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Professor of American Studies
Institute of English and American Studies
Goethe-University Frankfurt
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Education

Habilitation	Goethe-University Frankfurt, 2015
Dr. phil.	Free University of Berlin, North American Studies, 2008 (summa cum laude)
Magister Artium	Free University of Berlin, North American Studies / Philosophy / Political Science, 2003
M.A. Intermediate Exams	Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, American Cultural History / American Literature / Political Science, 2000

Academic Positions

Professor of American Studies, Goethe-University Frankfurt, 2022–
Heisenberg-Professor of American Studies, Democracy and Aesthetics, Goethe-University
Frankfurt, 2016–2022
Akademischer Rat a. Z., Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe-University
Frankfurt, 2008–2016
Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter, John F. Kennedy-Institute for North American Studies, Free
University of Berlin, 2003–2008

Offices

Speaker, DFG Graduate Research Training Group (Graduiertenkolleg) 3113 “Aesthetics of
Democracy,” 2026–
Board Member, Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg (Center for
Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Goethe-University Frankfurt), 2018–
Founder and Co-Director, “Democratic Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World,” Research
focus at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg
Co-Founder, John McCloy Transatlantic Forum (public outreach platform of “Democratic
Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World”), Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften
Bad Homburg, 2022–
Co-Editor, *Demokratische Horizonte/Democratic Vistas*, book series, transcript Verlag, 2024–
Editorial Board, *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*, 2021–
Editorial Board, *REAL: Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature*, 2021–
Advisory Board, *European Journal of American Studies*, 2021–

International Research and Teaching

Harris Guest Professor, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, Summer 2026
Fellow, Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM) / Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna, March–June 2022
Visiting Scholar, Pacific School of Religion, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, March 1–April 7, 2016
Visiting Scholar, Pacific School of Religion, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, February 20–March 31, 2015
Visiting Scholar, Stanford University, Comparative Literature, October 2012–September 2014
Visiting Fellow, Harvard University, English Department, September 2006–August 2007
Erasmus Guest Professor, Università di Torino, Dip. di Scienze del Linguaggio e Letterature Moderne e Compare, March 2006
Exchange Student, University of California, Berkeley, August 1999–June 2000

Fellowships, Grants, and Third-Party Funded Research

Mercator Fellow, DFG-Graduiertenkolleg 2806 “Literatur und Öffentlichkeit in differenten Gegenwartskulturen,” FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, October 2024
Fellowship, Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University Duisburg-Essen (Senior Research Fellow), September 2022–August 2023
Fellowship, Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM) / Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna, March–June 2022
Principal Investigator, “ConTrust: Vertrauen im Konflikt – Politisches Zusammenleben unter Bedingungen der Ungewissheit” (2021–2025; start date: 2021; funded by Ministry of Education, State of Hesse
Renewal of DFG-Heisenberg-Professorship for American Studies, Democracy, and Aesthetics, Goethe-University Frankfurt (start date: October 2019)
Renewal of DFG research grant (“Sachbeihilfe”) “American Literature and the Transformation of Privacy” (start date: October 2019)
DFG conference grant “The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies,” November 2018
DGfA/US Embassy conference grant “The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies,” November 2018
Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (Friends and Supporters of Goethe-University Frankfurt) conference grant “The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies,” November 2018
DFG-Heisenberg-Professorship for American Studies, Democracy, and Aesthetics, Goethe-University Frankfurt (start date: October 2016)
DFG research grant (“Sachbeihilfe”) “American Literature and the Transformation of Privacy” (start date: October 2016)
Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (Friends and Supporters of Goethe-University Frankfurt), Travel Grant, Berkeley, 2016
Nominee for 2016 Heinz-Maier-Leibnitz-Award, awarded by the DFG
Goethe-University Frankfurt, Faculty of Modern Languages, Postdoc Development Grant (partial teaching buyout), Spring 2015
Goethe-University Frankfurt Research Project Development Grant “Nachwuchswissenschaftler/innen im Fokus,” 2014
Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation, Feodor-Lynen Postdoc Fellowship (24 months), Stanford University, 2012–14

DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), Postdoc Fellowship (24 months), Stanford University, 2012–14 (declined)
Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (Friends and Supporters of Goethe-University Frankfurt), Travel Grant, 2012
DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), Travel Grant, 2010
Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (Friends and Supporters of Goethe-University Frankfurt), Travel Grant, 2010
DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), Dissertation Research Fellowship (12 months), Harvard University, 2006–07
DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Fellowship for Study Abroad (10 months), University of California, Berkeley, 1999–200

Editorial Offices

Member of Editorial Board, *American Literary History* (since 2024)
Book series founding editor, “Democratic Vistas/Demokratische Horizonte,” Transcript Verlag, with Gunther Hellmann (since 2024)
Member of Editorial Board, *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung* (since 2021)
Member of Editorial Board, *REAL: Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature* (since 2021)
Member of Advisory Board, *European Journal of American Studies* (EJAS) (since 2021)

Publications

Monographs

The Poetics of Insecurity: American Fiction and the Uses of Threat. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018.
(reviewed in *The Review of English Studies* 70.294 (2019), *Novel: A Forum of Fiction* 52.3 (2019), *American Literary History Online Reviews* (2019), *American Literature* 92.1 (2020), *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 64.1 (2019), *American Literary Scholarship* 2018.1 (2020), *European Journal of American Studies* (forthcoming))
Transcendental Resistance: The New Americanists and Emerson’s Challenge. Hanover: University Press of New England, 2010.
(reviewed in *Studies in Romanticism* 51 (2013), *European Journal of American Studies* (1–2013), *Emerson Society Papers* (Spring 2012), *American Literary Scholarship* (2012), *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 57.3 (2012), *American Nineteenth Century History* 13.3 (2012), *New England Quarterly* 84.3 (2011), *Choice* (August 2011), *Church History* 80.2 (2011))

Edited Books and Special Issues

Horizonte der Demokratie: Offene Lebensformen nach Walt Whitman. Ed. Till van Rahden and Johannes Voelz. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2024.
Ästhetik der Demokratie. Themed section of *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*. Ed. Johannes Voelz. 01–2024.

- Dialogues with Winfried Fluck: Essays and Responses on American Studies*. Issue of *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)*. Ed. Laura Bieger and Johannes Voelz. Vol. 38 (2023). Tübingen: Narr, 2024.
- W.E.B. Du Bois: Der Klassiker zwischen den Disziplinen*. Themed section of *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*. Ed. Axel Honneth and Johannes Voelz. 01–2023.
- Autofiktion und die Poetik der Singularisierung*. Themed section of *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*. Ed. Johannes Voelz. 01–2022.
- How to Read the Literary Market*. Special issue of *Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik (ZAA)*. Ed. Dustin Breitenwischer, Philipp Löffler, Johannes Voelz. 69.1 (April 2021).
- The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies*. Issue of *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)*. Ed. Winfried Fluck, Rieke Jordan, Johannes Voelz. 35 (2019). Tübingen: Gunter Narr, 2020.
- Chance, Risk, Security: Approaches to Uncertainty in American Literature*. Special issue of *Amerikastudien/American Studies*. Ed. Johannes Voelz. 60.4 (2015).
- Security and Liberalism*. Special issue of *Telos*. Ed. Johannes Voelz. Number 170 (Spring 2015).
- The Imaginary and Its Worlds: American Literature after the Transnational Turn*. Ed. Laura Bieger, Ramon Saldivar, Johannes Voelz. Hanover: University Press of New England, 2013.
(reviewed in *American Literary History* 26.3 (2014), *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 61.2 (2016))
- Civilizing and Decivilizing Processes: Figurational Approaches to American Culture*. Ed. Christa Buschendorf, Astrid Franke, Johannes Voelz. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011.
- Winfried Fluck. *Romance with America? Essays on American Culture, Literature, and American Studies*. Ed. Laura Bieger and Johannes Voelz. Heidelberg: Winter, 2009.
(reviewed in *Amerikastudien/American Studies*, *European Journal of American Studies* 57.3 (2012))

