

## Course Catalog Winter Semester 2013/2014

### American Studies Leipzig

Below please find our new course catalog. We will update these pages throughout the break and the semester.

Unless stated otherwise, **classes start in the week of October 14, 2013.**

Students are responsible for keeping track of updates on actual course dates (some are alternating).

## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Information</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>BA Courses</b> .....	<b>5</b>
2.1	Literature and Culture I (04-001-1001).....	5
2.2	iTASK (international, interdisciplinary, integrated: Technical, Academic, Soft, and Career Skills) (04-001-1004).....	7
2.3	Ethnicity and Diversity in US Culture (04-001-1018).....	8
2.4	Society, History, and Politics II (04-001-1006).....	9
2.5	Language and Society – Applied Linguistics (04-001-1005) .....	11
2.6	Project Module (04-001-1009).....	13
<b>3</b>	<b>MA Courses</b> .....	<b>15</b>
3.1	Methods and Theories in American Studies (04-038-2001).....	15
3.2	Graduate Colloquium in American Studies (04-038-2002) .....	16
3.3	iCAN (international, interdisciplinary, integrated Career and Academic Networking (04-038-2003).....	17
3.4	Transatlantic Space (04-038-2010) .....	19
3.5	Consumption, Culture and Identity (04-038-2011) .....	21
3.6	Immigration, Ethnicity, and Citizenship (04-038-2012) .....	22
3.7	iDEWEY (international, interdisciplinary, integrated Dewey Principle).....	24
<b>4</b>	<b>Other Courses</b> .....	<b>25</b>
4.1	Kolloquium für DoktorandInnen.....	25
4.2	Doctoral Colloquium: International Politics and Policy .....	25
4.3	Picador Seminars .....	25

## 1 Information

### Contact Information

The Institute for American Studies is located at the University's Humanities Building (Geisteswissenschaftliches Zentrum, GWZ), Beethovenstraße 15, on the 5th floor – house 3.

For details on our programs and faculty, please visit the American Studies Leipzig (ASL) website at <http://americanstudies.uni-leipzig.de>

Name	Room	Phone
<b>Prof. Dr. Gabriele Pisarz-Ramírez</b> <a href="mailto:pisarz@uni-leipzig.de">pisarz@uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3508</b>	<b>97 37 343</b>
<b>Prof. Dr. Crister Garrett</b> <a href="mailto:crister.garrett@uni-leipzig.de">crister.garrett@uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3505</b>	<b>97 37 335</b>
<b>Prof. Dr. Anne Koenen</b> <a href="mailto:koenen@uni-leipzig.de">koenen@uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3507</b>	<b>97 37 331</b>
<b>Dr. Katja Schmieder</b> <a href="mailto:schmieder@rz.uni-leipzig.de">schmieder@rz.uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3502</b>	<b>97 37 334</b>
<b>Dr. Sebastian Herrmann</b> <a href="mailto:smherrmann@uni-leipzig.de">smherrmann@uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3503</b>	<b>97 37 337</b>
<b>Florian Bast, MA</b> <a href="mailto:florian.bast@uni-leipzig.de">florian.bast@uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3502</b>	<b>97 37 334</b>
<b>Anja Eifert, MA</b> <a href="mailto:anja.eifert@uni-leipzig.de">anja.eifert@uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3501</b>	<b>97 37 336</b>
<b>Maria Zywietz, MA</b> <a href="mailto:maria.zywietz@uni-leipzig.de">maria.zywietz@uni-leipzig.de</a>	<b>3504</b>	<b>97 37 332</b>

## **Secretary's Office**

Isabel Holzke  
Room 3506

Phone: 97 37 330

Regular office hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Email to: [americanstudies@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:americanstudies@uni-leipzig.de)

## **Advising**

At the Institute for American Studies, students can rely on a comprehensive network of advisors to assist them with the organization of their programs of study. Please visit the ASL website for contact information and office hours of our faculty and staff.

These faculty members are available for the following concerns:

### **Questions relating to program requirements; general guidance and advice on how to organize your studies:**

- Dr. Katja Schmieder, Dr. Sebastian Herrmann, Anja Eifert, MA, Florian Bast, MA

### **General Advising**

Mentoring "Qualitätspakt Lehre- Stil"

General study advising offered by "Philologische Fakultät"

Maria Bergau, Priska Fronemann, Julia Protze

Room: 3314

Tel: 97 37 464

[www.uni-leipzig.de/~philolment](http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~philolment)

e-mail: [philolment@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:philolment@uni-leipzig.de)

Office Hours: Tuesday 11-12am, Thursday 1-3pm and by appointment

### **Advice and services concerning transfer from another university or from another degree program; credit for study abroad:**

- Dr. Katja Schmieder
- Dr. Sebastian Herrmann

### **Questions relating to specific fields of study, including format of exams:**

- **SHP/Kulturgeschichte:** Anja Eifert, MA
- **LC/Literaturwissenschaft:** Prof. Anne Koenen, Dr. Katja Schmieder, Dr. Sebastian Herrmann, Florian Bast, MA

## Registration for Classes

Most classes require prior registration. To learn more about registration procedures for students in different ASL programs (Magister, BA, MA; service for Lehramt), please have a look at the Registration Information Sheet available in the respective news item. As access to some classes is quite competitive, please take the procedures and deadlines for registration seriously.

