

ISSUE 21, AUGUST 2016

# NEWSLETTER



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# GRADUATE SCHOOL



## New Doctoral Candidates

We selected 10 new doctoral candidates in April who will start their studies on October 1, 2016. Our new students come from Italy, Germany, Tunisia, the United States and the UK.

## Interdisciplinary Forum

The Interdisciplinary Forum (IF), organized by the postdoctoral researchers at GNSAS, offers doctoral students numerous ways to engage with peers. Speakers can use the forum to practice their PhD defense, test an upcoming conference paper, or seek input for a chapter or article they are working on. The audience is critical, supportive, and helpful.

The forum started on May 10 with Lee Flamand's talk on: „Occupy Images: Looking back at the 99%“. On May 24, Tobias Jochum presented his work on „Reclaiming Murder City: Northern Mexico Border Fiction in an Age of Atrocity (or: Can the Dystopian Speak?)“ while Johannes Kohrs' presentation „I Don't Hate You Because You're Light' shed light on symbolic violence and black in-group racism in Percival Everett's satirical adaptation of 'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner' in 'I Am Not Sidney Poitier'“. In its session on June 7, Lee Flamand spoke on „If It's Not TV, is it Sociology? The Wire...“ followed by Sören Schoppmeier on “Playing with Broadcast: Radio and Television as Ludo-Narrative Devices in the Video Game Series Grand Theft Auto”. On June 21, the IF continued with Sophie Spieler's presentation titled „Truly a Magical Place': The Poetics and Politics of Self-Representation at Princeton University“ and Siofra McSherry's “To fulfil a private obligation': Marianne Moore and her patrons“. In the final session of the semester on July 5, James Goebel talked about „Neoliberal Environmentalism: Value / Speed / Sacrifice“ followed by Helen Gibson's presentation on the „Adventures on Highways and Byways': the Multifarious Automotive Life of Jack Johnson“.

## 2016 Graduate Conference

The ninth International Graduate Conference was held at the John F. Kennedy Institute from June 2-4, 2016. This year's topic was “Flows and Undercurrents: Dimensions of (Im)mobility in North America”. The conference saw a record number of paper proposals and featured a total of 16 panels which can be retrieved on the conference [website](#). Dr. Julia Leyda (Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam) delivered the opening keynote lecture on aspects of “Negative Mobilities”. Further keynotes were held by Dr. Michelle Commander (University of Tennessee) on “Freedom Flights: An Exploration of Black American Engagements with 'Africa' in the post-1965 Era” and Dr. Themis Chronopoulos (University of East Anglia) on “African Americans and Spatial Mobility”.

## Visiting Professors

In the summer term, the Graduate School welcomed three distinguished scholars as visiting professors: Robert Entman (J.B. and M.C. Shapiro Professor of Media and Public Affairs and Professor of International Affairs at The George Washington University) spent a total of three months at the Institute, David Armitage (Lloyd C. Blankfein Professor of History at Harvard University) and John Durham Peters (A. Craig Baird Professor in Communication Studies at the University of Iowa) joined us for six weeks, respectively. Besides their support of our doctoral candidates, all three delivered well attended guest lectures.

On May 30, David Armitage gave a presentation on „'Civil War? What Does This Mean?': Mid-Nineteenth-Century Answers to a Nagging Question“.

John Durham Peters presented his findings on „Joseph Smith's Discourse Networks“ on June 15.

As part of the conference “Framing Violence. A Multidisciplinary Symposium on Theorizing Frames” Robert Entman held the keynote lecture titled “Why

Benghazi, Why Not 9/11? Framing Violence and Scandals in US Foreign Policy”.

### Guest Lectures

On May 24, former U.S. Ambassador Derek Shearer (Occidental College) delivered a Brown Bag Lecture on „The Whole World Is Watching: Foreign Policy and the US Presidential Election“.

Dr. Emma Briant (University of Sheffield) gave a talk titled „Institutional Cultures in the Production of US Counter-Terrorism Propaganda” on June 26.

### Alumni

The Graduate School now has more than 50 alumni. Melanie Eis (Literature), Maren Freudenberg (Sociology), Julian Henneberg, Rieke Jordan, Aviva Köberlein and Lina Tegtmeier (all Cultural Studies) successfully completed

their doctoral studies. Congratulations!

### Activities by GSNAS Alumni

Elisabeth Engel (German Historical Institute Washington) and Sebastian Jobs organized the Conference “Uncertainty and Risk: (Un)stable Histories in America from the Late Colonial Period to the Gilded Age” from June 30-July 2, 2016. The keynote speaker was Jonathan Levy (University of Chicago) on “Radical Uncertainty, The History of an Idea”.

Birte Wege and Curd Knüpfer held a Symposium on “Framing Violence” which included multidisciplinary approaches to theorizing frames. It took place on July 1-2, 2016 and featured a keynote by visiting professor Robert Entman (GWU) and Pavan Malreddy (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt) on “Towards Post-Terrorism? From Orientalism to Divine Violence”.

# JOHN F. KENNEDY INSTITUTE



## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

### Personnel News

This semester, the Department of History welcomed **David Armitage**, chair of the Harvard history department, as a visiting professor. He spent six weeks at the JFKI co-teaching a course for doctoral candidates at the GSNAS on advanced research methods. On May 30, he also gave a lecture in the department's weekly research colloquium, designed as a collaboration with a number of research colloquia of the Friedrich Meinecke Institute (Profs. Arndt Bauerkämper, Ernst Baltrusch, Sebastian Conrad, Oliver Janz, Claudia Jarzebowski, Alexander Schunka).

In early April, **Max Klose** started working on a grant proposal for the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) to establish an international graduate program between the FU and Carleton University, Ottawa, entitled "Power & Humanity". The program intends to take a closer look at North American influences on the development of universal ideas of humanitarianism and their practice in human rights, humanitarian intervention, and aid.

**Verena Specht** has acquired additional responsibilities while maintaining her current position, as she was elected the new Gender Equality Officer at the JFKI on May 3, 2016. We congratulate her on this new position and wish her all the best in contributing to a more equal and just workplace.

The members of the history department bade farewell to **Henriette Bering**, who will take a leave of absence from her post as student assistant and will spend one year as a DAAD fellow at Johns Hopkins University.

**Rebecca Brückman** has taken a position as a research associate at the University of Cologne, where she will work on her postdoctoral project on racial codifications in the social and spatial borderlands in mid-nineteenth century Louisiana, New Mexico, and British Columbia.

**Paul Edwards**, who was at the John F. Kennedy

Institute as a DAAD fellow from fall 2015 through May 2016, has returned to Boston University. We wish him all the best for the completion of his research project "Louis Douglas and Jonny spielt auf: Performing Blackness in Interwar Germany," and hope that he will visit us again.

