



American Studies

Courses for MEAS

Winter Term 2023/2024

Office hours winter term 2023/2024

Name	Office hours	Room PT	Phone: 943-
FAISST, Prof. Dr. Julia Lehrstuhlvertretung	Thursday, 12:00-13:00	3.2.73	3478
DEPKAT, Prof. Dr. Volker	Tuesday, 14:00-15:00 Thursday, 13:00-14:00	3.2.71	3476
HEBEL-BAURIDL, Dr. Birgit	tba	3.2.85	3509
DEXL, Carmen	Thursday, 09:00-10:00	3.2.70	3475
GOTTESWINTER, Lena	Wednesday, 10:00-11:00 and by appointment	3.2.83	3507
HEGER, Tamara	Tuesday, 10:30-11:30 and by appointment	3.2.86	3510
RÖDER, Katharina	Wednesday, 11:00-12:00 and by appointment	3.2.83	3507
N.N.	tba	3.3.88	3429
GEBAUER, Dr. Amy	Mo 12:00-14:00	3.3.88	3429
STETLER, Dr. Julia	Tuesday, 10-12 and by appointment	3.2.888	1809

Registration for office hours is obligatory!
Please send an email to
firstname.lastname@ur.de to register
beforehand and make arrangements!

Amerikanistik (American Studies)

Lecture

35804	"Ecocriticism and the Environmental Humanities"	Faisst
-------	---	--------

Module: ENGYM-M32A.1 (4.0), AMST-M32.1 (4.0), AMST-M23.3 (4.0), ENG-UF-WB (4.0), WB-IAA, EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0)

Vorlesung, SWS 2

Tag	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Beginn	Ende	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mi	wöch	16:00	18:00	c.t.				H4	Faisst	

Please note that the exam will be an **on-campus (!) electronic exam**. Exam date Wednesday, February 7, 2024; 4:00–6:00pm (one group; writing time 90mins.). Please register via Spur for the lecture course. Please note that in order to be able to take the final exam students also need to be registered via FlexNow.

Climate change, energy exploitation, resource depletion, air pollution, water insecurity—in an age of increasingly threatened ecosystems, one may ask: how can literature, visual arts, and the humanities approach the environmental crisis and respond to key environmental issues and debates? This lecture serves as an introduction to both ecocriticism and the environmental humanities, taking into account that ecocriticism no longer solely focuses on the relationship between literature and the environment, but also scrutinizes human interaction with the natural world in visual cultures. In the age of the Anthropocene, we investigate how the environmental humanities as an interdisciplinary area of research challenge the idea that human cultures are in opposition to nature. As humans are entangled with the non-human world (animals, plants, fungi), we study the interdependencies between species, look for instances of agency that extend beyond the human sphere, and thus rethink the place of humans within the natural world. At the same time, we pay special heed to questions of environmental displacement and intersectional justice in our study of U.S. climate fiction, ecocinema, and ecocritical photography. Credit requirement: final exam (for BA, LA); final exam on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, see above, and book review (for MA).

First Semester MA Courses in European American Studies

35846	Fundamentals and Frames of Transnational American Studies	Hebel-Bauridl
-------	---	---------------

Module: EAS-M1.1 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mo	wöch.	10:00	12:00	c.t.				ZH 6	Hebel-Bauridl	

The course introduces students to key methods and theories of the interdisciplinary field of American Studies on graduate level. It discusses perspectives that are central for an understanding of both core agendas of the discipline and its development toward *Transnational American Studies*. First, it critically reflects on central concepts and issues such as nation, globalization, identity, ethnicity, gender, memory, or neoliberalism, settler colonialism, and racial grammar. Second, it traces approaches to American Studies as a discipline from its beginnings to the so-called New American Studies and recent frameworks of Post-Exceptionalist and Transnational American Studies. Third, it engages in a critical discussion of recent theoretical and methodological trends shaped by the visual, performative, spatial, and transnational turns in

American Studies. This course is based on central theoretical and methodological texts, which will be available on GRIPS.

Course requirement: oral presentation.

Credit requirements: *Modulprüfung* (module exam: Theories, Approaches, Methods); Final exam: February 9, 2024, 9am-noon (120mins), tba. All course materials will be available on GRIPS. Credit for: MEAS.

35847	Theories and Concepts in European-American Studies	Hebel-Bauridl
--------------	---	----------------------

Module: EAS-M1.2 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mo	wöch.	12:00	14:00	c.t.				ZH 6	Hebel-Bauridl	

Approaching European-American Studies within the frameworks of Transnational American Studies and Critical Area Studies, this course introduces students to scholarly theories that are central for a critical understanding of past and present European-American relations, negotiations, trajectories, exchanges, and entanglements as well as their impact on other areas in the world. First, the course discusses key concepts of American Studies and related interdisciplinary fields that are at the core of European-American Studies, e.g. space, mobility, or region. Second, it debates transnational approaches to American Studies that specifically inform the project of European-American Studies, e.g. circumatlantic and transatlantic studies as well as critical (transnational) regionalism and new/critical area studies. Third, it traces transnational dimensions of concepts of American Studies that allow for a particularly apt investigation of topics from the field of European-American Studies, e.g. contact zones, cultural transfer, transnational / European-American memory, transnational intertextuality, etc. This course is based on central theoretical and conceptual texts, which will be available on GRIPS.