## American Studies Modules

Modules in the BA and MA programs are designed to achieve specific **learning goals**, they entail a specific amount and specific types of **coursework** and **examinations**, and they may have **prerequisites**. To learn more about these, we strongly encourage you to have a look at our program's Module Catalog and at the appendix to our Conditions of Study in the Download & Resources Area.

## International Students

International Students are very welcome in the courses offered by the Institute for American Studies. To learn more about places available in individual courses, please contact the instructor, and describe your situation briefly (i.e., exchange student, international guest student, participating in an international degree program). We will do our very best to include you in our courses.

## Courses

Course catalogs of past semesters can be found in the Downloads and Resources Area.

For course offerings in Linguistics, please consult the British Studies course catalog, available at the website of the Institute for British Studies (<http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~angl>).

Unless stated otherwise, **classes start in the week of October 14th 2013.**

Students are responsible for keeping track of updates on actual course dates (some are alternating).

### Addresses:

GWZ (Geisteswissenschaftliches Zentrum), Beethovenstr. 15

NSG (Neues Seminargebäude), Universitätsstr. 5

HSG (Hörsaalgebäude), Universitätsstr. 7

## 2 BA Courses

### 2.1 Literature and Culture I (04-001-1001)

Module Coordinator: Anne Koenen

This module acquaints students with the basic issues and techniques of American literary studies. It provides a survey of United States literary history as well as an introduction to the methods and theories employed in literary and cultural analysis.

**The module consists of one lecture, one seminar, and one tutorial**

**Lecture: American Literature, Beginnings to Present**

Tuesday, 9-11 am, GWZ 2.010  
Prof. Anne Koenen

The lectures will provide an overview of central literary movements and authors in American literature against the background of influential socio-cultural developments.

The first class will take place on **October 22**.

---

**Seminar:**

**either a)** Thursday, 3-5 pm, NSG 405  
Dr. Sebastian Herrmann  
[www.lehrbox.de/500](http://www.lehrbox.de/500)

**or b)** Thursday, 1-3 pm, NSG 403  
Christopher Köhler  
[www.lehrbox.de/516](http://www.lehrbox.de/516)

**or c)** Friday, 9-11 am, NSG 412  
Thorsten Burkhardt  
[www.lehrbox.de/505](http://www.lehrbox.de/505)

Based on American Studies' comprehensive notion of 'text' as referring to any complex cultural artifact and on an understanding of 'narrative' as a fundamental category of human existence, the seminar's underlying assumption is that the ability to 'read' texts is central to the ability to understand, analyze, and discuss culture more generally. To thus facilitate your ability to read complex texts, the seminar focuses on two main perspectives. It aims to help you develop an analytic vocabulary to talk about the specifics of narratives and their implementation into texts, and it aims to help you understand basic theoretical frameworks that discuss the connection between texts and culture in analytic terms. The seminar will moreover help you to develop a feeling for the questions and approaches typical of American Studies. Coursework will cover basic techniques of critically engaging texts, exemplary analyses and interpretations, as well as an overview over contemporary approaches in literary and cultural theory. Please note that the first session of the seminars will take place in the week of **21 October**.

**Tutorial (Übung):**

**either a)** Tuesday, 1-3 pm, NSG 405  
Bethany Lerch  
lehrbox coming soon

**or b)** Wednesday, 9-11 am, NSG 405  
Bethany Lerch  
lehrbox coming soon

**or c)** Monday, 1-3 pm, NSG 329  
Erica Larson  
[www.lehrbox.de/514](http://www.lehrbox.de/514)

This course deals with literary analysis from the language practice perspective. The writing skills required for the Module's seminar will be developed here through practical assignments given. There will be particular focus on the form, function, and structure of the English paragraph and also on providing a sound introduction on the how to write the English essay.

Please note that the first session of the tutorials will take place in week from **21 October**.

## **2.2 iTASK (international, interdisciplinary, integrated: Technical, Academic, Soft, and Career Skills) (04-001-1004)**

Module Coordinator: Prof. Crister Garrett

The goal of the module is to help students develop key skills to thrive in their studies and in their subsequent career choices. Reports from Germany and the United States show that a leading reason why students experience frustration (if not failure) in their studies and career pursuits is because of a relative lack of preparation in how to integrate personal and professional goals into a comprehensive plan for continuous individual development. For the generation of students beginning university, your learning and working life is expected to last approximately a half-century. This module is meant to help you prepare for that voyage. This module is thus meant to prepare you for the individual TASK ahead.

**The module consists of one lecture and one tutorial**

### **Professional Seminar (Lecture)**

Monday, 3-5 pm, NSG 329  
every two weeks  
Prof. Crister Garrett  
[www.lehrbox.de/501](http://www.lehrbox.de/501)

There are four types of skills that determine to a large degree a student's success at university, and in different careers after receiving a diploma. These are technical, academic, soft, and career skills. The type of knowledge that one acquires at university, moreover, plays a key role in how one thrives after leaving campus life. Especially important is knowledge that is international, interdisciplinary, and integrated into larger issues engaging societies worldwide. We will explore each set of skills, what they mean, and how to develop these further. We will do so by simultaneously exploring how they relate to the sort of knowledge and expertise expected across all sectors of the work world.

Lastly, we will integrate your learning experience together by developing your own studies-and-career-portfolio where you lay out goals, objectives, and plans for the next three years. This is the last but perhaps primary importance of the "i" before the TASK ahead, namely, it should be your individual experience that prepares you to thrive during your studies and career development.

