Veranstaltungen
Institut für Amerikanistik, Leipzig

(SS 2007)
MAGISTER GRUNDSTUDIUM

Literaturwissenschaft

101  American Literature: From the Civil War to the Present  
     V & Ü, 2 SWS  
     Thursday, 09:15-10:45  
     Am Brühl, R. 802

The lectures will give an overview of American literature from the Civil War to the present, with the Übung providing an opportunity to deepen the understanding of American literature by looking at selected (short) texts representative of various periods. Please note: only a limited number of students can enroll. Those who took the first part of the lecture series in the winter will be given priority.

102  The Slave Narrative  
     PSW/LN, 2 SWS  
     Thursday, 11:15-12:45  
     GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

TV: Completion of "Introduction to Literary Studies" or equivalent.
E: Via Lehrbox, beginning on March 1.

The slave narrative is a formative genre in African American literature. Although tied to a specific moment in U.S. history – the system of chattel slavery and abolitionist protest against it – it has had a lasting impact on (African) American writing. In this class, we will read a selection of slave narratives. Our readings will help us understand how the genre has been theorized and appreciate the diversity within the genre. We will then probe into the ways subsequent generations of authors have engaged the conventions of the slave narrative. Readings may include the narratives by Olaudah Equiano, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Jacobs, and novels by Hannah Crafts, Charles Johnson, and Octavia Butler.

103  Age difference – a strange attraction  
     PSW/LN, 2 SWS  
     Thursday, 13:15-14:45  
     GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

TV: Completion of "Introduction to Literary Studies"
E: Prior registration is necessary (sign up via Lehrbox until March 31). The number of students in this class will be limited. Attending first class is mandatory, regardless of prior enrolment. Every participant is expected to do a short presentation and a short written midterm assignment.
L: To be announced via Lehrbox and in class.

In 1955 Vladimir Nabokov’s seminal work Lolita unleashed an ongoing controversy about relations between people with a considerable age difference. “Nymphet,” “toyboy,” “sugar daddy,” “jailbait,” “May-December romance” – these are colloquial expressions which since then have indicated the ambivalent reception of this hotly debated cultural and literary phenomenon. In this course, we will examine the various strategies by which writers and critics have dealt with that topic. Our analyses will include short stories and novels by Edgar Allan Poe, Philip Roth, and Stephen King as well as selected movies (e.g. “Harold and Maude,” “The Professional”).

The success of the seminar depends upon your attendance, active participation and engagement. You are expected to read every assignment carefully and come prepared with comments and/or questions!

104  Unraveling World  
     PSW/LN, 2 SWS  
     Wednesday, 11:15-12:45  
     GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)
This seminar will focus on one specific narrative moment found in a number of fictions: the moment in which a presumably stable order breaks down, in which an individual experiences a sudden disorder, an unraveling of reality, of surface, of the world. Questions we might pursue accordingly are: How do we describe this moment? Can it be meaningfully understood as a modern experience? What are its narrative side effects? What reading pleasures does it afford? Is it a gendered moment?

Working with a range of fictional texts from different epochs of US literature (and film) we will try to trace this moment, to appreciate the different forms it takes, and the narrative effects it produces. We will draw on contemporary theory to develop interpretations of this moment. Most of all, we will work to narrow down our definition of what counts as a "moment of unraveling."

Details on the course, readings and on the enrollment procedure will be made available online by mid-March at [http://www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/173](http://www.ul.as.lehrbox.de/173).

105 American Immigrant Voices
Johanningsmeier
Tuesday, 05:15 PM - 06:45 PM: GWZ 2.516 Beethovenstrasse 15

Although the United States often portrays itself as a nation that welcomes and supports those people who choose to come to live there, the actual history of the relationship between immigrants and the dominant American culture has not always been so simple or positive. By reading a rich and diverse collection of texts written by first- and second-generation immigrants to America between the early nineteenth century and today, students in this course will come to understand the complexity of America’s past and future relationships with its immigrants. In addition, students will learn to appreciate the similarities and differences between the experiences of members of various immigrant groups. Some of the authors whose works we will investigate are Mario Puzo, Anzia Yezierska, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, Helena Maria Viramontes, Amy Tan, and Bharati Mukherjee.