Journal Articles

- “Compromise and Surrender, with Kenneth Burke and Winfried Fluck: On ‘Literature as Symbolic Action’.” *Amerikastudien / American Studies* 70.4 (2025): 659–66.
- „Enthemmte Informalisierung: Talk Radio, Bro-Podcasts und die Ästhetik des Populismus.“ *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*, 22. 2 (2025): 3–24. DOI 10.5771/1860-2177-2025-2-3
- “Stichwort: Ästhetik der Demokratie. Einleitung.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*, 01–2024: 61-64.
- “Aesthetics and Affects of Recognition.” *Dialogues with Winfried Fluck: Essays and Responses on American Studies*. Issue of *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)*. Ed. Laura Bieger and Johannes Voelz. Vol. 38 (2023). Tübingen: Narr, 2024: 319-332.
- (with Laura Bieger). “Preface.” *Dialogues with Winfried Fluck: Essays and Responses on American Studies*. Issue of *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)*. Ed. Laura Bieger and Johannes Voelz. Vol. 38 (2023). Tübingen: Narr, 2024: 7-8.
- “Autofiktion und der Strukturwandel des Privaten.” *Deutsche Vierteljahresschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Geistesgeschichte (DVjs)* 2023: 927-939. (Special Issue: “Gegenwartsliteratur als Herausforderung des Literarischen”).

- “Mary McCarthy and the Genealogy of Progressive Liberalism.” *New American Studies Journal: A Forum*. Issue 74 (September 2023): 1–9.
<https://nasjournal.org/NASJ/article/view/1382>
- (with Axel Honneth). “Stichwort: W.E.B. Du Bois. Der Klassiker zwischen den Disziplinen. Einleitung.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*, 01–2023: 91–93.
- “Editorische Vorbemerkung zu W.E.B. Du Bois, ‘Die Seelen der Weißen’.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*, 01–2023: 203–204.
- “‘Locker Room Nation’: Die zwei Gesichter der Informalisierung.” *Mittelweg 36: Zeitschrift des Hamburger Instituts für Sozialforschung*. Themed Issue, “Starke Männer”, ed. Ulrich Bröckling, Nicola Spakowski, Dorna Safaian. Heft 3–4 (2023): 120–134.
- “Histories of the Unsayable: Reinhart Koselleck’s Aesthetic Anthropology.” *American Literary History* 34.4 (2022): 1456–1476.
- “The Post-Liberal Aesthetic; or, How Can Literary Criticism Help Unsettle America’s Polarization?” *American Literary History* 34.1 (2022): 354–368.
- “Stichwort: Autofiktion und die Poetik der Singularisierung. Einleitung.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*, 01–2022: 75–82.
- “Affektlagen der Singularisierung: Tao Lin am Rande der Erschöpfung.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung*, 01–2022: 99–111. (Special issue: *Autofiktion und die Poetik der Singularisierung*, ed. Johannes Voelz).
- “Verletzte Formen, Formen der Verletzung: Zur Ästhetik des Populismus.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung* 01–2021: 141–151. (Special issue: *Destruktivität und Regression im Rechtspopulismus*, ed. Vera King and Ferdinand Sutterlüty).
- (with Dustin Breitenwischer and Philipp Loeffler). “How to Read the Literary Market: An Introduction.” *Zeitschrift für Anglistik und Amerikanistik (ZAA)* 69.1 (2021): 3–8.
- (with Tom Freischläger). “Toward an Aesthetics of Populism, Part II: The Aesthetics of Polarization.” *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)* 35 (2019): 261–286.
- “The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies: Introduction.” *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)* 35 (2019): 1–10.
- “Toward an Aesthetics of Populism, Part I: The Populist Space of Appearance.” *Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature (REAL)* 34 (2018): 203–228.
- translation into German as: “Zu einer Ästhetik des Populismus. Teil I: Der populistische Erscheinungsraum” (Trans. Bernhard Stricker). *The Great Disruptor: Über Trump, die Medien und die Politik der Herabsetzung*. Ed. Lars Koch, Tobias Nanz, Christina Rogers. Stuttgart: J.B. Metzler, 2020. 187–214.
 Open Access: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-476-04976-6>
- “Looking Hip on the Square: Jazz, Cover Art, and the Rise of Creativity.” *European Journal of American Studies* 12.4 (2017): n.p. (Special issue: *Sound and Vision: Intermediality and American Music*, ed. Frank Mehring and Erik Redling).
<https://journals.openedition.org/ejas/12389>
- “Transnationalism and Anti-Globalism.” *College Literature* 44.4 (Fall 2017): 521–526.
- “Aestheticizing Insecurity: Response to *Security Studies and American Literary History*” (special issue of *American Literary History* 28.4, ed. David Watson [Winter 2016]).” *American Literary History* 29.3 (Fall 2017): 615–624.
- “Wendungen des Neids: Tocqueville und Emerson zum Paradox einer demokratischen Leidenschaft.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung* 01–2017: 141–154.
- “Der Wert des Privaten und die Literatur der ‘Neuen Aufrichtigkeit’.” *WestEnd: Neue Zeitschrift für Sozialforschung* 01–2016: 145–155.
- “In the Future, Toward Death: Finance Capitalism and Security in DeLillo’s *Cosmopolis*.” *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 60.4 (2016): 505–526. (Special issue: *Chance, Risk, Security: Approaches to Uncertainty in American Literature*, ed. Johannes Voelz).

- revised reprint as: “In the Future, Toward Death: Finance Capitalism and Security in DeLillo’s *Cosmopolis*.” *Finance and Society* 4.1 (2018): 60–75. (Special issue: *Financial Times*, ed. Christian Kloeckner and Stefanie Mueller).
<http://financeandsociety.ed.ac.uk/article/view/2741>
- Introduction. *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 60.4 (2016): 385–402. (Special issue: *Chance, Risk, Security: Approaches to Uncertainty in American Literature*, ed. Johannes Voelz).
- “The Aspiration for Impossible Security: Revisiting Liberal Political Thought.” *Telos* 170 (Spring 2015): 23–45. (Special issue: *Security and Liberalism*, ed. Johannes Voelz). (with Russell Berman) Introduction. *Telos* 170 (Spring 2015): 3–6. (Special issue: *Security and Liberalism*, ed. Johannes Voelz).
- “Cold War Liberalism and the Problem of Security.” *REAL: Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature* 30 (2014): 255–281. (Special issue: *Towards a Post-Exceptionalist American Studies*, ed. Winfried Fluck and Donald E. Pease).
- “Emerson’s Dual Economy of Recognition.” *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 57.4 (2012): 453–480.
- “The Future’s Epic Now: The Time of Security and Risk in Don DeLillo’s *Cosmopolis*.” *Reconstruction: Studies in Contemporary Culture* 12.3 (December 2012). (Special issue: *(In)Securities*).
- “Alienation Revisited.” *American Literary History* 24.3 (Fall 2012): 618–630.
- “A Matter of Style: Charlie Parker and Jack Kerouac between Coolness and Ecstasy.” *International Journal of Motorcycle Studies* 6.1 (Spring 2010). (Special issue: *Motorcycle – Beschleunigung und Rebellion?*).
- “Emerson and the Sociality of Inspiration.” *Religion & Literature* 41.1 (Spring 2009): 83–109.
- “Emerson, Representation, and the New Americanists.” *Comparative American Studies* 6.1 (Spring 2008): 37–54.
- “The Index and Its Vicissitudes: Hyperrealism from Richard Estes to Andreas Gursky.” *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 52.1 (Spring 2007): 81–102.
- “Transnationalism and the Realignment of State Power: Two Sides of One Coin.” *RIAS: Review of International American Studies* 2.3 (September 2007): 21–24.
- “Improvisation, Correlation, and Vibration: An Interview with Steve Coleman.” *CSI: Critical Studies in Improvisation* 2.1 (December 2006).
- “Ein Buch ist kein Händedruck: Nachbetrachtungen zu Bill Clintons *Mein Leben*.” *Ästhetik und Kommunikation* 127 (Winter 2004): 107–117.
- “Meaningful Freedom and the Freedom of Meaning: Free Jazz and the Political.” *PhiN: Philologie im Netz* 20 (2002): 34–39.