The first class will take place on **October 14**.

---

### **Praxis Seminar (Tutorial)**

Monday, 9-11 am, NSG 102  
Bethany Lerch  
lehrbox coming soon

The praxis seminar will involve students discussing in further detail the broad themes broached during the professional seminar and integrating these discussions into various written and oral assignments to deepen communication, analytical, technical, and career skills.

## 2.3 Ethnicity and Diversity in US Culture (04-001-1018)

Module Coordinator: Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez

The goal of this module is to enable students to understand the United States as a multiethnic and multicultural space and to discuss on an academic level the cultural productions of various ethnic groups in the contexts of their specific historical and cultural development.

**The module consists of one lecture and one seminar**

### Lecture

Friday, 11 am – 1 pm, HSG HS 20  
Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez  
lehrbox coming soon

The lectures will discuss key concepts of and developments in race, ethnicity and minority studies as well as explore the cultures and histories of ethnic groups in the U.S., focusing especially on the literatures and cultures of U.S. Latinos/as, African Americans, Asian Americans and Native Americans.

The first lecture will take place on **October 25**.

---

### Seminar: Indian Country Today: Selected Issues in Contemporary Native North America

Tuesday, 5-7 pm, NSG 404  
Anne Grob  
lehrbox coming soon

This seminar explores a range of current issues pertaining to and affecting American Indians in the United States. In order to familiarize students with contemporary indigenous concerns, historical developments that influenced and shaped the present situation will also be examined. The course is meant to provide a solid foundation to the understanding of Native American nations and cultures, emphasizing indigenous paradigms, concepts, methodologies and viewpoints. Through its interdisciplinary character, students will learn to critically examine, analyze and discuss key economic, educational, social, cultural, and political issues faced by American Indian communities today. The seminar furthermore seeks to improve students' oral presentation-, discussion and writing skills. A reader with texts will be provided in Lehrbox.

The first seminar takes place on **October 15**.

## 2.4 Society, History, and Politics II (04-001-1006)

Module Coordinator: Prof. Crister Garrett

This module is meant to provide students with an interdisciplinary, international, and integrated introduction to key developments and themes in the history, politics, and society of the United States from Reconstruction to the present.

To complete the module, students need to attend the lecture, one Seminar I (A or B) and one Seminar II (A or B)

**The module consists of one lecture and two seminars**

### Lecture

Wednesday, 3-5 pm, HS 6  
Prof. Crister Garrett  
[www.lehrbox.de/512](http://www.lehrbox.de/512)

The lecture will explore the historical, political, and societal developments in the United States from the late nineteenth century to the emergence of the current century. While exploring the “uniqueness” of the “American experience”, care will also be taken to place American society in an international and global context.

---

### Seminar I: Issues in Contemporary American History, Politics, and Society

This seminar will explore in more depth critical issues in contemporary American history, politics, and society, including the internationalization of American society, the role of economics, and America’s role in the world. Students will improve their skills in research as well as in analysis and presentation. Along these lines, there will be two distinct seminars offered, one by Ms. Anja Eifert on American diplomacy in the 20th century, and one by Mr. Tobias Schlobach on commerce and American politics and society.

### Seminar I (A): US foreign policy and diplomacy in the 20th century

Friday, 1-5 pm, GWZ 2.516  
Blockseminar  
Anja Eifert  
[www.lehrbox.de/515](http://www.lehrbox.de/515)

The following seminar investigates the development of US foreign policy and diplomacy in the 20th century. Since the Age of Imperialism, US foreign relations have undergone a shift in foreign policy from isolationism and non-interventionism throughout the interwar years towards internationalism and the promotion of American values and ideals abroad in the aftermath of World War II. With the end of the Cold War, the US emerged as a 'hyperpower' in an increasingly globalized and multipolar world. The seminar will explore different themes in US foreign relations and place it in a historical and contemporary global context with focus on specific regions and countries. It will provide a historical overview of US diplomatic practice with more in-depth analysis of specific developments and issues in US foreign relations throughout the 20th century by means of primary documents and historiographic essays. Students will improve their skills in research and presentation as well as develop a comprehensive and critical understanding of US foreign policy.

## **Seminar I (B): Commerce Pervades the World - A Survey of Contemporary American and International Economic History**

Monday, 1-3 pm, GWZ 2.516

Tobias Schlobach  
[www.lehrbox.de/511](http://www.lehrbox.de/511)

With the ongoing economic and financial crisis at hand, a plethora of questions arise about the nature, mode of operation, composition and history of our current economic system. This course offers a survey of international economic history, designed to introduce students to the world of economics and the implications it had—and has—for our living environment. For this purpose, the seminar will explore the development of economic thought and theory, its terminology and the mechanisms at play. A distinct focus will be laid on the United States and its development from being a mere component of the British economic empire to becoming one of its own, including the challenges and (r)evolutions involved in this process. Within this context, additional emphasis will be put on the changing patterns of trade and the geopolitics of resources, from sugar islands over cotton fields to oil wells and knowledge industries. Topics are chosen to show a wide variety of historical examples to students and to provide an understanding of the history and working principles of modern economies. Through argumentative essays and short presentations, students will additionally sharpen their competence in critical and analytical thinking, thus enabling them to come up with their own answers to the battery of questions mentioned initially.