After ten years at the John F. Kennedy Institute, **Michaela Hampf** will move on to the Friedrich Meinecke Institute of History to sub for Professors Sebastian Conrad and Michael Göbel, during the 2016/17 academic year. We hope to see her often and look forward to comparing notes with each other.

**Annette Karpp** won a fellowship from the German Historical Institute for her project on „Punk and Human Rights" to go to Washington in July. She will be back in the fall to enroll in the doctoral program of the Graduate School for North American Studies: Congratulations! We wish to thank all of our departing colleagues profoundly for all that they have done for the history department in their respective capacities and also wish all of them good luck for their individual research projects and other ventures, both professional and private. Please do stay in touch!

### Departmental News

The **M.A. / research colloquium** (Forschungs- und Examenskolloquium) of the History Department welcomed the following speakers this Summer Semester: Jeanette Jones (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) "America in Africa: U.S. Foreign Policy and Africa during the Gilded Age"; V. Vale (RE/Search and Search & Destroy, San Francisco) "CounterCulture Forever...? 40 years of Counterculture and how it Impacts Mainstream Culture"; Patrick Milton (Cambridge University/FU Berlin) "Intervention for the Protection of Subjects in Early Modern Central Europe"; David Armitage (Harvard University) "Civil War? What Does This Mean? Mid-Nineteenth-Century Answers to a

Nagging Question”; Ben Madley (University of California at Los Angeles) “An American Genocide; the United States and the Californian Indian Catastrophe, 1846-1873”; Adam Seipp (Heidelberg Center for American Studies, Texas A&M University) “Mox Nix: The U.S. Army, German Society, and the Making of the Federal Republic”; Christopher Endy (California State University, Los Angeles) “The Rise of the Consumer in U.S. Foreign Policy”; Martha Hodes (New York University) “The Politics of Personal Responses to Lincoln’s Assassination”; David Huyssen (University of York) “Inequality Interventions: From Progressive-Era New York to the Present.”

**Sebastian Jobs** proposed the idea of an institute twitter account to facilitate a more direct communication of our news and events to the outside world. **Sébastien Tremblay** then set up the account and ensured its integration and visibility on our various web spaces. Since June 15, the account offers daily tweets on events, news, and historical trivia. The twitter handle is: [@jfkinstitutefub](https://twitter.com/jfkinstitutefub).

**Jessica Gienow-Hecht** and **Max Klose** organized an interdisciplinary workshop with Professors Andrew Johnston and Hans-Martin Jäger (Carleton University/Canada) on June 18/19, dedicated to “Power and Humanity: Contesting Notions of Human Rights and Humanitarianism in North America.” On June 1, Gienow-Hecht also participated as a contestant in the student initiative “Kennedy debate” on the question whether or not “Do Anti-Americanism and Critiques of Capitalism Motivate the Anti-TTIP Protest?”

From 30 June to 2 July, **Sebastian Jobs** and GSNAS graduate Elisabeth Engel (currently a fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, DC) co-organized a workshop on “Uncertainty and Risk”. The workshop roster included 16 speakers and commentators from Germany, the UK and the US. The complete details are available on the [website of the GHI](#). As a part of this workshop the History Department invited Jonathan Levy (University of Chicago) for a keynote address on the history of risk. His talk was co-sponsored by the GSNAS.

In April, **Helen Gibson**, together with **Nadja Klopprogge** and other doctoral candidates of the Graduate School, the Max Plank Institute for Human Development, and the University of Calgary, founded a colloquium titled “From Canada to Mexico: Doctoral Lab in North American History”. The colloquium convenes monthly to discuss the research of a doctoral candidate in North American history.

On April 25, **Patrick Milton** gave a presentation at a joint session of the JFKI History M.A. and research colloquium and the FMI Early Modern History Research Colloquium organized by Daniela Hacke on his current research, titled “Intervention for the Protection of Subjects in Early Modern Central Europe”.

#### Publications and Presentations outside of JFKI

**Kira Alvarez** participated in the Seminar on Archival and Historical Research at the Center for Jewish History in New York City at the end of May.

**Beerd Beukenhorst** was invited to chair a panel on “People, Goods, and Waste: Flows of Globalization” as part of the International Graduate Conference “Flows and Undercurrents: Dimensions of Im/mobility in North America” on June 3. On April 29 and May 13, he gave two guest lectures on the racial dimension of the War on Drugs within the course “Racisme in the Verenigde Staten” at Utrecht University, the Netherlands.



THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT

From June 20 to 26, **Helen Gibson** took part in the Futures of American Studies Institute at Dartmouth College. She presented a paper titled “Joyriding in the Early Twentieth-Century United States: Race, Mobility, and the Right to Consume”.

In February, **Jessica Gienow-Hecht** moderated a panel at the DGfA historians’ conference in Tutzing, titled “Transnational Autobiography”. In April, she delivered two presentations at Sciences Po in Paris: one focused on a presentation and discussion of her book, *Music and International History* (Berghahn Books, 2015) on April 19 to Frédéric Ramel’s graduate seminar on International Relations, the other one was featured as a keynote speech titled “Power, State and Musical Nation Branding” at the conference “[Sounds and Voices on the International Stage: Understanding Musical Diplomacies](#)”. In July, she introduced and moderated Dan Diner’s presentation at the Düsseldorf Industrieclub (“Wie aktuell ist das 19. Jahrhundert? Über Deutschland, Russland und Europa”), and gave a keynote speech titled “Music and Nation branding in 19th-century International Relations”, at the [convention of the Society of 19th-Century Music](#) in Oxford. Meanwhile, she published an essay on Nation Branding in Michael Hogan/Frank Costigliola, *Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations (3rd ed.)*, Cambridge University Press, 2016, and gave a series of radio and newspaper interviews relating to North American history, above all, utopian communities.

**Michaela Hampf** was invited to the conference AfterPostPhotography in St. Petersburg on April 14-16.

The title of her talk was “Eugenic Photography: Evidence, Excess and Archives”. She also served as a commentator at the conference “Uncertainty and Risk in America: (Un) Stable Histories from the Late Colonial Period to the Gilded Age” (see above), and was invited to chair the Panel “Trans: Gender, Sexuality, and Feminism” at the Summer Workshop “Becoming TransGerman: Transnational, Transdisciplinary, Transgender, Transhuman” organized by the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies on June 23-24, 2016.

**Sebastian Jobs** published an article about “Slavery and Slave Trade” in an online dossier about *Global History and Postcolonial Studies*, which was edited by Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung. Furthermore, together with Elissa Mailänder (Science Po, Paris) he co-edited a volume of the historical journal *WerkstattGeschichte* on work and the global History of Everyday Life.