Book Chapters

- “Democracy.” *The New Cambridge Companion to Ralph Waldo Emerson*. Ed. Michael Jonik. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2025 (forthcoming).
 (with Till van Rahden). “Horizonte der Demokratie: Eine Einleitung.” *Horizonte der Demokratie: Offene Lebensformen nach Walt Whitman*. Bielefeld: transcript, 2024. 7–26.
- “Progressive Liberalism.” *The Cambridge Companion to the Twentieth-Century American Novel and Politics*. Ed. Bryan Santin. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2023. 19–32.
- “The Liberal Imagination Revisited: Saul Bellow, Ralph Ellison, and the Crisis of Democracy.” *The Oxford Handbook of Twentieth-Century American Literature*. Ed.

- Leslie Bow and Russ Castronovo. New York: Oxford University Press, 2022. 337–355.
- “Polarization and the Limits of Empathy: On Arlie Russell Hochschild’s *Strangers in Their Own Land* (2016).” *Culture²: Theorizing Theory for the Twenty-First Century*. Ed. Frank Kelleter and Alexander Starre. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2022. 229–247.
- “Reading Populism with Bourdieu and Elias.” *Reading the Social in American Studies*. Ed. Astrid Franke, Stefanie Müller, Katja Sarkowsky. New York: Palgrave, 2022. 233–258.
- “Security Theory.” *The City in American Literature*. Ed. Kevin McNamara. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2021. 293–311.
- “Transnational Dimensions of Romanticism.” *Handbook of American Romanticism*. Ed. Philipp Löffler, Clemens Spahr, Jan Stievermann. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2021. 55–80.
- “Notes Toward Thoreau’s Posthuman Democracy.” *An Eclectic Bestiary: Encounters in a More-Than-Human World*. Ed. Babette Tischleder and Birgit Spengler. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2019. 181–194.
- “The American Novel and the Transformation of Privacy: Ben Lerner’s *10:04* (2014) and Miranda July’s *The First Bad Man* (2015).” *The American Novel in the 21st Century: Cultural Contexts—Literary Developments—Critical Analyses*. Ed. Michael Basseler and Ansgar Nünning. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2019. 323–337.
- “Transvaluations of Security.” *Projecting American Studies: Essays on Theory, Method, and Practice*. Ed. Frank Kelleter and Alexander Starre. Heidelberg: Winter, 2018. 247–257.
- “Transnationalism and Nineteenth Century Literature.” *The Cambridge Companion to Transnational American Literature*. Ed. Yogita Goyal. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017. 91–106.
- “The Uses of Emerson: Transcendentalism, Transnationalism, and the New Americanists.” (revised rpt. of chapter 5 of *Transcendental Resistance: The New Americanists and Emerson’s Challenge*.) *Reading the Canon*. Ed. Philipp Löffler. Heidelberg: Winter, 2017. 115–150.
- “The New Sincerity as Literary Hospitality.” *Security and Hospitality in Literature and Culture: Modern and Contemporary Perspectives*. Ed. Jeffrey Clapp and Emily Ridge. New York: Routledge, 2015. 209–226.
- “The Recognition of Emerson’s Impersonal: Reading Alternatives in Sharon Cameron.” *American Impersonal: Essays with Sharon Cameron*. Ed. Branka Arsić. New York: Bloomsbury, 2014. 73–98.
- (with Laura Bieger and Ramón Saldívar). “The Imaginary and Its Worlds: An Introduction.” *The Imaginary and Its Worlds: American Studies After the Transnational Turn*. Ed. Laura Bieger, Ramón Saldívar, and Johannes Voelz. Hanover: University Press of New England, 2013. vii–xxviii.
- “The Market of Inspiration: Emerson on the Lyceum Stage.” *American Economies*. Ed. Eva Boesenberg, Reinhard Isensee, Martin Klepper. Heidelberg: Winter, 2012. 327–348.
- “Utopias of Transnationalism and the Neoliberal State.” *Reframing the Transnational Turn in American Studies*. Ed. Winfried Fluck, Donald E. Pease, John Carlos Rowe. Hanover: University Press of New England, 2011. 356–373.
- “Regeneration and Barbarity: *Dred* and the Violence of the Civilizing Process.” *Civilizing and Decivilizing Processes: Figurational Approaches to American Culture*. Ed. Christa Buschendorf, Astrid Franke, Johannes Voelz. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011. 123–148.
- (with Christa Buschendorf and Astrid Franke). Introduction. *Civilizing and Decivilizing Processes: Figurational Approaches to American Culture*. Ed. Christa Buschendorf,

Astrid Franke, Johannes Voelz. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011. 1–16.

“Blues and the Abstract Truth’: Or, Did Romare Bearden Really Paint Jazz?” *The Hearing Eye: Jazz and Blues Influences in African-American Visual Art*. Ed. Graham Lock and David Murray. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. 194–215.

“The Most Indebted Man’: The Reconfiguration of Conformity and Non-Conformity in Emerson’s Representative Men.” *Conformism, Non-Conformism and Anti-Conformism in American Culture*. Ed. Antonis Balasopoulos, Gesa Mackenthun, Dora Tsimpouki. Heidelberg: Winter, 2008. 101–117.

Reviews

Review of Douglas Dowland, *We, Us, and Them: Affect and American Nonfiction from Vietnam to Trump* (University of Virginia Press, 2024). *American Literary History* 37.4 (Winter 2025): 1202–1205.

Review of Andrew Gross, *The Pound Reaction: Liberalism and Lyricism in Midcentury American Literature* (Heidelberg: Winter, 2016). *Anglia* 136.4 (2018): 768–771.

Review of Dieter Schulz, *Emerson and Thoreau, or Steps Beyond Ourselves* (Heidelberg: Mattes, 2012). *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 59.4 (2014).

Review of *Thoreauvian Modernities: Transatlantic Conversations of an American Icon*. Ed. François Specq, Laura Dassow Walls, and Michel Granger (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2013). *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 59.2 (2014).

Review of Michael Boyden, *Predicting the Past: The Paradoxes of American Literary History* (Leuven: Leuven University Press, 2009). *Comparative American Studies* 12.3 (2014): 239–242.

Review of Sarika Chandra, *Dislocalism: The Crisis of Globalization and the Remobilizing of Americanism* (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2011). *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 59.1 (2014).

Essays in Publications for General Audience (selection)

„Radikalisierte(r) Mainstream: Warum vielen Amerikanern Trumps Politik vernünftig erscheint.“ *Spiegel Online*, March 11, 2025.
<https://www.spiegel.de/kultur/donald-trump-und-die-us-medien-wie-der-mainstream-sich-radikalisiert-a-f1d156aa-afff-4cc0-98b6-7f1fa2c37cde>

(with Pierre Ostiguy): „Die Wahl der Drei Klassen: Trumps Triumph markiert den Sieg der Geld- über die Bildungselite.“ *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, December 13, 2024. Feuilleton, p. 11.

„Die Moral des Monopols: Donald Trump soll ihnen die Tür zum Weißen Haus öffnen: Was J. D. Vance, Peter Thiel und die Neue Rechte mit Amerika vorhaben.“ *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, November 2, 2024. Feuilleton, p. 11.