---

## **Seminar II: Key Documents in Contemporary American History, Politics, and Society**

**either a)** Tuesday, 9-11 am, NSG 221

Bethany Lerch  
lehrbox coming soon

**or b)** Wednesday, 11 am – 1 pm, NSG 405

Bethany Lerch  
lehrbox coming soon

This seminar will complement the lecture and other seminar by offering students the opportunity to engage and discuss a diverse collection of primary documents from contemporary American history, politics, and society. The purpose is to deepen and embed knowledge from the lecture and issue seminars while simultaneously practicing critical and analytical skills along with different forms of presentation skills.

## **2.5 Language and Society – Applied Linguistics (04-001-1005)**

Module Coordinator: Dr. Sylvia Reuter (Institut für Anglistik)

The objective of this module is to gain basic, but compared to module 04-001-1003 more extended, knowledge about the varieties as well as textlinguistics of US English.

**The module consists of one lecture and two seminars**

### **Vorlesung Varietäten: Varieties of English**

Tuesday, 7-9 pm, HSG HS 3  
Isabelle Buchstaller

This lecture provides an overview of the syntactic, lexical and phonological variation across different varieties of English. It introduces participants to varieties in the UK, the US, Australia/New Zealand and other localities in the English-speaking world. We will also consider the issues of standards and standardisation, language contact, as well as ethnic, social and stylistic varieties of English.

---

### **Seminar Varietäten: Varieties of US-English**

Friday, 9-11 am, NSG 114  
Dr. Sylvia Reuter

Literatur: Reader bei Printy (Ritterstr. 5)

Prüfung: Referat

After the introduction into the concept of variation/varieties we will deal with language variation in contemporary American English/US-English. Regional variation will be the main issue as we learn about the history of US-English dialects and the contemporary dialect areas (e.g. Boston/New England and NYC) together with their features in pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary as compared with General American English (= Western Type).

Current developments and ethnic variation are connected topics. As we proceed, insights into theoretical phenomena will be gained such as how to elicit spontaneous speech for research, why linguistic variables are important, or what isoglosses and hypercorrection tell us about variation in language.

## **Seminar Textlinguistik: Cohesion in English**

Fridays, from 2:15 pm, GWZ 5.316

Starting on 25 October 2013

Prof. Clausdirk Pollner

Literatur: M. Halliday and R. Hasan (1976), *Cohesion in English*. London: Longman

Prüfung: Hausarbeit

“Cohesion” is the technical term for what happens, not within sentences (=syntax) but “between” sentences, in other words it refers to the items and language facts that turn a sequence of sentences into a “proper” text. “E.g. A says „Peter came,, and B replies „But he was very late,; in this interchange the roles of but [...] [and of] he and Peter are both aspects of cohesion.” (P.H. Matthews 2007. *Linguistics*. Oxford: OUP).

## 2.6 Project Module (04-001-1009)

Module Coordinator: Prof. Anne Koenen, Prof. Crister Garrett, Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez

This module is meant to allow BA students to apply the analytical, organizational, and presentational skills that they have learned to date in their studies by pursuing a project in American Studies involving interdisciplinary, international, and integrative types of knowledge and learning. The module thus provides an interface between classroom skills and knowledge and preparation for professional international careers. The colloquium provides the forum in which students can pursue these learning goals.

The **first meeting** for all three groups will be on **Thursday, October 24, at 9:15 in room 2.5.16.**

**The module consists of one colloquium (out of three)**

### Project Colloquium 1

Thursday, 9-11 am, GWZ 2.516

This class takes place every two weeks.

Prof. Anne Koenen

lehrbox coming soon

The theme for Professor Koenen's colloquium project will concern literature and culture with an emphasis on popular literature and culture. First meetings of the colloquium will be used to create consensus around the concept and content of the colloquium project. Thereafter students will "drive the project" with the professor acting as a type of consultant who then provides a final assessment of the project along with another colleague. The colloquium will allow students to deepen technology skills, analytical skills, organization and planning skills, and presentation skills in a team-driven project.

The **first meeting** for all three groups will be on **Thursday, October 24, at 9:15 in room 2.5.16.**

---

### Project Colloquium 2

Monday, 3-5 pm, NSG 315

This class takes place every two weeks.

Prof. Crister Garrett

[www.lehrbox.de/517](http://www.lehrbox.de/517)

The theme for Professor Garrett's colloquium project will be contemporary history and politics with an emphasis on a transatlantic context. First meetings of the colloquium will be used to create consensus around the concept and content of the colloquium project. Thereafter students will "drive the project" with the professor acting as a type of consultant who then provides a final assessment of the project along with another colleague. The colloquium will allow students to deepen research skills, analytical skills, organization and planning skills, technology skills, and presentation skills in a team-driven project that will also involve students preparing a paper on their own.

The **first meeting** for all three groups will be on **Thursday, October 24, at 9:15 in room 2.5.16.**

### **Project Colloquium 3**

Wednesday, 9-11 am, GWZ 3.515  
This class takes place every two weeks.  
Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez  
lehrbox coming soon

The theme for Professor Pizarz-Ramírez' colloquium project will concern Minority and Migration Studies. First meetings of the colloquium will be used to create consensus around the concept and content of the colloquium project. Thereafter students will "drive the project" with the professor acting as a type of consultant who then provides a final assessment of the project along with another colleague. The colloquium will allow students to deepen technology skills, analytical skills, organization and planning skills, and presentation skills in a team-driven project.

