



Oral State Exam in American Literature and Culture

If you choose to do your state exam in American Literature and Culture, you will first be assigned examiners (by the LaSuB) from the American Studies faculty (for more information on these procedures, please also see the [website of the Institut für Anglistik](#)). You will then determine the topics for the exam with the respective faculty members during their [office hours](#).

In American Studies, topics for the exam need to cover

- two individual and distinct topics for each literary studies and cultural history, with these two areas also being without significant overlap. In total, you will thus be examined on **four independent topics**.
If you are unsure whether topics are sufficiently free of overlap, please address this question during the consultation.
- **five texts for each of these topics**. For cultural history, please prepare five academic texts. For literary studies, please pick five pieces of long-form / novel-length literary writing. Should you wish to be examined on shorter texts such as short stories or poems, you will need to adapt the number accordingly.

All other requirements will be discussed during the consultations. As an exam candidate, it is your responsibility to arrange for a consultation early enough to make necessary modifications to your plans and to study the final set of texts in preparation for the exam.

The following American Studies Leipzig faculty are available for exams on the following types of topics:

Literary Studies:

- Prof. Dr. Katja Kanzler (Periods of American literature, genres, authors, and theory-oriented approaches to American literature)
- Prof. Dr. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramirez (Periods of American literature, genres, authors, with a focus on minority literatures in the US)

Cultural History:

- Prof. Dr. Olaf Stieglitz (History of the USA, with a focus on social and cultural history; contemporary political, social, and cultural debates)
- Prof. Dr. Gabriele Pizarz-Ramirez (History and culture of minorities, immigration, categories of difference)

For more information, please see the [individual faculty members' personal pages](#).