“Locker Room Talk’: Die Sprache der Informalisierung.” *IWMpost* 129 (Spring/Summer 2022): 14.
<https://www.iwm.at/publication/iwmpost-article/locker-room-talk-die-sprache-der-informalisierung>

“Das Zeitalter der Hyperpolitisierung.” *Zeit Online*. November 5, 2020.
<https://www.zeit.de/kultur/2020-11/demokratie-usa-donald-trump-stephen-colbert-politisierung-unterhaltung>

“Kultur der Sicherheit lässt die Sorge sprießen.” *Forschung Frankfurt*. December 2018: 75–79.

Reprint in *Universitas* 1/2019.

“Rausch der Polarisierung.” *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. November 5, 2018: 15.

“Die bedrohliche Welt steckt voller Möglichkeiten: Literatur erklärt Politik: Warum sich die Amerikaner so tiefgreifend um die eigene Sicherheit sorgen.” *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. April 5, 2016: 11.

2000–2009: more than 250 articles on music, literature, and film in *Der Tagesspiegel* (Berlin), *Süddeutsche Zeitung online*, *Münchner Abendzeitung*, *Jazzthing*, *Jazz Podium*, etc.

Media Appearances (selection)

"Mitleid als Schwäche? Amerikas Kulturwandel im Gespräch"

Conversation with Prof. Johannes Völz, among others at Haus am Dom, December 1, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/live/S5-UF2mmV0s>

"The State of Democracy in the United States". Interview on public radio with Prof. Johannes Völz, hr Info, "Aktuell". September 29, 2025.

"Freedom of Speech under Trump". Interview on public radio with Prof. Johannes Völz, hr Info, "Aktuell". September 20, 2025.

"Können Universitäten die Demokratie retten?"

Panel discussion at Herrenhäuser Forum in Hanover, September 10, 2025.

https://www.youtube.com/live/p4Vmh37jKyw?si=bAsNgL_Ipel08gRp

"Wie Trump die US-Medienlandschaft um- und abbaut." Interview on public radio with Prof. Johannes Völz on Trump and US media. hr Info, "Aktuell". July 25, 2025.

"Wie die Demokratie im Leben verankert ist: Zum neuen Graduiertenkolleg 'Ästhetik der Demokratie'". Prof. Johannes Völz in conversation on the new Research Training Group "Aesthetics of Democracy." UniReport, July 17, 2025.

Commentator at public presentation of the Friedensgutachten 2025 im Haus am Dom. Haus am Dom, Frankfurt, June 12, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1TcDajjSD9c>

Martin Ochsmann, „Vom dekadenten Playboy zum umjubelten Messias.“ On Johannes Voelz’s appearance at Wissenschaft im Dialog, April 30, 2025. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, May 2, 2025, p. 37.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Public Interview, Series „Wissenschaft im Dialog.“ Event title: „Wie die religiöse Rechte in den USA Politik macht“. Evangelische Akademie Frankfurt, April 30, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QDywjrdQUU>

Public Panel Discussion, „100 Tage Donald Trump,“ Haus am Dom, Frankfurt, April 28, 2025. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wOKoCE8U_gk

„Nach dem Signal-Gate – Wie gehen US-Medien mit Trump & Co. um?“ Interview with Johannes Völz on Deutschlandfunk, Public radio, March 26, 2025.

„Und jetzt? Die gespaltenen Staaten von Amerika“: Interview on the election of Trump. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” November 6, 2024.

“Die USA vor der Wahl: Welchen Einfluss haben rechte Christen auf Trump?” Podium discussion on right-wing evangelicalism in the United States, with Prof. Christian Lammert, Dr. Maren Freudenberg, and Prof. Johannes Völz at Haus am Dom in Frankfurt, October 8, 2024. Podcast version on public radio station HR2 Kultur: <https://www.hr2.de/podcasts/camino/trump-und-die-evangelikalen-wie-aus-frommen-christen-eine-radikale-politische-bewegung-wurde,podcast-episode-135532.html>

Full coverage of the podium discussion is available on the Youtube channel of Haus am Dom:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LyCmQbLadCw>

- “Kamala Harris und der US-Wahlkampf.” Interview on Kamala Harris and the US elections, Cosmo Radio (syndicated on public radio stations Radio Bremen, WDR, RBB), July 27, 2024.
- “Das Attentat auf Trump und die Evangelikalen.” Interview on the upcoming Presidential Elections. Public radio station, Norddeutscher Rundfunk Info, July 16, 2024
- Deutschlandfunk Nova, “Hörsaal”: Johannes Voelz’s lecture “Evangelikalismus in den USA: Lebensformen zwischen Demokratie und Autoritarismus,” broadcast by Deutschlandfunk Nova on April 5, 2024. Lecture delivered in the »Democratic Vistas Lecture Series« at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, December 5, 2023. <https://www.deutschlandfunknova.de/beitrag/evangelikalismus-in-den-usa-religion-verschmilzt-mit-politik>
- Ludwig, Astrid. “Sie halten Trump für den Messias’: Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz erforscht die Einstellungen evangelikaler Christen in den USA.” *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, February 13, 2024. [feature about Johannes Voelz’ research on American evangelicals]
- “Rechter Evangelikalismus in den USA – Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” Interview on rightwing evangelicals and the Presidential elections. Public radio station Deutschlandfunk, Information und Musik. 17. December 2023 <https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/rechter-evangelikalismus-in-den-usa-johannes-voelz-amerikanist-dlf-ab8760b9-100.html>
- Podcast “RevDem: The Review of Democracy.” Central European University, Democracy Institute. “The Greatest Hits – Populist Edition: In Conversation with Johannes Voelz.” Posted March 20, 2023. <https://revdem.ceu.edu/2023/03/20/the-greatest-hits-populist-edition-in-conversation-with-johannes-voelz/>
- “Johannes Voelz, Professor of American Studies, on the Midterm Elections in the United States.” Interview. Web-Magazine, Goethe-University Frankfurt. November 15, 2022. <https://aktuelles.uni-frankfurt.de/en/news-in-brief/10ot he10s-voelz-professor-of-american-studies-on-the-midterm-elections-in-the-united-states/>
- “Fragen an den Amerikanisten Johannes Völz zu den Midterms-Wahlen in den USA.” Interview. Web-Magazine, Goethe-University Frankfurt. November 14, 2022. <https://aktuelles.uni-frankfurt.de/gesellschaft/fragen-an-den-amerikanisten-johannes-voelz-zu-den-midterms-wahlen-in-den-us>
- “Die neue Einigkeit – Wie stark ist der ‘Westen’? Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” Interview on the transatlantic alliance after the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, “Der Tag.” March 10, 2022.
- “Fördern die Geisteswissenschaften den Populismus?” Coverage of “Populismus – Kultur – Kampf,” discussion series at Goethe-University Frankfurt, Bürgeruniversität. National radio, Deutschlandfunk, “Aus Kultur- und Sozialwissenschaften.” July 22, 2021.
- “Was ist los mit unserer Demokratie?” Interview on “Democratic Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World,” a new research focus at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Am Nachmittag.” February 18, 2021.
- “‘Democratic Vistas:’ Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz über transatlantische Demokratie.” Interview on “Democratic Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World,” a new research focus at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften. National radio, Deutschlandfunk “Kultur heute.” February 4, 2021.
- “Great Again? Joe Bidens Amerika. Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” Interview on President Biden’s inauguration. Public radio Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” January 20, 2021.

