

# ANKÜNDIGUNGSTEXTE KELLETER (WINTERSEMESTER 2020/21)

## A Note on My Courses in the Winter Semester

Because of the current COVID-19 situation, both of my M.A. classes (Lecture Course and Seminar) will be offered as **online courses**. Please make sure to read the Course Descriptions (Syllabus) before the beginning of the term! You can download them from the “Teaching” section of my JFKI website or directly from each course’s Blackboard site. **Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns!** Feel free to do so at any time during the semester, but also before the beginning of the term, or if you’re not sure yet if you want to take a course or not. This goes especially for first-semester M.A. students! We will probably have no face-to-face office hours at the JFKI this winter, but I will be available for consultation by any medium you prefer (e-mail, webex, skype, telephone). If you have technical difficulties or other important concerns that make it difficult for you to participate in our online activities, please reach out to me and we will make special arrangements. My e-mail address is: Frank.Kelleter@fu-berlin.de

## VORLESUNG

### American Culture after World War II

Having emerged from World War II as a world power, the United States faced numerous problems of cultural self-definition in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Cold War produced not only an ideology of international leadership but also new anxieties about America’s social identity and the nation’s changed position in the world. Topics discussed in this lecture course include the advent of a postindustrial economic order, the decline of New Deal liberalism, postmodernist aesthetics, the New Hollywood, and the interrelated emergence of the New Left and the New Right. In the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, many of these developments have been radicalized under conditions of military hegemony, globalized capitalism, corporate anti-statism, neoliberal governance, and catastrophic ecological transformations. Our lecture course focuses on select phases and moments of cultural production between 1945 and 2020, when American novels, poems, films, and TV shows often defined the state of the art in their respective fields. We will concentrate on literary sources (especially poetry and fiction), sociological writings, political documents, cinema, television, and other cultural fields.

The lecture course serves as “**Vorlesung**” of Culture-**Module C** (*Kulturgeschichte einzelner Medien und ästhetischer Darstellungsformen*) in the M.A. program. **Registration:** All participants need to be registered via Blackboard *and* Campus Management by the first session. If you cannot register online or cannot attend the first session, please contact Prof. Kelleter before the beginning of the term. **Requirements and Online Organization:** See **Syllabus and Course Description** in the “Teaching” section of my JFKI website or on **Blackboard** (go to “Kursmaterial”; you may have to click on “open Syllabus here” to

download it; if this doesn't work, try a different browser: students have reported problems with the Chrome browser). All communication about and within this class will be channeled through the course's Blackboard site; please make sure you're registered there. **First session:** November 3.

(Online Course – Lecture Uploads: Tuesdays)

## HAUPTSEMINAR

### **Black Theory, Theories of Blackness: African American Political Rhetoric and Aesthetics, 1895-2020**

This seminar deals with select examples of African American political rhetoric and aesthetics between 1895 and 2020. Three initial sessions will be dedicated to key historical moments of Black protest rhetoric in the U.S. (Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Marcus Garvey; Civil Rights Movement and Black Power movements; Black feminism). Additional sessions, to be prepared and organized by students, will cover the following theorists and theoretical paradigms: James Baldwin, the Combahee River Collective, Audre Lorde, Afropessimism, Black Marxism, Claudia Rankine, Hortense Spillers and Saidiya Hartman. All participants are expected to have read the Course Description before the start of the term so that they can sign up for a session in our first meeting—or propose an alternative topic by advance e-mail.

This seminar serves as “**Hauptseminar**” within Culture-**Module C** in the JFKI's Master's program. **It is strongly recommended that you take this seminar together with the lecture course “American Culture after World War II”!** If you cannot do so, you might want to choose a different seminar offered in Module C.

**Registration:** All participants need to be registered via Blackboard *and* Campus Management by the first session. If you cannot register online or cannot attend the first session, please contact Prof. Kelleter before the beginning of the term. All communication about and within this class will be channeled through the course's Blackboard site, so make sure you are registered there. **Online Organization:** Please download the **Syllabus and Course Description** (with a description of all requirements) from the “Teaching” section of Prof. Kelleter's JFKI website or from Blackboard (go to “Kursmaterial”; you may have to click on “open Syllabus here” to download it; if this doesn't work, try a different browser: students have reported problems with the Chrome browser). **Please read the Syllabus/Course Description carefully:** It contains detailed information about the seminar's structure, its online organization, and suggestions for preparing “your” session. Note that we will finalize our class schedule in the first two meetings. This means that everyone who wants to attend this course needs to **be present in the first online session** (November 3) in order to sign up for a topic (student-run session) *or* have contacted Prof. Kelleter beforehand by e-mail (no later than November 2). **First session:** November 3.

(Online-Course – Tuesday, 6.15-7.45 p.m., Webex)

## GRADUATE SCHOOL

### **Theory and Methods in the Study of Culture**

This Ph.D.-course deals with theoretical and methodological issues in the study of American culture, focussing on current research projects (doctoral and post-doctoral level) at the John F. Kennedy Institute. Members of the Graduate School are invited to attend; please register prior to the first class with Prof. Kelleter (no later than October 12).

(Tuesday, 2–4, TBA)

### POLICY FOR B.A. AND M.A. THESES

If you want Prof. Kelleter to be advisor/first reader of your Master's Thesis ("Abschlussarbeit"), you should have written at least one paper in one of his seminars. Alternatively, you can use one of his seminars (preferably plus lecture course) as an M.A. colloquium, in which you will present your M.A. project. You will have to choose a topic connected to the seminar's material. Similar arrangements can be made for a B.A.-Thesis (please discuss in office hours). Seminar topics are always broad enough—usually covering an entire period—to provide interesting material for a final Thesis to all students of American cultural history.