The **first meeting** for all three groups will be on **Thursday, October 24, at 9:15 in room 2.5.16.**

### 3 MA Courses

#### 3.1 Methods and Theories in American Studies (04-038-2001)

Module Coordinator: Anne Koenen

This module provides students with an overview of key methods and theories employed in the interdisciplinary field of American Studies. It is meant to prepare students for the program's advanced modules.

**The module consists of one lecture and one seminar**

##### **Lecture: Methods and Theories**

Tuesday, 11 am-1 pm, GWZ 3.515  
Prof. Anne Koenen/Prof. Crister Garrett  
[www.lehrbox.de/510](http://www.lehrbox.de/510)

The lecture series on “Methods and Theories in American Studies” will explore the various methodological and theoretical approaches to American Studies, the nature of the debate about the strengths and possible drawbacks of different methods and theories, and where the field of American Studies is today in its lively and open debate about the conceptualization, pursuit and results of diverse approaches in the field.

The first class will take place on **October 22**.

---

##### **Seminar: Methods and Theories**

Thursday, 11 am-1 pm GWZ 3.515  
Dr. Sebastian Herrmann  
lehrbox coming soon

This seminar will address major paradigms of and theories employed in American Studies, their evolution and contestation in the past sixty years of scholarship within the field. We will read and discuss critical writing that probes into the beginnings of American Studies in the so-called Myth-and-Symbol School and into the various ways in which this foundational paradigm has been challenged and expanded, e.g., by the group of scholars who call(ed) themselves “New Americanists.” We will explore some of the effects of the “theoretical turn” in American Studies scholarship, its insistent call to reflect on basic assumptions, e.g., about culture, texts, nation, “race,” gender, and, ultimately, the nature of scholarship itself.

The first class will take place on **October 24**.

### 3.2 Graduate Colloquium in American Studies (04-038-2002)

Module Coordinator: Prof. Crister S. Garrett

This module acquaints students with current issues and debates in American studies. Two exemplary seminars represent different academic traditions within this interdisciplinary field of inquiry, giving students an impression of their respective scholarly interests and approaches.

#### The module consists of two seminars

**Seminar: The Internationalization, Transnationalization, and Globalization of Society, Politics, and History: The Case of the United States.**

Monday, 11 am-1 pm, NSG 329  
Prof. Crister Garrett  
[www.lehrbox.de/504](http://www.lehrbox.de/504)

This seminar will explore with diverse readings the extent to which the “national” is being contextualized, re-configured, and re-imagined through international, transnational, and global themes and approaches for American Studies. Readings will come from such disciplines as history, political science, sociology, anthropology, and economics. We will explore prominent new book series from leading publishers that indicate new approaches to American Studies. These include Princeton University Press's “America in the World” series, the University of North Carolina's “New Cold War History”, Palgrave's “Rethinking World Politics”, and Routledge's “New International Relations”. These efforts to re-position American Studies, to complicate the field, have fundamental consequences for students seeking careers either in an academic or analytical setting and for students more interested in a professional and or policy field.

---

#### **Seminar: The myth of the savage in American culture**

Tuesday, 1-3 pm, GWZ 3.515  
Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez  
lehrbox coming soon

This course will focus on the savage as a powerful trope in U.S. literature and culture. We will analyze European ideas of savagery that structured the reports of the early explorers of the American continent, as well as the specific manifestations of that concept in American discourses of expansionism, independence, slavery, modernism, and globalization. Tracing the changing meanings of “savagery”, we will consider traditional binarisms such as wilderness/civilization, self/other, nature/culture, as well as the ways in which these binarisms have been deconstructed in writings that have “talked back” to the trope of savagery. In the last part of the course participants will work on their own projects which will then be presented in a colloquium at the end of the seminar.

The first class will take place on **October 22**.

### **3.3 iCAN (international, interdisciplinary, integrated Career and Academic Networking (04-038-2003))**

Module Coordinator: Prof. Crister S. Garrett

The two seminars complement each other to introduce and embed for students how American Studies relates to major trends in international career development. What skills, knowledge, and experience are employers in such diverse professional sectors as education, media, international organizations, business, government branches, cultural exchange, and journalism looking for? How do these trends impact how one pursues graduate studies, and how one begins now to prepare for the period after graduate school? Repeated international studies confirm that students should be defining and designing their graduate school objectives and strategy from the outset of their graduate program. This goal is the purpose of requiring all students in the MA American Studies program at Leipzig to enroll in iCAN.

**The module consists of a professional seminar, a praxis or applied seminar, and a tutorial**

#### **Professional Seminar**

Tuesday, 3-5 pm, GWZ 3.515  
Prof. Crister Garrett  
[www.lehrbox.de/522](http://www.lehrbox.de/522)

The seminar helps students to develop important learning and professional skills, and to strategize the integration of graduate studies with professional development. These skills include advanced study and research techniques, expert language acquisition, transcultural learning, analytical and writing skills, public speaking, debating, presentation skills, as well as team work and communication. The module addresses active career management by engaging the international career trends directly impacting American Studies, and by providing students with a forum in which to discuss and plan professional career development upon completion of their studies.