- “Mob rules? Trump und der Sturm aufs Weiße Haus. Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” Interview on the storming of the Capitol on Jan 6, 2021. Public radio Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” January 7, 2021.
- “Verloren! Die Rhetorik von Sieg und Niederlage. Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” Interview on the US Presidential elections 2020. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” November 6, 2020.
- “Abgestimmt: Die USA nach der Wahl. Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” 2-part interview on the day after the presidential elections 2020. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” November 4, 2020.
- “Bleibt er oder kommt einer? Die USA vor der Wahl. Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” 2-part interview on the day of the presidential elections 2020 and on the aesthetics of populism. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” November 3, 2020.
- “Gibt es eine ‘Ästhetik des Populismus’? Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz im Gespräch.” Interview on German national public radio on hyperpoliticization and entertainment politics before the 2020 Presidential elections. National radio, Deutschlandfunk, “Kultur Heute.” November 1, 2020.
- “Biden oder Trump? Am 3. November wird in den USA gewählt. Wir haben uns mit dem Amerikanisten Prof. Johannes Völz über die bevorstehende Präsidentschaftswahl in den USA unterhalten.” Interview. Web-Magazine, Goethe-University Frankfurt. October 30, 2020.
<https://aktuelles.uni-frankfurt.de/gesellschaft/us-wahlen-interview-mit-dem-amerikanisten-johannes-voelz/>
- “40 Tage Kampf – Präsidentschaftswahl in den USA.” Interview on the battle for the Supreme Court. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” September 24, 2020.
- “Trump und die ideologische Polarisierung: Der Amerikanist Johannes Völz über die Midterm-Wahlen.” Interview. Web-Magazine, Goethe-University Frankfurt. November 9, 2018.
<https://aktuelles.uni-frankfurt.de/gesellschaft/trump-und-die-ideologische-polarisierung-der-amerikanist-johannes-voelz-ueber-die-midterm-wahlen/>
- “Die Früchte des Zorns – Gewalt in der amerikanischen Politik.” Interview on rallies of President Donald Trump. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” October 30, 2018.
- Newspaper coverage of book presentation of *The Poetics of Insecurity* at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, June 26, 2018: Brigitte Gaiser. “Die Demokratie und die Angst: Wissenschaftler diskutieren über amerikanische Literatur.” *Taunus Zeitung*, July 4, 2018.
<http://www.fnp.de/lokales/hochtaunus/vordertaunus/Wissenschaftler-diskutieren-ueber-amerikanische-Literatur;art48711,3036734>
- “Bannon überschätzte sich.” Interview. *Frankfurter Neue Presse*, January 11, 2018: 3. Cited in Dieter Hintermeier, “‘Einmaliger Irrtum der Geschichte’: Hessische Einschätzungen zu einem Jahr Donald Trump.” *Frankfurter Neue Presse*, November 8, 2017: 3.
- “Friede, Freude, LSD? Der Mythos vom Summer of Love.” Interview on the Beat Generation. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” July 14, 2017.
- “Zeitzeichen: Ralph Waldo Emerson.” Interview on the anniversary of Ralph Waldo Emerson’s death. National public radio feature, WDR 5, WDR 3, NDR Info, SR. April 27, 2017.
- “Jedem Abschied wohnt ein Zauber inne – Obama in Deutschland.” Interview on Obama and American literature. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” November 16, 2016.

- “Johannes Völz zu Donald Trump: Ob Horror oder Begeisterung – die Wahl Donald Trumps gilt als politisches Erdbeben. Warum ist diese Wahl tatsächlich epochal? Fragen an den Amerikanisten Johannes Völz.” Interview. National public television, 3sat, “Kulturzeit.” November 10, 2016.
- “Er gibt der Wut ein Ventil: USA-Experte Johannes Völz spricht über Trumps überraschenden Erfolg.” Interview. *Frankfurter Neue Presse*, November 10, 2016: 3.
- “Aufstieg und Krise einer Weltmacht. Amerika erzählt.” Interview on American literature. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr2, “Der Tag.” November 8, 2016.
- “Demokratische Kultur am Ende – USA noch zu retten?” Interview. Public radio, Hessischer Rundfunk, hr-Info, “Das Thema.” November 8, 2016.
- Cited in Sascha Zoske. “Groteske Figuren und lädierte Charaktere: Forscher schauen auf den Präsidentenwahlkampf und den Populismus.” *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, October 25, 2016: 32.

Keynote Addresses, Invited Lectures, and Colloquia (since 2015)

- “Sheila Heti and the Structural Transformation of the Private Sphere.” Invited lecture at Graduiertenkolleg 2806 “Literatur und Öffentlichkeit in differenten Gegenwartskulturen,” FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg May 6, 2025.
- “Aesthetics of Democracy: Plurality, Dissent, Resistance.” Closing Conference, DFG Network “Aesthetics of Resistance,” University Hamburg, November 29, 2024.
- “Airwave Populism: Rush Limbaugh and the Media Aesthetics of the Right.” University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Nov. 15, 2024.
- “Trust, Distrust, and the Media Aesthetics of Partisanship.” Opening Keynote Lecture, Annual Convention of Irish Association of American Studies, UCD Clinton Institute, Dublin, May 1, 2024.
- “Aesthetics and Affects of Recognition.” Invited lecture at “Narratives of American Culture in Dialogue: A Symposium in Celebration of Winfried Fluck’s 80th birthday.” J.F.Kennedy-Institute, Freie Universität Berlin, April 24, 2024.
- “Evangelikalismus in den USA: Lebensformen zwischen Demokratie und Autoritarismus.” Democratic Vistas Lecture Series “Was heißt ‘Demokratische Lebensform?’,” Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg. December 5, 2023.
- “US Political Talk Radio and the Political Aesthetics of Mistrust.” ConTrust Annual Conference 2023, November 17, 2023. ConTrust: “ConTrust: Trust in Conflict – Political Life under Conditions of Uncertainty,” Goethe University Frankfurt.
- “Airwave Populism: US Talk Radio and the Media Aesthetics of the Right.” Passau-Regensburg Research Colloquium, English Department, University of Regensburg, May 12, 2023.
- “Reading Populism with Bourdieu and Elias.” Research Colloquium, Käte-Hamburger-Kolleg/Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University Duisburg-Essen, February 14, 2023.
- “Behind the Shields of Fantasy: The Populist Aesthetics of Status Loss.” Invited paper at “Fellows Colloquium.” Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM) / Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna, June 20, 2022.
- “The Post-Liberal Aesthetic, or: Can Literary Studies Help Unsettle Polarization?” Keynote address at Netherlands Research School for Literary Studies (OSL) Winter School, “Literature, (Neo)liberalism, and Public Culture.” University of Amsterdam, January 19–21, 2022. Online.

- “Contemporary Populism and the Aesthetics of Polarization.” Invited lecture, Research Colloquium, American Studies Department, University of Groningen, February 19, 2020.
- “Is there an Aesthetics of Polarization?” Invited lecture, Graduiertenschule Sprache & Literatur, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, January 28, 2020.
- “The Aesthetics of Polarization.” Invited lecture at “Aesthetics and Democracy – A Symposium in Honor of Winfried Fluck’s 75th Birthday.” John F. Kennedy-Institute, Free University of Berlin, May 3, 2019.
- “Sincerity and Shame in Contemporary American Fiction.” Keynote address at conference “The New Sincerity.” University of Jena, January 25, 2019.
- “Self-Surveillance, Privacy, and the New Sincerity.” Invited lecture at lecture series “Surveillance and Social Order.” John F. Kennedy-Institute, Free University of Berlin, January 24, 2019
- “Der Gebrauch der Bedrohung: Die amerikanische Literatur und das Problem der Sicherheit.” Invited lecture at lecture series “The Times They Are A-Changin’ – Aktuelle Zeitdiagnosen.” University of Tübingen, January 25, 2018.
- “Looking Hip on the Square: Jazz, Record Cover Art, and the Rise of Creativity.” Invited lecture, Lunch Lecture at Forschungszentrum für Historische Geisteswissenschaften, Goethe-University Frankfurt, November 1, 2017.
- “Understanding American Populism: Anger and Resentment in a Divided Society.” Two-day seminar taught at “Die Rolle der USA in der Welt,” Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (Stipendiaten machen Programm). Bucerius Law School, Hamburg, May 12–14, 2017
- “The New Sincerity and the Transformation of the Private.” Invited lecture, DFG-Graduiertenkolleg 1767 “Faktuales und fiktionales Erzählen.” University of Freiburg, February 3, 2017.
- “The Aestheticization of Insecurity.” Master class at the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture, University of Giessen, January 31, 2017.
- “Der Gebrauch der Bedrohung: Die Amerikanische Literatur und das Problem der Sicherheit.” Invited lecture at the President’s lecture series at Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, January 30, 2017.
- “Don DeLillo’s *Cosmopolis*: Risk and Insecurity.” Invited lecture at lecture series “Key Issues.” English Department, University of Tübingen, January 20, 2017.
- “Don DeLillo – Underworld.” Invited lecture at lecture series “Kritik der Geschichte: Romane der Gegenwart.” Department of General and Comparative Literature, Goethe-University Frankfurt, November 9, 2016.
- “On Knausgaard’s Worlds in Halves.” Invited lecture at “Worlds in Process, II.” Symposium organized by Nicola Glaubitz and Julika Griem. Goethe-University Frankfurt, October 28, 2016.
- “Anerkennung jenseits von Identität: Überlegungen zu Ralph Waldo Emerson.” Invited lecture at “La Noche de la Filosofía.” Centro Cultural Kirchner, Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 25, 2016.
- “Philosophie als demokratische Praxis: zu einer US-amerikanischen Tradition.” Invited lecture at “La Noche de la Filosofía.” Centro Cultural Kirchner, Buenos Aires, Argentina, June 25, 2016.
- Johannes Völz and Julika Griem: “Jenseits von Kritik? Aktuelle anglo-amerikanische Debatten.” Contribution to the lecture series “Kritisieren! Engagement und Distanz.” Goethe-University Frankfurt, May 9, 2016.
- “Transvaluations of Security.” Keynote address at conference “Sprache der Sicherheit: Grundbegriffe der zivilen Sicherheitsforschung.” Organized by BMBF-Initiative