**Annette Karpp** reviewed Angelika Möller’s *Das Andere New York. Friedhöfe, Freiräume und Vergnügungen, 1790 – 1860*, Bielefeld 2015 for *H-Soz-Kult*. Furthermore, she presented a paper on “Punk and/or Human Rights? From Anti-Establishment Ideology to an Agenda of Political Participation in New York City’s punk scene, 1970s-2000s” at the Annual Meeting of the German Association of American Studies in May 2016, which focused on the United States and the question of rights. A month later, she gave a presentation on “No More Bad Future! Punk, Political Participation and Human Rights” at the Workshop Nationen, Minoritäten und Menschenrechte im 20. Jahrhundert at the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena. She was invited by the German Historical Institute in Paris to talk about “In Defence of Our Earth” (Oi Polloi, 1990) – Punk Activism and the Environmental Dimension of Human Rights in Great Britain in the 1980s” at the workshop “Défis internationaux et émergence d’un espace public en Europe depuis les années 1970.”

On 23 April and 11 May, the third and fourth installments took place of the seminar series **Patrick Milton** co-convoked, titled “A Westphalia for the Middle East”. This series, held in the UK at Cambridge University, attempts to tackle the questions on how peace was achieved at the Westphalian peace congress, and if there are lessons to be distilled that can furnish a possible solution to the challenges in the Middle East today. A detailed report of these sessions can be found [online](#). Also, an article of Milton appeared in the journal *Central European History*, titled “The Early Eighteenth-Century German Confessional Crisis: The Juridification of Religious

Conflict in the Reconfessionalized Politics of the Holy Roman Empire”.

## DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL STUDIES

**Frank Kelleter** continued as speaker of the research unit “Ästhetik und Praxis populärer Serialität” (funded by the German Research Foundation until September 2016) and organized the unit’s final international conference in June. He also served as the principle author of the successful proposal for the new collaborative Terra Visiting Professorship Program, which will run for six years and will be organized by the JFKI. Over the course of the program, the Terra Foundation, the Freie Universität, and the JFKI will co-sponsor six eight-month visiting professorships on US art history and visual culture.

Frank Kelleter contributed two talks to the celebrations marking the 30th

anniversary of the Johns Hopkins-Nanjing University Center in China. On May 11, he spoke about “Seriality and Contemporary American Television” and on May 12, he outlined “Elements of a Theory of Seriality”. Furthermore, Kelleter published another edited volume on North American literature with Metzler Verlag, entitled *Kindler Klassiker: Amerikanische Literatur*. In September, his monograph on David Bowie will be released with Reclam.

In January, **Alexander Starre** gave a talk on “Amerikanische Wissenskulturen, 1878-1929: Formen, Stile, Institutionen” as part of the “Göttingen Philological Forum” at the University of Göttingen. Together with Kathleen Look, he organized a workshop on “Cli-Fi” - climate fiction - in May. Held on May 13, the workshop featured a keynote lecture by former GSNAS guest professor Julia Leyda alongside a number of presentations by students from the M.A. courses taught by Alexander Starre and Kathleen Look. Alexander also collaborated with Martin Lütke in hosting a workshop on “American Media/Knowledge” in July. His workshop paper was entitled “The Elements of Epistemic Style: Research Universities, Public Libraries, and the Emerging Literary Professional.” He recently finished two essays based on his ongoing research for his current book project on American knowledge cultures. Finally, he was awarded a Feodor Lynen Postdoctoral Fellowship by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to conduct research in the U.S. for his ongoing book project on American knowledge cultures. During the academic year 2016/17, Alexander will be a visiting scholar in the Department of American Studies at Brown University.



PARTICIPANTS OF THE FINAL POPULAR SERIALITY CONFERENCE

**Martin Lütke** presented a paper entitled “Bedrooms, Bathrooms, and Beyond: MTV Cribs und neoliberale Reichtumsperformanzen am Ende des 20. Jahrhunderts” at a conference on “Wealth in Germany and German History” organized by the FZH (Forschungsstelle für Zeitgeschichte, Hamburg) in Hamburg in February and conducted a seminar for ESL teachers in cooperation with the Pedagogical Institute in Munich on “Complex Television in the ESL Classroom” in March. In May, Martin presented a paper entitled “Becoming Baggio: Dynamisierungen von Identität, Identifikation und Körperlichkeit im digitalen Fußballspiel“ at a symposium on transnational identities in European soccer at the University of Mainz (Germersheim campus). In the contexts of Jackie Robinson Day and the death of Muhammad Ali, he served as an expert interview partner for the WDR and *Deutsche Welle TV*, respectively. He co-hosted a workshop on “American Media/Knowledge” with Alexander Starre in July, where he gave a presentation entitled “Wire Writings: The Telephonic Conversation in the Culture of the Progressive Era,” taken from his current research project (Habilitation). Martin Lütke served as the co-author of the successful proposal for the New Terra Visiting Program starting in the fall of 2016. Also in the fall, Martin will spend three months of his sabbatical as a visiting scholar at the English department of the University of Pennsylvania to work on said research project.

**Maria Sulimma** presented her work at the European American Studies Conference in Constanta, Romania, in a talk entitled “Not That Kind of Girl: Television’s Troubled Relationship with Academia and TV Criticism” (April 24), and at the German American Studies annual meeting (DGfA) in Osnabrück, where she presented a paper on “Beyond the Double Bind? Professional Femininities and ‘Uniform’ Desires” (May 20). At the annual meeting of the International Society for the Study of Narrative (ISSN) her contribution was entitled “2015: Simultaneous Seriality and The Walking Dead” (June 18). Additionally, Maria co-organized the concluding conference of the Popular Seriality Research Unit, where she also presented a paper in a panel she put together on “Gender. The Series”; the title of her talk was „Will this Gender ever be Televised? On the Challenges of Seriality and Gender Studies” (June 22.)

**Simon Strick** has been a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Culture at GSNAS since June 2016. His new and just evolving project deals with stupidity as a political and aesthetic affair in visual culture of the 20th and 21st centuries, bringing together perspectives from cinema studies, disability studies and queer studies. Simon has recently finished articles on structuralism and deconstruction, on torture and empathy, and on the rise of Donald Trump. The Performance collective *Panzerkreuzer. Rotkäppchen*, which Simon heads together with director Dr. Susann Neuenfeldt and dramaturg Werner Türk,

produced the antiwar-singalong “War Is Over: in Bed with John & Yoko” in April, and, in June, the short performance “Moby Dick Mittelmeer”, in cooperation with the LNdW (Long Night of the Sciences) of the American Studies Department at the HU Berlin.

In May, **Kathleen Loock** co-organized the “Cli-Fi” workshop with Alexander Starre. In June, she gave a guest lecture at Chemnitz University of Technology on “The Hollywood Treatment: Cross-Cultural Remakes and the Case of Michael Haneke’s *Funny Games*.” As a member of the research unit “Popular Seriality: Aesthetics and Practice” she organized and chaired a panel at the final conference and gave the paper “Beyond the Formula? Hollywood Seriality and the Sequel Paradox.” In August, she will conduct research at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts; in September, she presents the paper “Hollywood’s Serial Modes of Storytelling” at the SERCIA Conference “Cinema and Seriality” in Paris. Kathleen Loock was accepted into the P.R.I.M.E. program of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The program provides support for the international mobility of postdocs and is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the European Union. Starting in October, it allows her to do research and continue the work on her second book project – a cultural history of Hollywood’s remaking practice – first at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (12 months) and afterwards at the John F. Kennedy Institute in Berlin (6 months).