Kulturgeschichte

151 History of the United States: From Colonial Times to 1900
Prof. Keil, Hartmut
V, 2 SWS
Wednesday, 09:15-10:45
Städtisches Kaufhaus, R. 2-07

First day of classes: April 11

This lecture is a survey course. It will explore main subject areas and analyze their specific interrelationships. Topics to be covered include colonial society, immigration, slavery, imperial conflicts, independence, the American political system including the party system, expansion and regional conflict, Civil War and reconstruction, industrialization, the labor movement, urbanization, religion, and social reform.

152 Cultures of Security in a Transatlantic Context
Prof. Garrett, Crister
PSW/LN, 2 SWS
Monday, 15:15-16:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

Americans are “militaristic” and Europeans are “sensible” about security. Sentiments such as these can be heard around Europe, and in the United States, to describe the “essential difference” in how Americans and Europeans go about trying to provide for their own security and to encourage it worldwide. This cliché assumes of course that when we talk about security we have generally in mind armies, alliances, and conflict. But security in our daily lives is composed of many more considerations, including economic security, environmental security, even education security (i.e., the conclusion that one has an opportunity to get an education that does not leave one “stuck in society” and thus increasingly “insecure” socio-economically). In this proseminar we will explore how societies in a transatlantic context debate security, and how these debates impact and are reflected in cultures of security. The thrust of the course deals with the United States, but to get a better grasp on the qualities that are unique about America’s culture of security, we will compare U.S. debates on security with debates in Germany, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, Canada, and Mexico.

153 a) Varieties of Commerce in a Transatlantic Context
Prof. Garrett, Crister
PSW/LN, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 13:15-14:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

Germany currently is in the midst of a debate about the extent to which “Gerechtigkeit” can be encouraged by more “Freiheit”. This debate is in its essence about how a society wants to shape its culture of commerce, a culture stemming from the relationship between a society and the economy it wants (along the lines of the famous political quip, ‘You get the politicians that you deserve’). As the
current German debate underscores, these debates are often about core values around which citizens see the need to organize their society. The United States is certainly no different. What many Germans think about America’s answers to these fundamental questions can be seen in the code language “Amerikanische Verhältnisse”. Many Americans would agree with that code language, and others clearly do not. How a society debates what sort of relationship it wants between its economy (how it produces wealth) and its citizens helps provide key insights into a country’s sense of identity (identities). The thrust of this course will be about cultures of commerce in the United States today. But to get a better grasp on the qualities that are unique about America’s cultures of commerce, we will compare U.S. debates on economics and society with those in Germany, France, Sweden, Canada, and Mexico.

154 Class in America
Thursday, 03:15 PM - 04:45 PM: Dresdner Bank R 2-03

INSTRUCTION BEGINS APRIL 12!

Office: H3. 504 (Prof. Keil) Tel. 97 37 332 during office hours.
I'm in the office Thursdays 9.45-11. and by appointment.
preferred e-mail: dorothee.schneider@gmail.com.

The United States has traditionally considered itself to be a classless society, yet throughout the twentieth century public debate has focused on inequality, social differences and the problematic future of the American dream of class mobility. This Proseminar is designed to explore some of the questions related to social class in the United States. The seminar will provide a survey of the literature on social class in the United States from the early twentieth century to the present. The course is based on discussion and extensive readings of classic texts as well as contemporary assessments. The second half of the semester will focus on the context of social class in the United States since the 1960s. Important topics will include class and race, class thinking and gender, class and social policy and class and immigration. The course will be taught as a reading intensive seminar. For a Teilnahmeschein Students’ regular and informed participation, a review essay in week six, as well as a passing grade on five unannounced quizzes will be required. For a Leistungsschein a bibliography and a comparative review essay on a topic related directly to the class, will be required in addition. Students who wish to receive a Leistungsschein must meet with me during the second or third week of the semester.

Books/reading materials are available in a Handapparat at the Library and at Zimo's for purchase.