“Fachdialog Sicherheitsforschung.” Goethe-University Frankfurt, November 13–14, 2015.

Conference Papers, Conference Panels, and Public Panel Discussions (since 2015)

- „Reading the Aesthetics of Democracy with Kant and Arendt.“ Talk at Symposium Multiple Ways of Practicing Modern Democracy: Aesthetics, Ethics, and Trans-cultural Dialogue. Goethe University Frankfurt, July 4, 2025
- Global Faculty Symposium American Studies Berlin 2025, NYU Berlin, June 26–27, 2025.
- Discussant and Project Head at Democratic Vistas Conference „Forms of Civic Power.“ June 25-26, 2025, Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg.
- „Spaces of Appearance and Disappearance: Arendt and the Aesthetics of Democracy.“ Workshop on Hannah Arendt, *The Human Condition*. Stanford University, April 21–22, 2025.
- “Trump und die Ästhetik des Populismus.” Lehrerfortbildung, Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Baden-Württemberg / Studienhaus Wiesneck, Freiburg, November 26, 2024.
- Thematic Introduction, International Graduate Conference “Aesthetics of Democratic Life-Forms,” organized by GRADE-Initiative “Ästhetik demokratischer Lebensformen,” Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, September 21, 2023.
- “Words, Metaphors, and Images: ‘Cartooning’ the Enemy, from Rush Limbaugh to Donald Trump.” Invited Paper at European International Studies Association, 16th EISA Pan-European Conference on International Relations. University of Potsdam/Online, September 5, 2023.
- “Gesellschaftliche Polarisierung in den USA seit 1968.” Invited talk at Rotary Club, Bad Homburg. February 13, 2023.
- Introduction at Inaugural Event of the John McCloy Transatlantic Forum. Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, November 4, 2022.
- “The Politics of Memory in US Talk Radio.” Invited paper at workshop “Re-imagining the Past.” Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University Duisburg-Essen, October 12, 2022.
- “Polarisierende Medienästhetiken des autoritären Populismus in den USA.” Invited paper at “41. Kongress der deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie.” University of Bielefeld, September 28, 2022.
- “Locker Room Nation.” Invited paper at conference “Starke Männer — Figuren disruptiver Politik in transnationaler Perspektive.” SFB 948 “Helden – Heroisierungen – Heroismen,” University of Freiburg, March 24–25, 2022.
- “Reading Populism with Bourdieu and Elias.” Invited paper at international conference “Re-Imagining the Past.” Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University Duisburg-Essen, June 24–25, 2021. Online.
- Moderation of Roundtable Discussion, “Über Rechte Schreiben? Wie kann Literatur dem Populismus begegnen?” With Tanja Dückers, Lukas Rietzschel, Beate Tröger, Jan Wilm. Bürgeruniversität Frankfurt, event series “Populismus – Kultur – Kampf.” Organized by students in American Studies at Goethe-University Frankfurt and Johannes Voelz. Goethe-University Frankfurt, June 15, 2021. Online.
- Moderation of Sianne Ngai, “An Introduction to Aesthetic Categories (Through the Case of an Unstable One).” Opening lecture of 2021 Dagmar Westberg Vorlesungen with Sianne Ngai. Goethe-University Frankfurt, June 14, 2021. Online.

- Moderation of, and Panelist at, Roundtable Discussion, “Do Democracies Need the Non-Political?” “Democratic Vistas” at Tel Aviv Night of Philosophy. June 10, 2021. Online.
- Moderation of Roundtable Discussion (with Andrew Gross), “Democratic Malaise and the Postliberal Aesthetic.” At conference “20/20 Vision: Citizenship, Space, Renewal.” 2020 European Association of American Studies Conference (EAAS), University of Warsaw, April 30–May 2, 2021. Online.
- Moderation of Public Panel Discussion, “Democratic Vistas, Autocratic Specters: Must We Reinvent Democracy?” With Masha Gessen, Shalini Randeria, Slawomir Sierakowski. Opening of “Democratic Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World,” research focus at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg. February 18, 2021. Online.
- Moderation of Roundtable Discussion (with Andrew Gross), “The Liberal Aesthetic and Postliberal Trends.” Modern Language Association 2021 Convention (MLA), Toronto, January 8, 2021. Online.
- “The Politics of Security and the Aesthetics of Insecurity in American Cold War Liberalism.” Invited paper at international conference “Historicizing Security.” SFB/TRR 138, “Dynamics of Security.” University of Gießen/University of Marburg. October 23, 2020. Online.
- Moderation of Roundtable Discussion, “Transatlantic Popular Culture after ‘the American Century’” at Bad Homburg Conference 2020, “Transatlantic Futures, Shared or Divided?” Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, September 19, 2020.
- Moderation of book presentation and reading, Till van Rahden, *Demokratie: Eine gefährdete Lebensform*. With Till van Rahden and Nicole Deitelhoff. Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, December 16, 2019.
- Panelist, “‘Fake News? Europa und die USA im Desinformationszeitalter’ – öffentliche Podiumsdiskussion.” University of Passau, December 5, 2019.
- Panelist and Workshop Participant, “An Appeal to Reason: Academia’s Response to Current Shifts in Political Culture.” Organized by German Research Foundation, German Rector’s Conference, and Villa Aurora/Thomas Mann House. Los Angeles, August 25–27, 2019.
- Panelist, “Erfahrungen von Rückkehrerinnen.” GAIN-Tagung 2019, San Francisco, August 23, 2019.
- Panelist, “The Function of American Literary Studies at the Present Moment.” Modern Language Association, International Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal, 23–25 July, 2019.
- Panel chair, conference “(Re)Reading Ralph Ellison.” Hosted by the Ralph and Fanny Ellison Charitable Trust and the Department of American Studies at Goethe-University Frankfurt, July 19–21, 2019.
- Panel chair, conference “Configuring the Demos: Cinema, the Global Digital Economy, and the Crisis of Democracy.” Organized by the Cluster of Excellence “The Formation of Normative Orders” and the Department of Theater, Cinema, and Media Studies at Goethe-University Frankfurt, June 20, 2019.
- Seminar guest speaker in American Higher Ed PDLC Series. Princeton University, February 26, 2019. Online.
- “The Aesthetics of the Populist Space of Appearance.” Invited paper at international conference “The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies.” Goethe-University Frankfurt, November 29–December 1, 2018
- “Turns of Envy: Emerson and Tocqueville on a Democratic Passion.” Invited paper at international conference “Transcendentalist Intersections: Literature, Philosophy, Religion,” July 26–29, 2018. University of Heidelberg, July 27, 2018.

