.

Dr. Hal Crimmel: The Idea of Wilderness and American Literature (ECTS 6), 3st, Mo 14-17, R 201. ACHTUNG: Kursdauer 17. Oktober – 19. Dez.!

This course explores constructions of wilderness as expressed in American literature and as explicated in critical texts. Course participants can expect to leave the class with a better understanding of how formulations of the idea of wilderness have evolved over centuries, as well as a better understanding of the central importance of wilderness to American identity and the American literary tradition. We'll explore the idea of wilderness through the lenses of transcendentalism, conservation vs. preservation, industrial tourism, environmental problems and more. To that end we will read works that explore American relationships to the heavily forested regions of the eastern United States, the Great Plains, Alaska, the deserts of the Southwest, and California. Students should purchase the following books in paperback: Abbey, Edward: *Desert Solitaire*; Krakauer, Jon: *Into the Wild*; Nash, Roderick: *Wilderness and the American Mind*. Requirements: One 10-15 minute class presentation (Referat). One 8 page (double-spaced) final paper.

Benedikt Feiten, M.A.: A Modern American Short Story (ECTS 6), 2st, Di 16-18, R 106  
Kursbeschreibung in Kürze auf der Homepage!

Andy Estes, M.A.: A History of Drugs in the U.S. (ECTS 6), 2st, Mo 17-19, R 105

This course will trace the historical development of some of the discourses on drugs in America. We will examine topics like tobacco growing in the southern states as an example of legal drugs and prohibition as experiment in criminalizing what had been a legal drug. Drugs were often employed as symbol and means of dissent during the social unrest of the 60's. Drugs are intimately linked to transnationalism; Reagan's escalation of the "War on Drugs" inaugurated an era of massive spending coupled with police and military action that frequently crossed national borders. Thirty years later the success of this "war" is highly questionable both in the U.S. and in Latin America; now states like California have legalized some uses of marijuana—this despite the oft-heard theories of its being a "gateway drug" that leads users to try other more dangerous substances. Patterns of drug use can be analyzed along demographic lines. We'll examine drugs with an eye to race, gender, class and space (e.g. urban, sub-urban). This course is project-based which means that students will be responsible for leading sessions on topics of their choice.

#### Hauptseminare:

Prof. Dr. Christof Decker: Realism and Neo-Realism (ECTS 9), 2st, Mi 14-16, R 201

American realism emerged after the Civil War as a literary mode of representation dealing with experience, individualism, subjectivity, and social change. This seminar compares and contrasts the realist period of the late 19th century with 20th century neo-realist movements such as the 'minimal realism' of the 1970s. Among the topics to be discussed will be race and ethnicity, family relations, work, and questions of gender—e.g. in the work of Mark Twain, William Dean Howells, Willa Cather, Raymond Carver, Richard Ford, Ann Beattie and others (check further details via LSF in September). Requirements for Credit Points: regular and active participation, oral presentation, paper.

Prof. Dr. Christof Decker: The History and Legacy of Film Noir (ECTS 9), 3st, Fr 10-13, R 201

In the history of American cinema the 1940s saw the emergence of a wave of films characterized by crime, sexual obsessions, and a new 'aesthetic of darkness' that eventually came to be called Film Noir. Generally seen as a critical commentary on the ideology of the American dream, this seminar will provide an overview of seminal productions and address the complexities of periodizing Film Noir as a genre, style, or retrospective category. It will

also examine how the ‚noir style‘ has been revived in later periods and other media.  
Requirements for Credit Points: regular and active participation, oral presentation, paper.

Dr. Hal Crimmel: Environmental Literature and Criticism (ECTS 9), 3st, Do 9-12, R 201

ACHTUNG: Kursdauer 20. Okt. – 22. Dez.

This course explores the dynamic field of environmental literature and criticism. Environmental literature and environmental literary criticism, broadly speaking, encompass primary texts and relevant criticism that pertain to the relationship between humans and nature. During this semester, we'll read works that address such topics as sustainability, nature writing, bioregionalism, gender and nature, environmental justice, urban space and place, the idea of wilderness and much more. You should expect to come away from the class with a strong foundation in environmental literature as well as in current trends in environmental literary criticism. (Required books to be listed at a later date).

Requirements: One 10-15 minute class presentation (Referat). One 15-20 page (double-spaced) final paper.

#### Oberseminare:

Prof. Dr. Klaus Benesch: Kolloquium für Examenskandidaten, 3st, Do 17:30-20, R 106

Prof. Dr. Christof Decker: Magistranden-/Doktorandenkolloquium, 2st, Do 14-16, R 106