April 12:
Class in the U.S. Context: Wealth and poverty paradigms
readings: Barbara Ehrenreich, Fear of Falling, chapter 1, (17-55).

April 19:
Workers in the Early Twentieth Century
Selections from : Jacob Riis, How the Other Half Lives, accessible under:
http://www.yale.edu/amstud/inforev/riis/title.html
Anzia Yezierska, The Bread Givers, 1-34.

April 26:
Reform
Jane Addams, Twenty Years at Hull House, chapter 7 (129-176), chapter 15 (342-70)
accessible under http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/addams/hullhouse/hullhouse.html,
Jacob Riis, How the Other Half Lives, especially chapters 24, 25; accessible under: http://www.yale.edu/amstud/inforev/riis/title.html

May 3:
Class in Small Town America
Robert and Helen Lynd, Middletown, II (7-9), V-VII (25-74), and XIV (188-205).

May 10:
Consumerism and class

May 24:
Class during the Depression and World War II:
readings: find three 1930s sources and define the meaning of “class” in them.
Use the following website: http://historymatters.gmu.edu/browse/manypasts/; search for “Great Depression”, one paragraph per term suffices.
also; Miriam Frank, Marilyn Ziebarth and Connie Frank, *The Life and Times of Rosie the Riveter*, (Los Angeles, 1982). in reserve shelf in the University library.

May 31:
No instruction!

June 7:
White Collar Life

June 14:
Library instruction in databases and search engines for American studies.
meet at front desk in the library with Dr. Sophia Manns at normal class time (3.15).
This is an obligatory session for everyone.

June 21:
Race conflict and class
Mary Waters, *Black Identities*, Chapter 4 “West Indians at Work”, 94-139.

June 28:
Feminism and Class
selections from: Robin Morgan, *Sisterhood is Powerful*, 86-100, 115-124, 520.

July 5:
De-industrialization
readings: Barbara Ehrenreich, *Nickel and Dimed*, chapter 3 “Selling in Minnesota,”

July 12:
The Decline of the Welfare State.
America, chapter 1, p. 1-29.

July 19:
Immigrants:
Sandra Cisneros, *Woman Hollering Creek*, 68-83.
All papers due at the beginning of class!

0153  b) Varieties of Commerce in a Transatlantic Context
Prof. Garrett, Crister
PSW/LN, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 15:15-16:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

Germany currently is in the midst of a debate about the extent to which “Gerechtigkeit” can be encouraged by more “Freiheit”. This debate is in its essence about how a society wants to shape its culture of commerce, a culture stemming from the relationship between a society and the economy it wants (along the lines of the famous political quip, “You get the politicians that you deserve”). As the current German debate underscores, these debates are often about core values around which citizens see the need to organize their society. The United States is certainly no different. What many Germans think about America’s answers to these fundamental questions can be seen in the code language “Amerikanische Verhältnisse”. Many Americans would agree with that code language, and others clearly do not. How a society debates what sort of relationship it wants between its economy (how it produces wealth) and its citizens helps provide key insights into a country’s sense of identity (identities). The thrust of this course will be about cultures of commerce in the United States today. But to get a better grasp on the qualities that are unique about America’s cultures of commerce, we will compare U.S. debates on economics and society with those in Germany, France, Sweden, Canada, and Mexico.

155  Basic Texts in American History
Sharpe, Catherine
PSW/LN, 2 SWS
Various types of texts that are thought to be most important in U.S. history will be explored in this cultural history course. Text interpretation will be covered and, beyond this essential, students will further investigate other meaningful aspects, such as the influences, creation, times, and effects, that surround these writings. Students will be assessed through their achievement in specially assigned course work, in particular the presentations they will be expected to give.

156 The United States and Latin America
Herchen, Simon
PSW/LN, 2 SWS
Thursday, 09:15-10:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

The Western Hemisphere has always been at the center of attention within the circles of U.S. foreign-policy decision-makers: with regard to economic expansion, regional political integration, or protecting the national security in times of conflict such as the Cold War. However, it appears that today's global problems have pushed Latin America of Washington’s radar. This seminar aims to show the centrality of hemispheric issues in the U.S. foreign policy discourse by looking at different epochs of U.S.-Latin American relations, by analyzing Washington’s aims and motives in terms of international relations theory, and by outlining some of the contemporary issues – such as trade, drug trafficking, and migration – that characterize the current hemispheric debates.