- Book presentation, “Johannes Völz und sein neues Buch *The Poetics of Insecurity*.”
Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, June 28, 2018.
- Panel discussion, moderator and participant, “In the Name of Security: An International Roundtable Across the Disciplines.” Goethe-University Frankfurt, May 4, 2018.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iyjQeSmAFmQ>
- “Autofictionality and the Transformation of the Private in the ‘New Sincerity.’” Invited paper at conference “Autofiction – entre tradition littéraire et esthétique postmoderne du scandale.” Goethe-University Frankfurt, April 26–28, 2018.
- “Trump und der populistische Erscheinungsraum.” Invited paper at conference “New Order: Zur Kippfigur Ordnung/Störung.“ ERC-Starting Grant “Principle of Disruption.” Technical University Dresden, November 16–18, 2017.
- “Populismus und Popkultur: Spielarten digitaler Kommunikation.” Invited paper at Bad Homburg Conference 2017, “Wie verändert die Digitalisierung die politische Kommunikation?” Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, November 8–9, 2017.
- Workshop moderation, “Was war Demokratische Kultur? Moralische Leidenschaften, Ästhetik und Politik.” Organized with Till van Rahden, co-hosted by Exzellenzcluster Normative Orders. Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, July 7, 2017.
- “Die Demokratie und ihre Leidenschaften – zur Aktualität von Alexis de Tocqueville: Felix Trautmann und Johannes Völz im Gespräch mit Juliane Rebentisch.” *Prismen – Institut für Sozialforschung bei Marx & Co*. Panel Discussion hosted by the Institute of Social Research, Frankfurt, and Marx & Co. Bookstore, Frankfurt, June 26, 2017.
- Workshop moderation, “How to Read the Literary Market: A Forum on Theories and Methods.” At conference “Modernities and Modernization in North America.” 64th Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), University of Hannover, June 8–11, 2017.
- “Knausgaard’s Lives in Halves.” Invited paper at international conference “The Cult in Context: Historical and Comparative Perspectives on Karl Ove Knausgaard.” Goethe-University Frankfurt, June 1–2, 2017.
- “The Uses of the Transnational in 19th-Century American Literature.” Invited paper at the session “Rethinking the Transnational Turn in American Literature.” Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association 2017 Convention (MLA). Organized by Yogita Goyal. Philadelphia, January 5–8, 2017.
- Roundtable Moderation “Precariousness.” International DFG-Symposium “Onward, Upward, and Out? Challenges for Early Career Scholars in the Humanities and the Social Sciences—Transatlantic Perspectives.” Organized by Russell Berman, Julika Griem, Peter Strohschneider, Johannes Völz. Bonn, May 30, 2016.
- Introduction and Moderation of Keynote Lecture by Susan Herman. At conference “The United States and the Question of Rights.” 63rd Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), University of Osnabrück, May 19–22, 2016.
- Final Roundtable Discussion. At conference “The United States and the Question of Rights.” 63rd Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), University of Osnabrück, May 19–22, 2016.
- “Surveillance, Privacy, and the New Sincerity Movement.” Invited paper at conference “Surveillance | Society | Culture.” University of Goettingen, February 26–28, 2016.
- “Charles Brockden Brown’s *Ars Conjectandi*.” Invited paper at conference “Perilous Passages: The Birth of Risk in 19th Century American Culture.” University of Bayreuth. October 23–24, 2015.

Panel Moderation, “Contemporary Literature and the Culture of the School.” Conference at Heidelberg Center for American Studies. University of Heidelberg, June 11–13, 2015.
“The Time of Risk and the Time of Security in Don DeLillo’s *Cosmopolis*.” Invited paper at conference “Financial Times: Economic Temporalities in U.S. Culture.” Goethe-University Frankfurt, March 26–28, 2015.

Courses Taught

Frankfurt:

“UNDERSTANDING STARDOM: HISTORY, MEDIA, SOCIETY,” Summer 2025 (B.A. seminar),
“CELEBRITY POLITICS: THE ENTERTAINMENT OF DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA,” Summer 2025 (M.A. seminar), “AMERICAN TRANSCENDENTALISM,” Summer 2025, Winter 2016/17 (M.A. seminar); “CONSERVATIVE MEDIA,” Winter 2024/25 (M.A. seminar); “AMERICAN EVANGELICALISM, 1800–2024,” Summer 2024 (M.A. seminar); “CURRENT RESEARCH IN AMERICAN STUDIES,” Winter 2024/25, Winter 2023/24, Winter 2021/22, Winter 2020/21, Winter 2019/20, Winter 2016/17, Winter 2015/16 (M.A. seminar); “AMERICAN RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM,” Summer 2024, Winter 2021/22, Summer 2017; “JOHN DOS PASSOS’S U.S.A. TRILOGY,” Winter 2021/22 (B.A. seminar); “M.A. COLLOQUIUM,” Summer 2024, Winter 2021/22, Summer 2017; “MAJOR CONCEPTS IN AMERICAN STUDIES,” Winter 2025/25, Winter 2023/24, Winter 2021/22, Winter 2020/21, Winter 2019/20 (M.A. lecture course); “B.A. COLLOQUIUM,” Winter 2023/24, Summer 2021; “AESTHETICS – MEMORY – DEMOCRACY,” Winter 2020/21 (M.A. seminar, co-taught with Astrid Erll); “INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN CULTURAL STUDIES,” Summer 2025, Winter 2024/25, Summer 2024, Winter 2020/21, Summer 2020, Summer 2018, Summer 2017, Summer 2016, Winter 2011/12, Summer 2011 (B.A. seminar/Proseminar); “HOW IT FEELS TO BE ALIVE TODAY: AFFECTS AND AESTHETICS OF THE CONTEMPORARY,” Summer 2020 (M.A. seminar); “The Culture of Populism,” Summer 2019 (M.A. seminar); “THE NEW SINCERITY IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN CULTURE,” Summer 2018 (M.A. seminar); “DEMOCRACY AND AESTHETICS,” Summer 2018 (M.A. seminar, co-taught with Heinz Drügh and Achim Geisenhanslüke); “DAVID FOSTER WALLACE: *INFINITE JEST*,” Winter 2017/18 (M.A. seminar, co-taught with Achim Geisenhanslüke); “THE AMERICAN HENRY JAMES,” Summer 2017 (M.A. seminar); ““IS AMERICAN CULTURE DEMOCRATIC? THEORETICAL AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES,” Summer 2016 (M.A. seminar); “THE FINANCIALIZATION OF EVERYDAY LIFE,” Winter 2015/16 (M.A. seminar); “THE POLITICS OF AESTHETICS: THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES,” Summer 2015 (M.A. seminar); “TRANSNATIONAL 19TH CENTURY LITERATURE,” Summer 2015 (B.A. seminar); “AMERICAN LITERATURE AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF PRIVACY,” Winter 2014/15 (M.A. seminar); “CULTURE OF FEAR,” Summer 2012 (B.A. seminar); “AMERICAN CULTURE OF THE COLD WAR,” Summer 2012 (M.A. seminar/Hauptseminar); “THE AMERICAN MODERNIST NOVEL OF THE 1920s,” Winter 2011/12 (M.A. seminar/Hauptseminar); “AMERICAN GOTHIC,” Summer 2011 (M.A. seminar/Hauptseminar); “JAZZ IN AMERICAN CULTURE,” Winter 2010/11 (Proseminar); “THE HISTORICAL NOVEL AND THE NATION,” Winter 2010/11 (Hauptseminar); “FICTIONS OF SECURITY II: 20TH AND 21ST CENTURY,” Summer 2010 (Hauptseminar); “INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY STUDIES,” Summer 2010 (Proseminar); “CULTURES OF ELOQUENCE: PUBLIC SPEAKING IN 19TH CENTURY UNITED STATES,” Winter 2009/10 (Proseminar); “FICTIONS OF SECURITY I: 17TH TO 19TH CENTURY,” Winter 2009/10 (Hauptseminar); “THE LITERATURE OF SLAVERY AND ABOLITION,” Summer 2009 (Hauptseminar); “WHAT HAPPENED TO THE AMERICAN DREAM? PASTORAL IN CONTEMPORARY FICTION AND FILM,” Summer 2009 (Proseminar)