---

#### **Applied Seminar (aspeers)**

Monday/Thursday, 3-5 pm, GWZ 2.516  
Florian Bast  
lehrbox coming soon

From identifying a topic of profound academic interest to writing a Call for Papers, from corresponding with authors to gathering financial support, from reviewing others' work to suggesting modifications, from grouping articles to sections to writing an introduction – editing a scholarly publication entails a wide range of professional skills central to academia and to non-academic work settings alike.

In 2007/08, the first group of editors founded and published *aspeers*, the first and currently only graduate-level peer-reviewed journal for European American Studies, i.e. a journal that publishes the critical work of pre-PhD authors from (other) European universities.

This semester, we will work to edit the 7th issue of the journal and to refine its positioning in the market. This will include learning about different publication formats and about academic publishing

in the US and Germany in general. Most of the time and workload, however, will go into the editing process outlined above. Mostly working in project groups, the module thus provides a truly unique opportunity to acquire and improve professional skills in areas such as critical reading and writing, word processing, public relations, and communication.

The course is part of the American Studies Leipzig professionalization module (SQM) iCAN. Accordingly, participants are required to attend the module lecture as well and are expected to devote a significant amount of time and energy to the module. The expected workload for the semester is 300 hours per person. The course is open to advanced Magister students in their Hauptstudium as well. Anticipating strong interest in the course, Magister students willing to participate have to apply by sending a 500-1000 word Statement of Purpose (including their motivation and previous experience, if any) to [florian.bast@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:florian.bast@uni-leipzig.de) by October 3, 2013.

Find information on the project at [www.aspeers.com](http://www.aspeers.com).

---

### **Tutorial (Übung):**

Thursday, 9-11 am GWZ 3.515

Bethany Lerch

lehrbox coming soon

This class takes place every two weeks.

The iCAN Tutorial is meant to provide students with advanced guidance on how inter alia to write analytical essays and to prepare professional documents such as cover letters, resumes, and job applications. It will also provide students a forum in which to practice professional writing skills associated with the aspeers project (see iCAN seminar). Moreover, students will have the opportunity to discuss professional presentation skills, such as interviewing, proposal presentation, and networking.

First session will start **October 17**.

### 3.4 Transatlantic Space (04-038-2010)

Module Coordinator: Prof. Crister Garrett

The construction of the United States has been from the beginning an exercise shaped by, in the context of, and opposed to, European influences. The history and contemporary nature of the United States is impossible to understand in any meaningful way without its transatlantic context. The influences, institutions, values, and issues that compel the United States and Europe to interact, to influence each other, to compete, can be defined as the transatlantic space. The transatlantic space, even in the unfolding transpacific era, continues to be central to the American experience and its understanding.

**The module consists of two seminars (out of three)**

**Seminar: Contesting the Transatlantic Space**

Thursday, 1-3 pm, GWZ 2.516  
Prof. Crister Garrett  
[www.lehrbox.de/513](http://www.lehrbox.de/513)

The United States and Europe are of fundamental importance to each other in terms of interests, influences, and their coinciding cooperation and competition in shaping global politics. The transatlantic space – or the institutions, norms, and issues around which and with which the U.S. and Europe interact – is undergoing a dynamic phase of recalibration, or more pointedly, contestation. One overarching theme that underlines the challenges to the transatlantic space is security in its fullest sense. With the end of the cold war and in the context of 9-11 the United States and Europe are engaged in a fundamental discussion about what societies mean by security, and what priorities citizens and governments want to set for pursuing security. In this seminar the concept of security communities will play a central role. Students will have a wide space in which to explore their more focused interests in the context of security communities, including economic issues, environmental and energy issues, cultural issues, historical issues, religious issues, and of course more traditional military issues.

---

**Seminar: Atlantic Cross-Pollination**

Tuesday, 11 am–1 pm, GWZ 2.516  
Barry Laga  
lehrbox coming soon

Modernism often signals a break from the past, a rejection of values, traditions, and heritage, and Ezra Pound's plea to "make it new" echoes that iconoclastic spirit. However, this desire for innovation hides the complex relationship between new and old, original and revision, American and European. Our class will explore the roots, affiliations, and confluence among American writers, filmmakers, and artists in the first half of the twentieth-century, and we will question the aesthetic boundaries between the United States and Europe. While our primary concentration is literary, we will consider film, architecture, and the visual arts.

## **Seminar: Culture and Language: The Tradition of Transatlantic Migration and Slavery**

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

Monday, 1 pm–3 pm, GWZ 2.2.16

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*.

### 3.5 Consumption, Culture and Identity (04-038-2011)

Module Coordinator: Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez

This module focuses on the study of consumer and popular culture. The two seminars approach consumer culture from different academic perspectives, aiming to acquaint students with the respective research interests and methodologies they contribute to the exploration of consumption, culture, and identity.

#### The module consists of two seminars

##### Seminar “American Reproduction”

Wednesday, 1-3 pm, GWZ 3.515  
Dr. Katja Schmieder  
lehrbox coming soon

Since we commonly associate terms like reproduction, management, labor, or delivery with modern consumer economy, it appears all the more compelling to explore their close ties to the realm of pregnancy and childbirth. The seminar thus joins the age-old and yet current debate about the cultural construction of pregnancy and childbirth - with the woman's body as its essential discursive site. Consequently, we will trace crucial moments in American reproductive history (the Comstock laws, Roe v. Wade, etc.) while taking a decidedly interdisciplinary approach in our discussions. In order to illustrate our findings, we will analyze the textualization of such important concepts as midwifery, the eugenics movement, and, most importantly, birth control, by means of different kinds of fictional and non-fictional narratives, ranging from Storer's pamphlets to novels and short stories by Nathaniel Hawthorne, Dorothy Parker, and Aldous Huxley.