All participants will be required not only to read the assigned texts and keep up to date with current hemispheric events but also to write two short papers (3-5 pages). In order to acquire a “Schein”, students will have to make an additional presentation of no more than thirty minutes. A detailed reading list will be handed out in the first class meeting.

Literature:

Sprachpraxis

171 Strategies of Writing
Sharpe, Catherine
ÜO/LN, 2 SWS
Monday, 15:15-16:45
Am Brühl, R. 827

( Eine Variante von Composition 1)
Mag. Amerikanistik (bes. HF), LA und Wirtsch.-päd. bei Orientierung auf US-English
E: in der ersten Unterrichtsstunde
Beginn: 2. April 2007

This writing course covers the form, function, development, and structure of both the English paragraph as the basis of composition and the descriptive essay. It also serves at the necessary basis for its successor Writing for Academic Purposes. Emphasis is placed on discovering, structuring, and developing clear, effective ideas in relation to the writer's purpose, subject, and audience. Course members learn to identify the patterns of and avoid the pitfalls of mother-tongue interference as well as to use conventional stylistic devices to improve their written fluency. Students expected to directly apply the strategies acquired in this course to their other North American Studies courses.

172 Interactive Discourse (US English)
Sharpe, Catherine
ÜO/LN, 2 SWS
Monday, 11:15-12:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

ACHTUNG! Terminänderung!!!
This course will focus on systematically improving the academic processes of organizing clear, effective short presentations and discussions as well as on practising language function skills typical of spoken English as used in the context of the university; it also serves as the basis for its Hauptstudium successor, Presentations and Discussions.

The course has been designed to promote students’ communicative proficiency while insight into US-culture is gained through current English usage. Students will therefore be expected to share the knowledge of their respective subject areas and field questions from the group to stimulate topical discussions.

**MAGISTER HAUPTSTUDIUM**

**Literaturwissenschaft**

**201 Visual Cultures**
HSW/LN, 2 SWS  
Thursday, 11:15-12:45  
Am Brühl, R. 802

Commentators on postmodern – i.e. contemporary – culture have frequently observed that our everyday life is characterized by a constant flow, even barrage of images, be it TV, movies, billboards, magazines, newspapers, or the internet. Our exposure to images has influenced the way we communicate and come to understand the world. This development has to understood against a background of a well-established tradition of looking at images in the context of “art.” The seminar wants to stand back from that visual experience and ask how this visual culture works and how it has affected the way we think and communicate. We will look at and analyse visual representations (mostly paintings and photographs) that are central to core areas of American culture – like the suburb or the West. Our discussions will consider the many ways in which visual representations both shape and are shaped by the concepts, values, and meaning that constitute cultural life.

*Required reading: Nicholas Mirzoeff, An Introduction to Visual Culture. A “picture gallery” and extended bibliography will be provided on the internet.*

**202 The New Black Renaissance**
HSW/LN, 2 SWS  
Wednesday, 11:15-12:45  
Am Brühl, R. 805

Obviously referring to the Harlem Renaissance, the “New Black Renaissance” has produced outstanding writers like Toni Morrison, Ishamel Reed, LeRoi Jones (a.k.a. Amiri Baraka), and Sonia Sanchez. The seminar will look at the socio-cultural and historical contexts of this creative peak in African-American culture and at the literary traditions (like the slave narrative) that have influenced and shaped the texts. In our close readings, we will be especially interested in the postmodern triad of race, class, and gender.