**Andreas Sudmann** submitted his habilitation thesis, entitled „Serielle Überbietung. Zur Fernsehästhetik und Fernsehphilosophie exponierter Steigerungen“, at the Institute for Media Studies in Bochum. On July 20, he delivered his habilitation talk on „Fake Documentaries und die Krise der Repräsentationskritik.“ In June and together with Shane Denson, he presented a paper on „Infra-ludic serialities“ at the final conference of the DFG research unit „Popular Seriality“ and also gave another talk on „Bullet Time and the Mediation of Post-Cinematic Temporalities“ as part of the book launch of Julia Leyda and Shane Denson’s anthology *Post-Cinema: Theorizing 21st-Century Film*.

**Winfried Fluck** served as co-director of the „Futures of American Studies“-Institute at Dartmouth College in 2015 and 2016, respectively, where he also chaired a panel session each time, conducted a workshop for postgraduate students and junior faculty, and gave a talk on “Narratives of Self-Alienation” (2016). He was also a visiting professor at Dartmouth College during the spring term of 2016 and taught a seminar on “Transnational American Studies“. In June 2015, he presented on “Photography and Recognition: Another Look at ‘The Family of Man’“ at the international conference “The Family of Man in the 21st Century: Reassessing an Epochal Exhibition,” Clervaux, Luxembourg, and on “Reading for Recognition“ at the

Symposium on New Approaches in Literary Studies at the University of Freiburg. In October of 2015, he gave talks on “Inwieweit kann Anerkennung ein Schlüsselkonzept der Sozial- und Geisteswissenschaften sein?” (Philosophische Gesellschaft Ostschweiz) and on “The Separation of ‘Art’ and ‘Life’” at the conference “Literature & Philosophy” at the University of St. Gallen. He also gave talks at the University of Krakow on “Post-Americanization? The Changing Role and Function of American Culture” and at the University of Erlangen on the “Rejection of the Aesthetic in Revisionist Literary Studies and Contemporary Artistic Practice” in 2015. In 2016, Fluck gave talks on “Narratives About the American South” at the University in Halle and on “American Exceptionalism and Transnationalism” at the University of Nijmegen.

**Heather Diack** is currently the Terra Visiting Professor in the department of culture, where she has already organized and conducted the symposium “Seeing Through: Negotiating the Photograph” in May. Heather gave a talk in the research colloquium entitled, “Second Degree Burn: Material Realities in American Photography”. Heather also taught two courses, one in the M.A. and one in the B.A. programs of North American Studies and Art History.

#### Conferences, Workshops, Guest Lectures

On May 13, the M.A. seminars “Dystopian Visions of America” (Kathleen Loock) and “American Ecologies” (Alexander Starre) at the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies and the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in Potsdam hosted the workshop “Cli-Fi: The Dystopian Impulse in Contemporary Climate Fiction.” The workshop included a keynote lecture by former GSNAS guest professor Julia Leyda (IASS Potsdam) as well as a number of student presentations on cli-fi films.

From June 8 to June 9, Heather Diack conducted her Terra Research event “Seeing Through, Negotiating the Photograph” to approach and discuss the cultural forms and functions and the art historic prominence of photographs in the United States. Speakers included Joshua Shannon (University of Maryland), Andrea Zervigon (Rutgers University), Alexander Streitberger (Université catholique de Louvain), and Kaja Silverman (University of Pennsylvania).

The DFG research unit “Popular Seriality: Aesthetics and Practice” held its final international conference “Seriality Seriality Seriality: The Many Lives of the Field that Isn’t One” to mark the end of its six-year funding period. Organized by Frank Kelleter and Maria Sulimma, the three-day conference (June 22-24) featured panels on television, film, comics, digital games and other topics, overall comprising close to fifty individual presentations. The complete program including information on the speakers can be found at [www.popularseriality.com](http://www.popularseriality.com)

Martin Lütke and Alexander Starre invited a

number of scholars from Germany and U.S. to a workshop on “American Media/Knowledge at the Turn of the 20th Century.” Held on July 13 and 14, the workshop aimed to initiate conversations between cultural, literary, and media scholars currently working on projects that address technological and epistemological shifts in U.S. culture. Presentations focused on the cultural configurations of “discourse network 1900” in North America, as well as on theoretical and methodological issues. Speakers included Ilka Brasch (Hannover), Mark Goble (Berkeley), Sebastian Herrmann (Leipzig), John Durham Peters (Iowa), and Katherine Stubbs (Colby College).

Furthermore, the culture department hosted the following guest lectures: Theodora Tsimpouki (University of Athens, Greece), “Space and Intermediality in Jonathan Safran Foer’s *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*” (May 2); JV Fuqua (Queens College, CUNY), “Interspecies Friendship: The Queer Affinities of the Peaceable Kingdom” (June 28).

#### DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE

The Department of Literature has been happy to host a number of longer and shorter term guests over the last months. The media and screen cultures scholar Diane Negra (University College Dublin) debated issues of “Post-Race Discourse and the Re-Territorialization of White Masculinity” with MaryAnn Snyder’s Masters Seminar on “Theory (after Theory?).” Keith Newlin (University of North Carolina Wilmington), the editor of the journal *Studies in American Naturalism*, visited the Kennedy Institute to discuss the state of research on naturalism with Junior Research Group “Fictions of Management” members Florian Gabriel, Jasper Verlinden, and James Dorson. The department was also privileged to welcome back Nathalia King as a Visiting Professor: a position that she held in 2011 as well. In addition, the department is looking forward to welcoming David Hadar (PhD Hebrew University of Jerusalem) at the end of the summer. Hadar has been awarded a two-year Minerva Fellowship for research and collaboration with the Literature Department. Funded by the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, the highly competitive Minerva Fellowship aims to bring together high-level German and Israeli research partners. During his time at the department, David Hadar will be developing his project on “Creative Labor and the Literary Author” alongside ongoing work in the department on authorship and literary modernism as well as modes of management.

**Ulla Haselstein** is still on research leave until 2017 for her project “Gertrude Stein’s Literary Portraits,” funded through the Opus Magnum Program of the Volkswagen Stiftung. In March, she gave a talk on “Gertrude Stein’s Data Fictions” at the conference “Repetition, Recurrence, Returns” at Stanford University, and that same month she was invited to give a guest lecture on “Gertrude Stein’s America” at

Vanderbilt University. In June, she further presented her work in progress on Stein at the ZfL Berlin and at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. Ulla Haselstein also took part in the final conference of the DFG Research Unit “Popular Seriality—Aesthetics and Practice,” where she gave a talk titled “Modernist Reality as a Modeling Device.”