---

##### Seminar “Race, Ethnicity, and Commodification”

Thursday, 11 am-1 pm, GWZ 2.516  
Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez  
lehrbox coming soon

This course will explore the production and performance of ethnic identities as well as the commodification of race and ethnicity in the field between representational politics, economics, and consumerism. Among the issues we will discuss are ethnic stardom, the marketing and self-marketing of ethnic bodies, the changing image of particular ethnic groups in the media, as well as particular sites of ethnic performance such as Blaxploitation movies, ethnic beauty pageants, telenovelas, etc. We will trace back 19th century forms of commodification of racialized bodies and investigate the implications of demographic trends such as the “browning of America” for the production and consumption of race and ethnicity. Coursework will include attendance at the ASL conference “Selling Ethnicity and Race: Consumerism and Representation in 21st century America” in November.

The first class will take place on **October 24**.

### 3.6 Immigration, Ethnicity, and Citizenship (04-038-2012)

Module Coordinator: Prof. Crister Garrett

The United States is a country of immigration; Germany is not. Thus the standard line to contrast a basic difference between the two countries in terms of mobility and citizenship. Reality is of course considerably more complex for both countries. Human mobility and ethnic diversity stand at the center of how the United States has perceived itself from its earliest moments. The concept of citizenship, of the formal political and social contract involving rights and obligations for those born into citizenship, or granted citizenship, lies at the heart of how a country perceives its basic values, norms, institutions – in short, that for which it stands. The American story cannot be understood without a strong appreciation of how immigration and ethnicity and their importance for defining citizenship have infused the country's construction, and struggle with itself. In the debates about state, society, and citizenship, the United States and Europe have played a fundamental role in influencing each other's evolving models with which to regulate mobility, diversity, and belonging.

**The module consists of two seminars**

**Seminar: American Borderlands**

Monday, 11 am-1 pm, GWZ 2.516

Barry Laga

lehrbox coming soon

American Borderlands asks students to interrogate and theorize notions of race and ethnicity, place texts in useful historical contexts, and explore aesthetic choices. Students will read with an eye on multiculturalism, borders, American identity, hyphenation, and creolization, and they will consider key questions: How do writers use and revise pre-existing cultural narratives? How do ethnic narratives address in form and content issues of ethnicity, nationality, gender, education, and social class? How do different historical contexts shape ethnic texts? How do ethnic writers resolve or negotiate identity conflicts? How do these narratives differ in terms of ethnicity, nationality, gender, social class, religion, etc.?

---

**Seminar: New Revolutions: Contemporary Cuban-American Narratives in U.S. Latino Literature**

Tuesday, 1-4 pm, GWZ 2.516

Jennine Capó Crucet (Picador-Guestprofessor)

last session on January 7th, 2014

The Cuban Revolution of 1959 led to an exodus of Cubans to the United States—one that continues today and which makes Cubans the third largest Hispanic-origin group in the US. In this introduction to contemporary Cuban-American literature, we will examine narratives by writers of Cuban origin who have, to differing degrees, come to call the United States home. Analyses will largely center on the use of voice, setting, and the intersectionalities between ethnic identity and race, gender, sexuality, and class. We will also read for technique in order to discern what made several of these books wildly successful in American letters (several have won some of the country's most prestigious literary prizes). Questions to be addressed include: What sort of legacy does Cuba's communist

revolution have in these works, and how has that legacy evolved over the last several decades? In what ways has limited access to the island—just ninety miles off the coast of the United States—shaped the trajectory of Cuban-American literature? How do these narratives contribute to the broader classification of “Latino Literature” in the United States and in what ways are they expanding, redefining, or possibly rejecting that label? Students will be responsible for: close readings of each of the chosen works; participating in critical discussions of technique and structure; and responding to the texts via both critical and creative essays.

Students are expected to purchase the following books:

*The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love*, Oscar Hijuelos

[UPDATE: THE NECESSARY EXCERPTS FROM THIS BOOK WILL BE AVAILABLE IN A READER AT WDK]

*Dreaming in Cuban*, Cristina Garcia

*Memory Mambo*, Achy Obejas

*Waiting for Snow in Havana*, Carlos Eire

*Loosing My Spanish*, H.G. Carrillo

The seminar is part of the MA Module “Immigration, Ethnicity, and Citizenship.” It is also open to advanced Magister students. Please note that the rules for using Picadorscheins apply for this course. Get in touch with your students advisors if you have any questions.

The books have been ordered at the Connewitzer Verlagsbuchhandlung.

### 3.7 iDEWEY (international, interdisciplinary, integrated Dewey Principle)

Module Coordinator: Crister Garrett

The module reflects the American philosopher John Dewey and a cornerstone of his philosophy of pragmatism involving “learning by doing.” The “i” before his name is meant to reflect individual approaches to American Studies and the three cornerstones of the American Studies Leipzig approach to the field: interdisciplinary, international, and integrative learning and scholarship.

In this spirit, the module provides a platform for graduate students to hone their professional skills in a project that combines their knowledge expertise with their international career skills such as (academic) tutoring, crosscultural communication, team management, leadership skills, project implementation, fundraising, and marketing.