Course requirement: oral presentation.

Credit requirements: *Modulprüfung* (module exam: Theories, Approaches, Methods); Final exam: February 9, 2024, 9am-noon (120mins.), tba. All course materials will be available on GRIPS. Credit for: MEAS.

35848	Readings and Sources in European-American Cultural Relations I: From the Beginning through the End of the 19th Century	Depkat
--------------	---	---------------

Module: EAS-M2.1 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Di	wöch.	16:00	18:00	c.t.	17.10.2023	12.12.2023		ZH 6	Depkat	
Do	wöch.	08:30	10:00	s.t.	19.10.2023	14.12.2023		ZH 6	Depkat	

On the basis of key texts and visual documents, we will discuss mutual perceptions, political interaction, social ties, and cultural exchange between Europe and the United States from the fifteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Among the topics covered in this course are Europe's colonial expansion into the New World, eighteenth-century debates about progress and decline, European-American relations in the "Age of Atlantic Revolutions," migration history, and American capitalism and notions of modernity.

Course requirement: presentation.

Credit requirements: *Modulprüfung* (module exam: Readings I and Readings II; tba).

Reading: All course materials will be available on GRIPS. Credit for: MEAS

Module: EAS-M2.2 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Di	wöch.	16:00	18:00	c.t.	19.12.2023	06.02.2024		ZH 6	Depkat	
Do	wöch.	08:30	10:00	s.t.	21.12.2023	08.02.2024		ZH 6	Depkat	

On the basis of key texts and visual documents, we will discuss mutual perceptions, political interaction, social ties, and cultural exchange between Europe and the United States in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Among the topics covered in this course are the World Wars, the Cold War and the "War on Terror", the Americanization of Europe, the formation of consumer societies, twentieth-century Euro-American pop culture, and the current state of European-American relations.

Course requirement: presentation.

Credit requirements: *Modulprüfung* (module exam: Readings I and Readings II; tba).

Reading: All course materials will be available on GRIPS. Credit for: MEAS

Seminars in European American Studies

Module: EAS-M4.1 (8.0), EAS-M4.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mi	wöch	08:30	10:00	s.t.				PT 2.0.3A	Depkat	

The history of Germans in America begins in 1683 with the arrival of twelve Mennonite families from Krefeld in the newly founded colony of Pennsylvania. Guided to America by Franz Daniel Pastorius, they founded Germantown and established a visible German presence in British colonial North America. The first speaker of the House of Representatives in the newly founded United States of America was Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, second son of Heinrich Melchior Mühlenberg, who, in the 1740s, had been sent to Pennsylvania by the German pietist Herman August Francke to build the German Lutheran church there. Throughout the nineteenth century, Germans were among the largest contingents of European immigrants to America, and by the eve of World War I, German-Americans had developed into the most visible and best-organized ethnic group in the country. Convinced of the superiority of all things German, and proud of the German nation-state founded by Otto von Bismarck in 1871, German-Americans in industrial America worked hard to carve out an identity that left it pretty much open whether they wanted to be German-Americans or Germans in America. During World War I that had the U.S. declare war on Germany in 1917, this unsolved identity conflict came to head, when a U.S. war nationalism that demanded a "100-percent Americanism" of all U.S. citizens suspected German-Americans of disloyalty and eventually forced them to assimilate into oblivion. World War I, therefore, marks the end of a visible German-American presence in U.S. culture.

Drawing on a wide selection of primary sources and scholarly literature, this seminar will trace the history of German-Americans from 1683 to 1920 in its major phases, aspects, and problems.

Suggested Readings: Walter D. Kamphoefner, *Germans in America. A Concise History*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2021. Heike Bungert, *Festkultur und Gedächtnis. Die Konstruktion einer deutschamerikanischen Ethnizität, 1848–1914*. Paderborn: Schöningh, 2017.

Credit requirement CSAAdv. (LA/BA): advanced academic writings in English (research paper of ca. 10 pp.).

Credit requirement HS LA/BA: advanced academic writings in English (ca. 15 pages).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program

as of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.). Please also check the Modulbeschreibung: [Modulbeschreibungen \(uni-regensburg.de\)](http://Modulbeschreibungen.uni-regensburg.de)
All course materials will be made available on GRIPS.