**MaryAnn Snyder-Körber** participated in the planning committee for the upcoming 2017 annual meeting of the German Association of American Studies on “Modernities and Modernization in North America,” which will take place in Hannover. She also spoke at this year’s Annual Meeting in Osnabrück on “Of Copies, Rights, and Nineteenth-Century Abolitionist Remix: A Pre-Digital Case Study” as part of a developing project on cultures of reprinting and photographic engagement. Further, she organized the workshop “New Media Writing” at the JFKI at the end of the summer term. The workshop brought together student research with presentations by Andrew S. Gross (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen) and Bettina Soller (Leibniz Universität Hannover).

**Florian Sedlmeier** has returned from his sabbatical at Brandeis University, where he developed his second book project on the conditions of the field imagination in late-nineteenth-century North America. A short description of the project is available on the [JFKI website](#).

Florian Sedlmeier’s article on the function of allegory in postcolonial literature and literary theory has been published as part of the proceedings of a DFG Symposium that took place in 2014 at Villa Vigoni. The symposium was organized by Ulla Haselstein, who also edited the [volume](#) (further details can be found in the publications section of this newsletter; see page 16).

**James Dorson** returned in February after being on parental leave during the winter semester. His monograph on the aesthetics and politics of Cormac McCarthy’s genre fiction, *Counternarrative Possibilities: Virgin Land, Homeland, and Cormac McCarthy’s Westerns*, appeared with [Campus](#) in June. Almost coinciding with the publication of his monograph, he co-organized a conference that took place at the Kennedy Institute with two other McCarthy scholars in Germany titled “Crossroads and Transgressions: Cormac McCarthy Between Worlds.” The keynote speakers were Dianne C. Luce (Midlands Technical College), David Holloway (University of Derby), and Mark Seltzer (UCLA). James Dorson also spoke at the conference on the topic of “Cormac McCarthy and Genre Fiction.”

**Birte Wege**, who is substituting this year as a Junior Professor in the department, was awarded the highly competitive 2016 [Rolf-Kentner-Dissertationspreis](#) for her dissertation “Drawing on the Past: The Graphic Narrative Documentaries of Emmanuel Guibert, Ho Che Anderson, Art Spiegelman, and Joe Sacco.” Congratulations to Birte! In early July, together with Curd Knüpfer from

the Department of Political Science, she co-organized the workshop, “Framing Violence: A Multidisciplinary Symposium on Theorizing Frames,” where Robert Entman (George Washington University) was invited to give the keynote lecture.

**Heinz Ickstadt** was part of a one-hour [Deutschlandradio Kultur](#)-conversation on Henry James in late February, as well as a table-talk on him at the Amerikazentrum in Hamburg. In April, also in Hamburg, he moderated a discussion on contemporary poetry with Charles Bernstein and Marjorie Perloff.

**Nathalia King**, Visiting Professor in the Department of Literature, gave a talk in the Literature and Culture Colloquium on “Gertrude Stein’s ‘Melantha’ in Three Lives—an analysis of her use of repetition in the depiction of race.” She also presented her work on Stein at the English and American Studies research colloquium in Göttingen, and in June she gave a talk on the “echo effect” in Henry James’s *The Golden Bowl* at the International Society for Narrative conference in Amsterdam.

**Michael Hoenisch** gave a talk at the University of Athens in May on the documentary film *Nine Eleven*. The talk was arranged as part of the Erasmus exchange program for faculty.

**Sean Bonney’s** selected poems have been translated into Portuguese, and are to be published next month as *Cartas Contra O Firmamento* (the original title was *Letters Against the Firmament*) by the Lisbon press Douda Correria.

**Florian Gabriel** spoke at this year’s International Graduate School conference at the JFKI on the topic “Eugenic Discourse, Racial (Im-)Mobility and Naturalist Influence in James Weldon Johnson’s *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*.” The talk was part of his ongoing dissertation project in the “Fictions of Management” research group.

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## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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The faculty of the Political Science Department looks back on a very busy and productive year. Our classes continue to enjoy great popularity among students, as the high number of seminar participants shows.

In addition, the frequent guest contributors of our faculty experts on various national and international media outlets serve as evidence of the large public interest in our work. The department has held a number of lectures and panel discussions to satisfy the high demand for academic analysis in an unusual presidential election cycle.

The Chair of the Political Science Department, formerly held by Margit Mayer, is still vacant. Boris Vormann has been filling in as a visiting professor during

the academic year 2015/16.

### Publication of *Handbuch Politik USA*

Published in early 2016, the *Handbuch Politik USA* marks the completion of a major collaborative effort by the entire department. Edited by Christian Lammert, Boris Vormann, and Markus Siewert (Frankfurt), the German-language handbook on U.S. politics features contributions by Lora Viola, Curd Knüpfer, and Margit Mayer, as well as a number of other experts. The reference guide is targeted toward students, teachers, journalists, and the larger public.

**Christian Lammert** published the co-edited volume *Handbuch Politik USA* in early 2016. In total, Lammert contributed four chapters to the book: “Intimate Strangers: Traditional principles and new challenges for U.S. politics,” “Local Government in the United States,” “Social policy between the market and the state,” and “A society in crisis? New inequalities in the United States.” He co-authored the article “Why Health Care Reform Now? Strategic Framing and the Passage of Obamacare” together with Betsy Leimigler, a PhD student from our graduate school (GSNAS), published in *Social Policy & Administration* this July.

In addition, Lammert co-organized the panel “Can the Center Hold?” at the annual conference of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA) in collaboration with his colleagues Boris Vormann and Curd Knüpfer in May and developed a “Presidential Election Workshop” for the German Federal Academy for Security Policy (BAKS) in June. He is currently preparing the joint annual conference of the DGfA’s Political Science Section and the Atlantic Academy entitled “Balancing the Scales: The U.S. in an Era of Inequality,” to be held in November 2016.

Lammert is a frequent contributor on media outlets such as *Arte*, *Tagesschau*, and a number of national radio stations in the presidential election year.

In June, the American Political Science Association (APSA) announced that **Lora Viola** (together with Thomas Rixen) is the recipient of the 2015 Alexander George Award for the best journal article developing or applying

qualitative research methods for their article “Putting path dependence in its place: toward a Taxonomy of institutional change,” *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 2015, Vol. 27(2) 301–323. That article was the beginning of a larger project introducing historical institutionalism to the field of international relations that culminates with Viola’s co-edited volume *Historical Institutionalism and International Relations: Explaining Institutional Development in World Politics* published by Oxford University Press this June.

On June 7, Viola co-organized an international workshop on the topic of institutional legitimacy at the European University Institute, Florence. At that event she presented a new research article, together with Tobias Lenz, that develops a cognitive model of institutional legitimacy. In May, the Dahrendorf Forum published a foresight scenario paper on the future of EU-US relations co-authored by Viola and other US foreign policy experts. In April, she presented a research article at the European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS) section on “Institutionalized Inequalities” at the University of Tübingen entitled “Coping with Diversity within International Institutions.”