*Required reading: LeRoi Jones, Dutchman; Ishmael Reed, Flight to Canada; Alice Walker, The Color Purple; Toni Morrison, Beloved; Shirley Anne Williams, Dessa Rose; Malcolm X, The Autobiography of Malcolm X; Alex Hailey, Roots. A reader with short stories, poems, and lyrics will be provided.*

**206 Kolloquium für DoktorandInnen und HabilitandInnen**
Koll., 2 SWS  
Wednesday, 13:15-14:45  
Am Brühl, R. 805

**203 (Re-)Considering the American Renaissance**
HSW/LN, 2 SWS  
Thursday, 15:15-16:45  
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

*E: Via Lehrbox, beginning on March 1.*

The literature commonly subsumed under the heading “American Renaissance” probably represents the most belabored period in American literary history. When F.O. Matthiesen coined the term in his 1941 book American Renaissance: Art and Expression in the
Age of Emerson and Whitman, he not only originated what would later become a name for the whole period, he also supplied one of the founding texts of American literary studies. In subsequent decades, the American Renaissance has become a favorite subject of revisionist scholarship, producing such titles as Beneath the American Renaissance, The American Renaissance Reconsidered or Reconstituting the American Renaissance.

In this class, we will discuss selected texts that represent the ‘classic’ American Renaissance and explore some of the ways in which this canon of U.S. Romanticism has been challenged and revised. Readings may include texts by Hawthorne, Melville, Whitman, as well as less well-known authors of the period.

204 Narratives of Captivity
HSW/LN, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 11:15-12:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

E: Prior registration is necessary (via Lehrbox, March 26-April 5)
First session on April 10.

While Mary Rowlandson’s account of her captivity by Native Americans can be considered the classical American captivity narrative (although the genre existed in various parts of the world before that, coinciding with European colonial expansion) the captivity experience has captured authors’ and audiences’ interest from the early beginnings of American settlement to the present time. In this course, we will look at captivity as an as an analytical model for considering the question of cultural contact. Next to Mary Rowlandson’s text, we will explore 19th century captivity texts such as the so-called “Barbary captivity narrative”, sensational convent tales and slave narratives, as well as 20th century captivity narratives such as the Patty Hearst story, and recent discourses of captivity in the context of America’s war against terrorism, such as the Jessica Lynch narrative and the media coverage of Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib. We will consider each narrative within the cultural contexts within which it was published, while we will investigate the representation of self and other in these narratives and examine the discursive strategies they employ.

A course reader will be available at the beginning of class sessions.

Kulturgeschichte

251 African Americans in the United States since the 1960s
HSW/LN, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 09:15-10:45
Am Brühl, R. 802

First day of classes: April 10

This course will look at economic, social, political and cultural developments in the African American community in the last forty years. At issue is the impact of the Civil Rights Movement on the next generation of African Americans. Special attention will also be paid to the black populations’ diversity, to its relationship with other (ethnic) groups, and its political impact, especially on the federal level.

252 American Society in the 1950s
HSW/LN, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 15:15-16:45
Am Brühl, R. 802

First day of classes: April 10

The seminar will look at the political, social, and cultural impact of the Cold War. It will analyze how the ideology of anticommunism was used in various contexts to push for social conformism. The following topics will be addressed: political developments, contemporary sociological analyses of American society, gender roles, family and family values, religion and public life, social movements like the Civil Rights Movement, political organizations like the John Birch Society, the media (print, tv, movies).

253 Women in American Society in the 19th and 20th Centuries
HSW/LN, 2 SWS
Wednesday, 13:15-14:45
Am Brühl, R. 802
The seminar will analyze the impact of important social changes on the status and roles of women in American society during the 19th century. It will look at specific periods, regions and classes (e.g. Victorianism, the slave family, the working class, immigrants and ethnic groups, the frontier), social movements (e.g. temperance, welfare), gender relations and sexuality, political organizations and ideologies of women’s roles and at feminist perspectives.

254 Magister-Kolloquium
Koll., 2 SWS
Monday, 17:15-18:45
GWZ 3.515 (Beethovenstr. 15)

255 a) Commerce, Mobility, and Globalization in a Transatlantic Context
Prof. Garrett, Crister
HSW/LN, 2 SWS
Wednesday, 13:15-14:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

Cultures of commerce are increasingly being influenced by the growing mobility of people, businesses, finance, and ideas. Nowhere is this more true than between Europe and North America. What does this unprecedented mobility mean for cultures of commerce in a transatlantic context, especially the notion of national or regional traditions of commerce and capitalism? This seminar will explore the interactions and tensions between national, regional, transatlantic, and global debates about how to manage the rapidly evolving relationship between economic activity, different forms of mobility, and the impact of this mobility on the structures and content of politics and society. The thrust of this course will be about the debate in the United States about how to manage mobility and its impact on American society. But to get a better grasp on the qualities that are unique about America’s predicaments, we will compare the U.S. debates on economics, society, and mobility with the equivalent debates being held in Germany, France, Sweden, Canada, and Mexico.