**The module consists of one seminar and one tutorial**

#### **Seminar**

Wednesday, 3-5 pm, GWZ 3.515  
Prof. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramírez  
lehrbox coming soon

The praxis seminar provides a space where students and faculty help conceptualize a conference, plan its implementation, and then carry out the international student conference. The role of the instructor is rather as a consultant, with students being encouraged to assume a leadership role.

First session on Wednesday October 23.

---

#### **Tutorial (Übung):**

Thursday, 9-11 am GWZ 3.515  
Bethany Lerch  
lehrbox coming soon

This class takes place every two weeks.

The iDEWEY tutorial is meant to provide students a learning environment in which they can have the various components of the conference project – conference proposal, call for papers, funding applications, correspondence with participants, planning documents, conference documents – evaluated and edited by the tutorial supervisor. In this sense the tutorial is meant to provide students with hands-on practice and feedback with which to improve concrete, essential professional skills.

First session will start **October 24**. The first session will take place in GWZ 3.515.

## 4 Other Courses

### 4.1 Kolloquium für DoktorandInnen

Date and room t.b.a.  
Prof. Anne Koenen

For further information, please contact Prof. Koenen (koenen@uni-leipzig.de) personally.

---

### 4.2 Doctoral Colloquium: International Politics and Policy

Wednesday, 5-7 pm, 3.515  
Prof. Crister Garrett

This doctoral colloquium will explore contemporary dynamics in international politics and policy with a focus on the United States. Theoretical readings will center on how policy choices emerge and decision-making is shaped. Case studies will be taken from the disciplines of history, sociology, anthropology, public policy, and international relations.

To Join the Colloquium:

Students can join the colloquium either by invitation or via an application. The application involves a consultation with Prof. Garrett first to explore the nature of the interest in the colloquium. He can be reached at crister.garrett@uni-leipzig.de.

---

### 4.3 Picador Seminars

Picador Professor Jennine Capó Crucet will be teaching the following seminars in the upcoming WS 2013/2014.

**The following two seminars will be taught by Picador Professor Jennine Capó Crucet**

**New Revolutions: Contemporary Cuban-American Narratives in U.S. Latino Literature**

Tuesday, 1-4 pm, GWZ 2 5.16  
last session on January 7th, 2014

The Cuban Revolution of 1959 led to an exodus of Cubans to the United States—one that continues today and which makes Cubans the third largest Hispanic-origin group in the US. In this introduction to contemporary Cuban-American literature, we will examine narratives by writers of Cuban origin who have, to differing degrees, come to call the United States home. Analyses will largely center on the use of voice, setting, and the intersectionalities between ethnic identity and race, gender, sexuality, and class. We will also read for technique in order to discern what made several of these books wildly successful in American letters (several have won some of the country's most prestigious literary prizes). Questions to be addressed include: What sort of legacy does Cuba's communist revolution have in these works, and how has that legacy evolved over the last several decades? In what ways has limited access to the island—just ninety miles off the coast of the United States—shaped the trajectory of Cuban-American literature? How do these narratives contribute to the broader

classification of “Latino Literature” in the United States and in what ways are they expanding, redefining, or possibly rejecting that label? Students will be responsible for: close readings of each of the chosen works; participating in critical discussions of technique and structure; and responding to the texts via both critical and creative essays.

Students are expected to purchase the following books:

*The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love*, Oscar Hijuelos

*Dreaming in Cuban*, Cristina Garcia

*Memory Mambo*, Achy Obejas

*Waiting for Snow in Havana*, Carlos Eire

*Loosing My Spanish*, H.G. Carrillo

The seminar is part of the MA Module “Immigration, Ethnicity, and Citizenship.” It is also open to advanced Magister students. Please note that the rules for using Picadorscheins apply for this course. Get in touch with your students advisors if you have any questions.

The books have been ordered at the Connewitzer Verlagsbuchhandlung

---

### **Workshop in Fiction: Writing the Literary Short Story**

Wednesday, 11 am to 1 pm, GWZ 2 5.16  
last session on January 8th, 2014

This workshop course will begin in a generative mode, where students will both complete creative exercises that mine their personal histories (and their imaginations) for material and also hone the individual aspects of the craft of fiction writing (such as characterization, setting, dialogue, plot, etc.). We will also practice close reading for technique and learn to read as writers, examining and then emulating established writers known for their spectacular sentences and paragraphs. The course will then transition into a more traditional story workshop, where we will discuss and critique stories submitted by student writers, all in the effort of improving both these stories and your skills as a critic and editor. Time permitting, each student will have the opportunity to have two stories of up to 25 pages put up for an intensive workshop; detailed critique guidelines will be provided and reviewed prior to anyone’s work being discussed. Come ready to challenge yourself and your voice on the page, and be prepared to work hard with and for your fellow classmates. Dreamers and risk-takers welcome (and encouraged).

Students are expected to purchase the following books:

*Reading Like a Writer*, Francine Prose

*Telling Stories*, edited by Joyce Carol Oates

All students are welcome, but the number of spots is limited. Magisterstudents, please note that the rules for using Picadorscheins apply for this course. Get in touch with your students advisors if you have any questions.

The books have been ordered at the Connewitzer Verlagsbuchhandlung

You can apply for this class via email.