In March, Viola gave a lecture entitled “The Governance Shift: US Foreign Policy and the Development of Institutions in a Multipolar World” at Oxford University in the Oxford Talks in US Foreign Policy Hilary Term 2016 series. In addition to her research, she has been commenting on the US Presidential election process at various media outlets during the primary season. Lora Viola is currently a Jean

Monnet Senior Research Fellow on sabbatical at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence, Italy.

**Boris Vormann** recently published the co-edited volume *Handbuch Politik USA*. The book features four chapters by Vormann on “Urban and Regional Politics in the United States”, “Local Government in the United States”, “A Society in Crisis? New Inequalities in the United States”, and “Intimate Strangers: Traditional Principles and new challenges for U.S. politics.” In addition, his article “Urban Diversity: Disentangling the Cultural and the Economic Case” was published in *New Diversities* in June.

In March, Vormann delivered a talk on



CHRISTIAN LAMMERT GIVES A TALK ON “NATIONAL CONVENTIONS IN THE U.S.” AT THE DEUTSCH-AMERIKANISCHES ZENTRUM IN STUTTGART ON JULY 12, 2016.



BORIS VORMANN ON THE SET OF DEUTSCHE WELLE

“Infrastructures of American Empire: State politics and the expansion of global trade networks” at the Max Planck Sciences Po Center (MaxPo) in Paris. Further invitations included a talk on “Urban Landscapes of Creative Destruction” at New York University in April and one on “Paving the Way for Municipal Finance Governance” at the Metropolitan Solutions Conference on Municipal Finance which was held in Berlin in May.

In addition, Vormann held a “Presidential Election Workshop” for the German Federal Academy for Security Policy (BAKS) in collaboration with his colleagues Christian Lammert and Curd Knüpfer in June and co-organized the panel “Can the Center Hold?” at the annual conference of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA) in May. He is currently preparing the November conference “Balancing the Scales: The U.S. in an Era of Inequality” of the DGfA’s Political Science Section and the Atlantic Academy.

Vormann remains a much-requested interview partner for various TV and radio stations. He has recently been interviewed by media outlets such as *Deutsche Welle*, *NPR Berlin*, *DPA*, and *N24*.

**Thomas Greven** continues to develop the cooperation with the University of Warsaw’s American Studies Center. Together with Dr. William Glass, he developed the seminar “War as Metaphor in Modern America” and, in the context of an Erasmus Staff Exchange, presented on “The War on Labor” and “The War on Poverty” at the ASC in Warsaw.

In June, he gave talks on “Labor and African-American History” at the ASC and on “The Rise of Right-Wing Populism in Europe and the United States,” based on a study for the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Washington, DC. Another talk based on this paper, “Marc Jongen, Chief Philosopher of the Alternative für Deutschland (AfD)” was given at the 13th International Workshop on Right-Wing Extremism at the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Alabama, in May. Another part of Greven’s continued research on US right-wing politics was published in a volume edited by Christoph Bieber and Klaus Kamps (“Die US-Präsidentschaftswahl 2012”): “Zwischen Plutokratie und Rassismus: Der sehr

amerikanische Populismus der Tea Party-Bewegung”.

On June 16, Greven discussed the significance of Bernie Sanders’ candidacy for the Democratic nomination for US president at the Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut in Tübingen. He also writes a [column](#) on the US presidential election for the online journal *Internationale Politik und Gesellschaft*.

**Curd Knüpfer** is filling in for Lora Viola as a visiting fellow during the Summer Semester 2016. He is co-organizing

a symposium on “Framing Violence” together with Birte Wege from the Literature Department. His analysis of the U.S. election appeared in the Atlantic Academy’s Road to the Elections series under the title “More Money – More Problems: The 2016 Presidential Election and the Media.”

In May, Knüpfer gave a talk on “Technological Innovation and Bottom-up Democracy” at the annual conference of the German Association of American Studies (DGfA) at the University of Osnabrück. Further talks included a research colloquium presentation of his post-doctoral project on the politicization of TTIP, as well as a panel participation in the student-organized „Kennedy Debates,” where he discussed the role of public opinion in regard to U.S. foreign policy.



CURD KNÜPFER AT THE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF THE KENNEDY DEBATES SERIES ON MAY 12, 2016



PART OF THE TEAM AT THE ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: CHRIS JEFFERIS, TIMUR OHLOFF, CHRISTIAN LAMMERT, MARGIT MAYER, CURD KNÜPFER, MATHIAS GROSSKLAUS, CHRISTIAN GÜSE, AND BETSY LEIMBIGLER.

**Margit Mayer**, the former chair of the Political Science Department, has just published the co-edited volume *Urban Uprisings: Challenging Neoliberal Urbanism in Europe* with Palgrave Macmillan this June. The volume features two chapters by Mayer on “Neoliberal Urbanism and Uprisings across Europe” and “Rethinking Urban Social Movements, ‘Riots’ and Uprisings,” as well as an afterword on “Spatialized Social Inequalities and Urban Collective Action.” In June, Mayer was invited by the Sociology Department of Gothenburg University to a symposium that officially launched the book.

Mayer’s other recent publications include “Movements and Politics in the Metropolitan Region” in *Governing Cities through Regions: Transatlantic Perspectives* and “The Politics of Dispossession and Reappropriation in the Neoliberal City” in a book published by the

International Association of Women Philosophers. She also contributed the chapter “Creative City Policy and Social Resistance” to *Making Cultural Cities in Asia* as well as “Urban Social Movements in Times of Austerity Politics” to *Urban Austerity: Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Cities in Europe*.

In May, she delivered the keynote lecture “Housing Struggles in the Context of Neoliberalization” at the international conference “Housing Activism: Beyond the West” of the Centre for Baltic and East European Studies in Stockholm. In February, she presented “Social Movements in Cities – Urban Social Movements” at Goethe University Frankfurt. Mayer is Senior Fellow at the Center for Metropolitan Studies in Berlin.

### Kennedy Debates

A group of undergraduate students successfully introduced a new series of events this semester. The intent of the Kennedy Debates format is to provide a platform of dialogue between students, academics, and the public. A number of young academics, media figures and representatives from various international and local institutions, such as the U.S. Embassy in Berlin and the European Democracy Lab, were invited to the JFKI for wide-ranging discussions.

The popular debate series has so far covered the influence of public opinion on U.S. foreign policy, the motivations of anti-TTIP protesters in Germany, and the future of interdisciplinarity at the institute and beyond.



### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Anne Nassauer has been an assistant professor since April 2016. Her research focuses on human behavior and emotions from a micro-sociological perspective, in particular in deviant behavior. Recently, she published an article in *Social Movement Studies* on her empirical research on the emergence of protest violence in the United States and Germany, as well as a paper on mechanism-based theoretical considerations of violence in the *Berliner Journal für Soziologie*. In the summer semester she was a reviewer for the *Journal of Peace Research*, as well as *Police Practice and Research: An International Journal*. In June she presented her research on situational dynamics of armed store robberies in the United States at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement in Amsterdam. In August, she will present three different

papers on empirical findings and on methodological developments at the American Sociological Association Meeting in Seattle.

### DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

On June 6, **Carl-Ludwig Holtfrerich** delivered a speech to the parliament of the German-speaking Community of Belgium in Eupen. He was invited by the speaker of parliament to talk about the topic “Government Debt: Causes, Effects, and Limits”. The hour-long speech was also attended by the First Minister of the German-speaking community of Belgium and was followed by a hearing on the topic.

Since January, **Jonathan Fox** has visited the University of Arizona, presented in different research colloquiums, helped organize a new Ringvorlesung in cooperation with the different Central Institutes of the FU, and continued to develop his research relating to historical demography and public health. Prof. Fox spent two weeks at the University of Arizona working with the students and faculty there, and presented his research titled “The consequences of sibling formation on survival and reproductive success across different ecological contexts: A comparison of the historical Krummhörn and Quebec populations.” This research was also presented in the FU Economics research seminar this semester, and the article is now forthcoming in the historical demography journal *History of the Family*. A new project has arisen from this research, as Prof. Fox and his co-authors have been invited to contribute a chapter for a forthcoming book on *Human Evolutionary Demography*. The Ringvorlesung organized by Prof. Fox in cooperation with Prof. Grigoriadis from the Osteuropa-Institute titled Topics in International, Area, and Development Studies has provided weekly seminars from a variety of scholars from the FU economics and central institutes, as well as from the DIW, University of Belgrade Serbia, and Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research.

### FORMER DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS

Carol W. Pfaff, PhD, Professor of Linguistics at the JFKI 1977-2009 has continued to live in Berlin and continued with her research and teaching on aspects of multilingualism. She regularly taught courses on „Language Policy and Language Use in Multilingual Societies“ in the international Masters Program at the FU Department of Intercultural Education and in 2013 she was the Carl Schurz Guest Professor in the German Department of the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She has recently been appointed as Senior Professor at the Humboldt University Institut für Deutsche Sprache und Linguistik

for 2016/2017 where she will be teaching courses on First and Second Language Acquisition, Language Variation and Language Change.

## LONG NIGHT OF THE SCIENCES



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: CURD KNÜPFER, CHRISTIAN LAMMERT, AND BORIS VORMANN DISCUSS THE EVOLUTION OF U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS WITH OVER 80 INTERESTED PARTICIPANTS AS PART OF THE LONG NIGHT OF THE SCIENCES ON JUNE 11, 2016.

This year's Long Night of the Sciences (Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften or LNdW) was organized by the departments of Literature and Political Science. The theme was the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election. The literary part of the evening featured a reading of 20th century political poetry organized by Sean Bonney, postdoc in the Literature Department and established poet in his own right. The Political Science department hosted a panel discussion on the election, which drew an unprecedented crowd, reflecting the widespread interest in contemporary U.S. politics. The children's activity was likewise in keeping with this year's theme, offering young visitors the opportunity to craft self-designed election buttons. Rounding off the program was an exhibit in the JFKI library featuring historical election posters of the past 50 years, from John F. Kennedy to Barack Obama.

At this year's "Lange Nacht der Wissenschaften" the JFKI did not only offer interesting information and expert opinions on the upcoming presidential elections but, moreover, teamed up with the Berlin-based NGO "Let's Integrate". Initiated at the JFKI by Jonathan Fox, locals met up with refugees and showed them around campus in small mixed groups and visited different events of the "Lange Nacht". Let's Integrate offers people a platform to get to know each other and learn about each other's culture and different backgrounds.

Luckily, the weather was warm and sunny so we could nicely stroll through the idyllic Dahlem greens. Though, in the beginning, it took a little time to get the conversation going, we ended up laughing a lot, with the

biggest cause for laughter being food. Abdul, who is from Syria, and Abdullah, from Iraq, were both talking about how they were shocked by the amount of potatoes they were served every day. "Kartoffel" must have been one of their first German words. In general, we were impressed how fluently they spoke German after only living here for a few months.

Considering that it was Ramadan, we were impressed with both of them not drinking or eating anything all day. But both said that only the first day is hard to endure and afterwards it becomes easier, especially here in Germany, since the weather in their home countries is around 40° Celsius at this time of the year. Still, we couldn't help but feel a little guilty when we were given waffles at the Netherlands department.

It was nice to connect with both of them in a relaxed atmosphere. They weren't eager to tell their whole life story, since they probably have told it so many times already, but were rather looking forward to spending a nice day with new people in their new home. Abdullah who used to work as a chef, even offered us to cook authentic Iraqi food, the next time we meet, which he claims he is able to cook better than his mother.

Let's Integrate is a great platform which helps you connect with new people and what I especially like about it that you don't feel that you're doing anyone a favor but that locals and refugees meet each other on an equal footing. I can only recommend to check out the [website](#) and take part in this project.

# LIBRARY



## Library Grants and International Guests

*“The Kennedy Institute library is my go-to place in Europe for research in American Studies. Its open door policy, welcoming staff, enjoyable surroundings and constantly evolving collections in American studies make it an ideal place to design new courses, keep up with a developing discipline and carry out a research project”,* says Andrea Carosso, Associate Professor of American Studies from the University of Turin, Italy. He is one of many regular international guests of our library and has come here for many years. Scholars in American Studies from all over Europe, but also from Russia, Iran, or Nigeria visit the JFKI library for its vast resources. The library is especially popular with scholars from Poland and other Central and Eastern European countries as we provide the possibility for in depth research without making the journey to the United States. Some of these guests are funded by their home university, others participate in exchange programs as for example ERASMUS or EAAS grants.

Every year about twenty scholars are selected for the JFKI Library grant, which is funded by the JFKI. The grant program, founded in 1979, provides financial support both to advanced scholars and PhD students whose research projects will benefit considerably by physical access to the extensive holdings of the library in Berlin. Even in times of digital access to scholarly information the program has not lost its popularity. Since 2010, the JFKI Library has hosted more than 150 grant recipients. The ratios of PhD students to established scholars and women to men were almost balanced. Most of them work in the field of United States culture and literature, but also on historical, political and sociological topics. Usually one or two applicants per semester apply with a Canadian topic.

Upon their arrival the grantees get a detailed library tour and an introduction to research in the

FU system from reference librarian Angelika Krieser. The library assigns them a special desk and issues a library card. Angelika Krieser is also willing to provide further services as directing scholars to other important collections in Berlin or ordering books via interlibrary loan. The grantees will also get in contact with the faculty at the JFKI and discuss their project with them.