205 American Literary Realism and Naturalism
Johanningsmeier
Tuesday, 09:15 AM - 10:45 AM: GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstrasse 15)

During the last decades of the nineteenth century and the early years of the twentieth, the United States transformed itself into a modern, industrialized nation and a world power. American literary authors extensively documented this transformation, primarily employing the philosophical viewpoints and artistic methods of Realism and Naturalism. This course will expose students to a wide variety of texts that demonstrate how American literature was in constant dialogue with the major social, political, and economic issues of the day rather than standing apart from its surrounding culture. Some of the authors whose works we will read are: Jacob Riis, Rebecca Harding Davis, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, Henry James, Stephen Crane, Charles Chesnutt, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Jack London, Sui Sin Far, and Edith Wharton.

207 The Novels of Thomas Pynchon
Hopkin
Wednesday, 05:15 PM - 06:45 PM: GWZ 2.516

Taught by novelist and new Picador Professor, James Hopkin, the seminar will focus on the US American author and novelist Thomas Pynchon. It will not only employ a wide range of scholarly perspectives but also take into consideration the perspective of the literary ‘practitioner.’ Students get a chance to shape the class syllabus and choose two of Pynchon’s novels for class discussion.

208 Creative Writing / Book Reviewing
Hopkin

In an experimental format, this class offers students a forum to practice writing non-academic texts. Depending on student demand, these texts may be fictional or book reviews. Working in small groups with visiting novelist James Hopkins as their instructor, students learn to develop their own ideas and are mentored through the process of putting them into writing.

Details of the seminar, as well as dates for workshops, will be discussed in the seminar's first meeting on Thursday, April 12, 6pm in room GWZ 2.516.

The class targets students with very good English skills. Depending on their individual curricula, students who complete all class
assignments may qualify for credits in literary studies (please discuss details with ASL Advisers Katja Kanzler or Sebastian Herrmann).

b) Commerce, Mobility, and Globalization in a Transatlantic Context
Prof. Garrett, Crister

HSW/LN, 2 SWS
Wednesday, 15:15-16:45
GWZ 2.516 (Beethovenstr. 15)

Cultures of commerce are increasingly being influenced by the growing mobility of people, businesses, finance, and ideas. Nowhere is this more true than between Europe and North America. What does this unprecedented mobility mean for cultures of commerce in a transatlantic context, especially the notion of national or regional traditions of commerce and capitalism. This seminar will explore the interactions and tensions between national, regional, transatlantic, and global debates about how to manage the rapidly evolving relationship between economic activity, different forms of mobility, and the impact of this mobility on the structures and content of politics and society. The thrust of this course will be about the debate in the United States about how to manage mobility and its impact on American society. But to get a better grasp on the qualities that are unique about America’s predicaments, we will compare the U.S. debates on economics, society, and mobility with the equivalent debates being held in Germany, France, Sweden, Canada, and Mexico.

Immigration in the Twentieth Century U.S.
Prof. Schneider, Dorothee

HSW/LN, 2 SWS Thursday, 11:15-12:45 Dresdner Bank, R. 2-04

INSTRUCTION STARTS ON April 12!
Office H3.504 (Prof. Keil) Tel. 97 37 332 during office hours.
I'm in the office Thursdays 9.45-11. and by appointment.
Preferred e-mail: dorothee.schneider@gmail.com

This course will examine migration into the United States from the mid-nineteenth century to the present from a variety of perspectives. The class will examine different ways of understanding immigration and immigrants from the viewpoint of historians, sociologists, anthropologists and fiction writers. The goal of the class will be to gain a solid knowledge of classic and contemporary writing on immigration to the United States. Immigration law and policy and contemporary assessments of the culture and social structure of immigrant communities in the United States will be central topics.