35840 “Global Im/Mobilities: Migrations, Borders, Walls” (Topics in Mobilities and Cultural Transfers, EAS-M4) Faisst

Module: EAS-M4.1 (8.0), EAS-M4.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0), EGW-M09.3

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mi	wöch	10:00	12:00	c.t.				ZH 6	Faisst	

A border is a simultaneously stable and instable concept, marked by a triangulation of power dynamics, “both a fixed and shifting line, one that paces the dance, back and forth, among the undocumented, the refugee, and the police” (Schmidt Camacho 2). Against the backdrop of the global rise of migratory movements, authoritarianism, and racial violence, more people than ever now attempt to cross borders and walls to leave behind political and religious persecution, economic precariousness caused by climate change, government corruption, and war. In this discussion-intensive seminar, we hone in on how contemporary literature, film, and photography, paired with key theories on mobility, tackle global im/mobilities and the displacement and migration management crisis in the U.S. and Europe. We thereby pay particular attention to literary and visual negotiations of the U.S.-Mexican border and “Fortress Europe” in the Mediterranean, both multiscalar and translocal regions of im/mobility that go beyond national boundaries and are frequently enacted through extrajudicial enforcement practices and politics.

Credit requirement CSAdv. (LA/BA): advanced academic writings in English (research paper of ca. 10 pp.).

Credit requirement HS LA/BA: advanced academic writings in English (ca. 15 pages).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program as of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.). Please also check the Modulbeschreibung: [Modulbeschreibungen \(uni-regensburg.de\)](http://Modulbeschreibungen.uni-regensburg.de)
All course materials will be made available on GRIPS.

35842 “From the Stage to the Streets: Performing Ageing in Contemporary American Culture and Social Protest” (Topics in Politics and Responsibilities, EAS-M5) Dexl

Module: EAS-M5.1 (8.0), EAS-M5.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Do	wöch	10:00	12:00	c.t.				ZH 6	Dexl	

“More than 1 in 6 Americans now 65 or older as U.S. continues graying.” This was the headline of an article in *The Washington Post*, dated 14 February 2023, that summarized findings from the Administration on Aging. Against the backdrop of discussions about a ‘graying nation’ and its economic, social, and political ramifications, this seminar explores negotiations of ageing in contemporary American culture and social protest. Drawing on performance studies as both a lens and method, we will analyze selected on-stage performances, particularly from the field of dance, and forms of social protest, including demos, flashmobs, and marches committed to anti-ageism activism. We will pay particular attention to the performance repertoire the selected examples employ, the notions of corporeality and physicality they convey, and aspects of site-specificity, immediacy, interactivity, and collectivity that inform them. We will explore relations between the individual and the national body, negotiations of dominant cultural myths, and visions of citizenship that are at their center and discuss what Jon McKency termed the ‘resistant

potential' of cultural performance, especially as regards its intervention in the conventional 'decline narrative' vis-à-vis cultural discourses of 'ageing gracefully.'

Examples include but are not limited to the Manhattan-based Judson Dance Theater, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Carmen de Lavallade, Pina Bausch's Tanztheater Wuppertal, local social organizations, such as the group Gary Alan Fine calls "Chicago Seniors Together," the national activism of the Gray Panthers, and world-wide protest against ageism on the International Day of Older People (October 1). In addition, we will look at performances of age/ing in filmic examples, e.g., *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* (dir. David Fincher, 2008).

Our analyses will consider the intersection of age with other differential categories, such as gender, race, class, and ability, as well as dynamics of transnational exchange informing contemporary American culture and social protest. The seminar will provide participants with a better understanding of not only the social, cultural, and political significance but also the epistemological power of performance to produce new knowledge about the category of age and the body – a kind of knowledge that is based on experience and practice and thus highly relevant for critical theory.

Credit requirement CSAAdv. (LA/BA): advanced academic writings in English (research paper of ca. 10 pp.).

Credit requirement HS LA/BA: advanced academic writings in English (ca. 15 pages).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program as

of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.). Please also check the Modulbeschreibung: [Modulbeschreibungen \(uni-regensburg.de\)](http://Modulbeschreibungen.uni-regensburg.de)

All course materials will be made available on GRIPS.

36277	"Exploring World Games: Disco Elysium" (Topics in Spaces, Regions, Spheres, EAS-M3)	Ensslin
--------------	--	----------------

Module: EAS-M3.1 (8.0), EAS-M3.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Fr	Wöch	12:00	14:00						Ensslin	

Course description: Please see online course catalog (SPUR).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program as of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.).

Please also check the Modulbeschreibung:

[Modulbeschreibungen \(uni-regensburg.de\)](http://Modulbeschreibungen.uni-regensburg.de)

Kurse anderer Lehrstühle und Institute im Master-Programm MEAS (Courses Offered by Other Departments for our M.A. Program MEAS)

35700 **“English in Contact“** **Leimgruber**

Module: EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0)

Vorlesung, SWS 2

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mi	wöch	10	12	c.t				tba	Leimgruber	

Course description: Please see online course catalog (SPUR).

36253 **“Digital Narrative Spaces“** **Ensslin**

Module: EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0)

Hauptseminar, SWS 3

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Di	wöch	10	13	c.t				S 214	Ensslin	

Course description: Please see online course catalog (SPUR).