Highly attractive for all these international scholars are our rich interdisciplinary library holdings and their convenient systematic presentation in open shelves. The library’s extensive microform holdings are another reason to spend time at the JFKI. A selection of quotes from recent evaluation reports illustrates how scholars benefit from their stay in Berlin:

*“I found the JFK Institute library holdings to be extremely targeted especially for scholars looking at Asian American issues.”*

*“I found not only all the books I expected to, but much more: by scanning the shelves ... most of them were not directly connected with my research, yet linked to it from more than a few points of view... The interdisciplinary and international setting that the JFKI offers its scholars greatly helped the outcome of my work.”*

*“I had a really nice time, and Dr. Loock was very welcoming. I also attended one of your open talks on Wednesday, and it was very interesting.”*

*“The people working in the library are extremely helpful, efficient and friendly, which makes the atmosphere there particularly nice and attractive. The scholar desk with the possibility to lock books and personal stuff was very useful. I find also very interesting the special book exhibitions and the impressive collection of reviews and DVD-films. Summing up:*

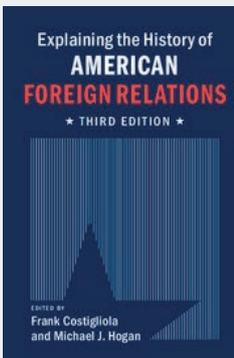
*Working at the JFKI Library is a really enjoyable experience!”*

If there are any critical remarks at all, they are always suggestions to improve the library’s services. Just recently we installed a new computer for catalog and database research in one of our stacks because of a suggestion from one of our grantees. Angelika Krieser, the library’s contact person for all the library’s grantees likes her job: *“It’s always exciting to work with all the different personalities: receptive or reserved, humorous or serious, a little exotic or quite normal. People who are especially enthusiastic may even want to take a look at our closed section with rare books that is no regular part of my guided tours. Some come with individual wishes: Where is the next swimming-pool? or: I brought my 16-year old daughter who already published a book – could she sit with me at my work desk? - It will never become boring! I am already looking forward to the next group!”*

— Angelika Krieser, Julia Mayer

## PUBLICATIONS

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



Cambridge University Press, 2016  
ISBN: 9781107637856  
398 pages

### Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations 3rd Edition

Edited by Frank Costigliola and Michael J. Hogan

A longtime classic in its first and second editions, *Explaining the History of American Foreign Relations*, 3rd edition presents substantially revised and new essays on traditional themes such as national security, corporatism, borderlands history, and international relations theory. The book also highlights such innovative conceptual approaches and analytical methods as computational analysis, symbolic borders, modernization and technopolitics, nationalism, non-state actors, domestic politics, exceptionalism, legal history, nation branding, gender, race, political economy, memory, psychology, emotions, and the senses. Each chapter is written by a highly respected scholar in the field, many of whom have risen to prominence since the second edition's publication.

Jessica Gienow-Hecht contributed the essay "Nation Branding".

## DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURE

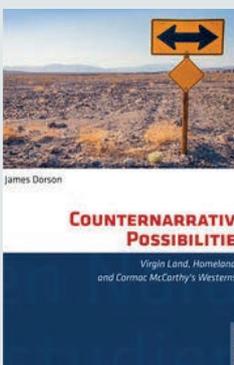


De Gruyter, 2016  
ISBN: 9783110333657  
799 pages

### Allegorie DFG-Symposium 2014

Edited by Ulla Haselstein

The symposium reviews and extends perspectives on allegory drawn from the work of Walter Benjamin and Paul de Man. Modern and post-modern self-reflective practices that employ the fragment, citation, collage and an ironic presentation of meta-fictionality have stimulated a return to allegory as an analytic category. Allegory opens the way to a new understanding of symbolic practices previously conceptualized as mimetic.



Campus Verlag, 2016  
ISBN: 9783593505541  
360 pages

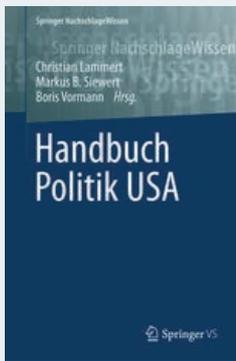
### Counternarrative Possibilities Virgin Land, Homeland, and Cormac McCarthy's Westerns

James Dorson

*Counternarrative Possibilities* reads Cormac McCarthy's Westerns against the backdrop of two formative tropes in American mythology: virgin land (from the 1950s) and homeland (after ,9/11'). Looking at McCarthy's Westerns in the context of American Studies, James Dorson shows how his novels counter the national narratives underlying these tropes and reinvest them with new, potentially transformative meaning. Departing from prevailing accounts of McCarthy that place him in relation to his literary antecedents, *Counternarrative Possibilities* takes a forwardlooking approach that reads McCarthy's work as a key influence on millennial fiction. Weaving together disciplinary history with longstanding debates over the relationship between aesthetics and politics, this book is at once an exploration of the limits of ideology critique in the twenty-first century and an original reconsideration of McCarthy's work ,after postmodernism'.

## PUBLICATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

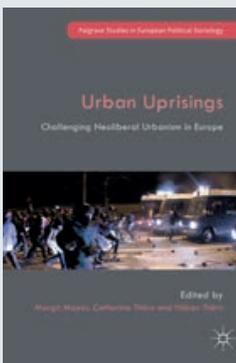


### Handbuch Politik USA

Edited by Christian Lammert, Markus B. Siewert, Boris Vormann

*Handbuch Politik USA* unites the thinking of renowned Social Sciences experts in the field of American Studies in a collection of essays. The chapters in this book deal with the fundamental structures and mechanisms of American politics. These structures and mechanisms are not only placed in the proper historical context, but also analyzed from different perspectives in order to highlight the possibility of multiple interpretations, thus creating a problem-oriented introduction to the political system of the United States.

Springer VS, 2016  
ISBN: 9783658026417  
715 pages



### Urban Uprisings Challenging Neoliberal Urbanism in Europe

Edited by Margit Mayer, Catharina Thörn, Håkan Thörn

This book analyses the waves of protests, from spontaneous uprisings to well-organized forms of collective action, which have shaken European cities over the last decade. It shows how analysing these protests in connection with the structural context of neoliberal urbanism and its crises is more productive than standard explanations. Processes of neoliberalisation have caused deeply segregated urban landscapes defined by deepening social inequality, rising unemployment, racism, securitization of urban spaces and welfare state withdrawal, particularly from poor peripheral areas, where tensions between marginalized youth and police often manifest in public spaces. Challenging a conventional distinction made in research on protest, the book integrates a structural analysis of processes of large scale urban transformation with analyses of the relationship between 'riots' and social movement action in nine countries: France, Greece, England, Germany, Spain, Poland, Denmark, Sweden and Turkey.

Palgrave Macmillan, 2016  
ISBN: 9781137504920  
353 pages

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