Informed and regular participation as well as a completed research paper will constitute the Leistungsschein requirements for this Hauptseminar.

Virtually all materials will be available in a Handapparat at the Library in book form or as photocopies. A complete version of the readings is also available for purchase from the photocopy shop Zimo under the class name and number. Some materials are available electronically and linked in the Lehrbox.

The following books are available for purchase (purchase is highly recommended since these books are assigned throughout the semester and will be read almost in their entirety): They are indicated in the Lehrbox as well.

Roger Daniels, Guarding the Golden Door: American Immigration Policy and Immigrants since 1882. (Hill and Wang, 2004)


week 1
Overall perspectives: The United States in a Global Context


week 2:
Adjustment and Assimilation: Italians and Jews from Eastern Europe
readings: Daniels, Coming to America: 185-237.

week 3:
Individual Identity; autobiographies, fiction, letters
readings: Anzia Yezierska, Bread Givers (skim through the book.)
Selections from Isaac Metzger, ed. Bintel Brief,

Week 4:
Collective Identity:
Alice Kessler-Harris, ORGANIZING THE UNORGANIZABLE. Labor History, Vol. 17 Issue 1, linked in Lehrbox

Week 5:
Restriction: The 1924 Quota Act
Readings: Daniels, Guarding the Golden Door: p. 3-58.
Mae Ngai, Impossible Subjects, 21-55.

week 6, May 24th:
Race and Class in the Restriction Era: Mexican Americans and West Indians
Albert Camarillo, Chicanos in a Changing Society, chapter 7. (UBL),
Ngai, Impossible Subjects, chapter 4 (127-166).

week 7: June 7th (no instruction on May 31)
Immigration Policy II from the Great Depression to the 1965 Act
readings: Daniels, Guarding the Golden Door, 59-128.

Week 8, June 14:
Recent Asian Americans
Daniels, Guarding the Golden Door, 147-174

Week 9, June 21: Immigration Reform and Character of Migration since 1965
Readings: Portes and Rumbaut, Immigrant America, 1-56.
Daniels, Guarding the Golden Door, 175-189

Week 10, June 28:
Upward mobility:
Mary Waters, Black Identities (Harvard University Press 1999) chapter 4, “West Indians at Work”,
Portes and Rumbaut, Immigrant America, 57-92, 192-231.

week 11, July 5th:
Illegal Immigrants

week 12, July 12:
Contemporary Issues:
Readings: Keefe, “The Snakehead” New Yorker April 24, 2006
Portes and Rumbaut, Immigrant America, 93-154. new edition: 117-167

Week 13:
The second generation
This lecture is a survey course. It will explore main subject areas and analyze their specific interrelationships. Topics to be covered include colonial society, immigration, slavery, imperial conflicts, independence, the American political system including the party system, expansion and regional conflict, Civil War and reconstruction, industrialization, the labor movement, urbanization, religion, and social reform.

Modul "Society, History & Politics I"

This course deals with the language practice perspective in English academic writing on American society, history, and politics. The writing skills required for its parallel course, the Proseminar of the same name, will be developed here through practical assignments given. There will be particular focus on further development of sound skills for the form, function, and structure for the English outline, paragraph, and essay. Introductory level knowledge of these skills is a prerequisite for this course.

In this seminar, topics from the lecture will provide students with an introduction to academic work in history and political science. Participants will investigate different historical sources, set up their own bibliographies, and discuss controversies in academic literature. They will, furthermore, acquaint themselves with selected aspects of life in North America before 1900, and learn to apply their own research questions. Topics to be discussed range from the American Frontier via sectionalism and slavery to immigration.
b) Proseminar Society, History & Politics I
Usbeck, Frank
PS/LN, 2 SWS
Wednesday, 13:15-14:45
ACHTUNG! RAUMÄNDERUNG!
Am Brühl, R. 728

Teil des Pflichtmoduls "Society, History & Politics I" für Bachelor American Studies.

