

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

MODULE TRANSATLANTIC SPACE

Culture and Language: The Tradition of Transatlantic Migration and Slavery

(Kultur und Sprache in der Folge von transatlantischer Migration und Sklaverei)

Prof. Dr. Hartmut Keil

Monday, 1 – 3 pm, NGW 2216

This seminar deals with the processes and consequences of transatlantic migration and slavery. It is a cooperative team-teaching undertaking of the Institutes of African Studies (Professor Katja Werthmann), Ethnology (Professor Ursula Rao, Dr. Elisabeth Thiele, Lena Löhr), English Studies (Professor Isabelle Buchstaller), and American Studies (Professor Hartmut Keil). We want to introduce students to the issues of slavery, transnationalism, and migration from the various perspectives of our disciplines. Linguistic, historical, and social science aspects of the experience of forced migration will be discussed. Special emphasis will be placed on the discussion of cultural phenomena which resulted from transatlantic demographic change since the 18th century. Which traditions, dialects, religious practices were transmitted to the United States by various African ethnic groups?

The seminar will especially look at the ethnic diversity, languages, and traditions of the "Low Country" (South Carolina and Georgia, U.S.A.) All those who are interested in the subject matter will have the opportunity to attend a follow-up seminar in the summer semester followed by a study tour to South Carolina and Georgia in summer 2014. The study tour will be planned in cooperation with Professors Dan and Val Littlefield at the University of South Carolina.

This seminar will be taught in English and German. It can be taken as an equivalence to one of the two other seminars in the module, Transatlantic Space.