E: Bitte die Informationen auf der Website beachten!

In this seminar, topics from the lecture will provide students with an introduction to academic work in history and political science. Participants will investigate different historical sources, set up their own bibliographies, and discuss controversies in academic literature. They will, furthermore, acquaint themselves with selected aspects of life in North America before 1900, and learn to apply their own research questions. Topics to be discussed range from the American Frontier via sectionalism and slavery to immigration.

Modul "Introduction to Linguistics"

304 Introduction to Synchronic Linguistics
Lörscher, Wolfgang
V, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 13:15-14:45
HTWK Audimax G329

E: Bitte die Informationen auf der Website beachten!

This lecture will provide a systematic introduction into the field of synchronic linguistics with focus on the theoretical description of English. It aims at providing an overview of the central areas in the study of language such as phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics as well as familiarizing students with aspects of language use investigated in text linguistics, socio- and psycholinguistics.

Prüfung: Klausur (120 min) über den Stoff der Vorlesung und des Seminars

305 a) Seminar Systemlinguistik: Introduction to Synchronic Linguistics
Reuter, Sylvia
PS/LN, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 09:15-10:45
Am Brühl, R. 808

E: Bitte die Informationen auf der Website beachten!

This seminar is conceived together with the introductory lecture as a basis for further studies in linguistics. Having already familiarized yourself with the basic concepts in this lecture, you will now have the chance for in-depth discussion of problems and practice with the linguistic data as well as for exercises. Contrary to the lecture, though, we will start our linguistic journey with phonetics & phonology, and after that move into other core areas of linguistics such as morphology, syntax and semantics.


Prüfung: s. Vorlesung "Introduction to Synchronic Linguistics"

305 b) Seminar Systemlinguistik: Introduction to Synchronic Linguistics
Reuter, Sylvia
PS/LN, 2 SWS
Thursday, 11:15-12:45
Am Brühl, R. 921

E: Bitte die Informationen auf der Website beachten!

This seminar is conceived together with the introductory lecture as a basis for further studies in linguistics. Having already familiarized yourself with the basic concepts in this lecture, you will now have the chance for in-depth discussion of problems and practice with the linguistic data as well as for exercises. Contrary to the lecture, though, we will start our linguistic journey with
phonetics & phonology, and after that move into other core areas of linguistics such as morphology, syntax and semantics.

_Literatur: V. Fromkin et al. (2007) An Introduction to Language, Boston/USA: Thomson Wadsworth. Reader erhältlich bei Zimo (Beethovenstraße 10)_.

Prüfung: s. Vorlesung "Introduction to Synchronic Linguistics"

306  a) Übung Sprachpraxis für Amerikanisten: Spoken Academic Discourse
Ü, 2 SWS
Tuesday, 11:15-12:45
Am Brühl, R. 814

_E: Bitte die Informationen auf der <a href="http://americanstudies.uni-leipzig.de/news/51/">Website</a> beachten!_

This course focuses on equipping students to improve their command of the processes involved in organizing clear, effective academic presentations and discussions as well as those practical language skills most frequently needed in spoken English as used in the context of research-based discourse in linguistics. The exercises have been designed to promote students’ intercultural communicative competence while insight into American culture is gained by engaging in inquiry and reflection on current American usage.

_Prüfung: Präsentation, Diskussionsleitung u. Zusammenfassung (15 Minuten)_

306  b) Übung Sprachpraxis für Amerikanisten: Spoken Academic Discourse
Ü, 2 SWS
Thursday, 17:15-18:45
Am Brühl, R. 930

_E: Bitte die Informationen auf der <a href="http://americanstudies.uni-leipzig.de/news/51/">Website</a> beachten!_

This course focuses on equipping students to improve their command of the processes involved in organizing clear, effective academic presentations and discussions as well as those practical language skills most frequently needed in spoken English as used in the context of research-based discourse in linguistics. The exercises have been designed to promote students’ intercultural communicative competence while insight into American culture is gained by engaging in inquiry and reflection on current American usage.

_Prüfung: Präsentation, Diskussionsleitung u. Zusammenfassung (15 Minuten)