Berlin:

“THE LITERATURE OF SLAVERY AND ABOLITION,” Winter 2008/09 (M.A. seminar/Hauptseminar); “KEY CONCEPTS OF AMERICAN CULTURE,” Winter 2008/09 (M.A. seminar); “THE VIEWER IN 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHY,” Summer 2008 (B.A. seminar); “UNDERSTANDING NORTH AMERICA: INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN CULTURAL HISTORY,” Summer 2008, Summer 2005, Winter 2004/05 (B.A. lecture course); “CULTURAL HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN ESSAY,” Winter 2007/08 (B.A. seminar); “WHAT HAPPENED TO THE AMERICAN DREAM? PASTORAL IN CONTEMPORARY FICTION AND FILM,” Winter 2007/08 (B.A. seminar); “AMERICAN TRANSCENDENTALISM: EMERSON, FULLER, THOREAU,” Summer 2006 (Proseminar); “INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN JAZZ HISTORY,” Winter 2005/06 (Proseminar); “INDIVIDUAL, INDIVIDUALISM, INDIVIDUALIZATION: ON A CORE PROBLEM OF AMERICAN CULTURAL THEORY,” Summer 2004 (Proseminar); “INTRODUCTION TO CRITICAL THEORY,” Winter 2003/04 (B.A. seminar)

Turin:

“AMERICAN JAZZ HISTORY,” Spring 2006 (compact seminar)

Dissertations Supervised

- Renz, Martin. “The Prejudice Against Politics: Arendtian Explorations of the Populist Situation.” Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, 2025.
- Emde, Maren. “The Survival Memoir: Reading and Writing in Survival Culture.” University of Mainz, 2024.
- Steinhilber, Dominik. “The American Epic Novel in the Ulysean Tradition.” Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, 2022.
- Syndikus, Sebastian. “Auf dem Rücken der Vergangenheit: Ein ideengeschichtlicher Vergleich des deutschen und amerikanischen Konservatismus.” Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, 2021.

Academic Service

(Co-)Organizer of the following international conferences and symposiums:

- “Was heißt ‘Demokratische Lebensform’?” Lecture series of project “Democratic Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World”, Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften/Goethe University Frankfurt. 2023-2025.
- “Performance, Narrative, Visuality: On Populism and Everyday Life.” Workshop at Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research. University Duisburg-Essen, December 5, 2022.
- “The Affective Logic of Populism: Trust, Distrust, and the Productivity of Conflict.” International workshop of the research initiative “ConTrust: Vertrauen im Konflikt – Politisches Zusammenleben unter Bedingungen der Ungewissheit” (Goethe-Universität). Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, December 2–3, 2022.
- John McCloy Transatlantic Forum. Public outreach platform of research focus “Democratic Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World.” Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg (November 2022–)

- “Democratic Vistas: Reflections on the Atlantic World.” Public lectures and roundtable discussions at Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg (February 2021–)
- Dagmar-Westberg-Lectures with Sianne Ngai (University of Chicago). Goethe-University Frankfurt, June 14, 15, 17, 2021.
- “Populismus – Kultur – Kampf: Kulturelle Dynamiken illiberaler Demokratie.” Series of public roundtable discussions on the impact of populism on media, higher education, and literature, Bürgeruniversität at Goethe-University Frankfurt, July 1, 8, 13, 2021.
- “Rethinking the Transatlantic: The US Elections and Challenges to a Sustainable Transatlantic Partnership.” Virtual roundtable discussion. With Daniel Benjamin, Nicole Deitelhoff, Jürgen Trittin, and Rebecca Schmidt (moderation). Co-hosted by Goethe-University Frankfurt, Deutsche Atlantische Gesellschaft, and American Academy Berlin. October 27, 2020.
- “Transatlantic Futures: Shared or Divided?” Bad Homburg Conference 2020. Hosted by Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften and City of Bad Homburg. September 18–19, 2020.
- “The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies.” International conference. Hosted by Department of American Studies, Goethe-University Frankfurt. Funded by DFG, Vereinigung der Freunde und Förderer der Goethe-Universität (Friends and Supporters of Goethe-University Frankfurt), DGfA/US Embassy, Dr. Bodo-Sponholz-Stiftung. November 29–December 1, 2018.
- “Kunst als Wertschöpfung.” International lecture series. Visiting endowed professorship (Gaststiftungsprofessur) “Kultur und Gesellschaft,” funded by Deutschen Bank AG. Museum Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt, October 2018–February 2019.
- “Rethinking Privacy: Interdisciplinary Perspectives.” Symposium hosted by DFG-Research Project “American Literature and the Transformation of Privacy,” Goethe-University Frankfurt and DFG Research Training Group “Privatheit und Digitalisierung,” University of Passau. Goethe-University Frankfurt, May 28, 2018.
- “In the Name of Security: An International Roundtable Across the Disciplines.” With Susana Araujo, Astrid Erll, Andreas Fahrmeir, Johannes Völz, Michael C. Williams. Goethe-University Frankfurt, May 4, 2018.
- “Was war Demokratische Kultur? Moralische Leidenschaften, Ästhetik und Politik.” Workshop. Organized with Till van Rahden. Co-hosted by Exzellenzcluster Normative Orders. Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften, Bad Homburg, July 7, 2017.
- “Onward, Upward, and Out? Challenges for Early Career Scholars in the Humanities and the Social Sciences—Transatlantic Perspectives.” International DFG-Symposium. Co-Organized with Russell Berman, Julika Griem, and Peter Strohschneider. Bonn, May 30, 2016.
- “The Implicit Sociology of Literature.” International Conference in Honor of Christa Buschendorf. Hosted by the Institute for English and American Studies. Funded by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation), Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (Friends and Supporters of Goethe-University Frankfurt), Sponholz-Stiftung, Calliopean Society. Goethe Universität Frankfurt, June 25–27, 2015.
- “Writing Literary History in the 21st Century.” Hosted by the Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe-University Frankfurt, and the U.S. Consulate

Frankfurt. Funded by US-Consulate Frankfurt. Goethe University Frankfurt, June 16, 2010.

“Money, Manners, and Ideas: On the Interrelation between Habitus and Social Status.” International Roundtable Symposium in Honor of Christa Buschendorf. Funded by Dr. Bodo-Sponholz-Stiftung, Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (Friends and Supporters of Goethe-University Frankfurt), US-Consulate Frankfurt. Goethe-University Frankfurt, December 17, 2009.

“Imagining Culture: Norms and Forms of Public Discourse in America.” International Conference in Honor of Winfried Fluck. Funded by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation). John F. Kennedy-Institute, Free University of Berlin, June 26–28, 2009.

Co-Organizer of the following conference panels and workshops (selection):

“Do Democracies Need the Non-Political?” Roundtable discussion at “Democratic Vistas” at Tel Aviv Night of Philosophy, June 10, 2021. Online.

“Democratic Malaise and the Postliberal Aesthetic” (with Andrew Gross). Roundtable discussion at conference “20/20 Vision: Citizenship, Space, Renewal.” 2020 European Association of American Studies Conference (EAAS), University of Warsaw, April 30–May 2, 2021. Online.

“The Liberal Aesthetic and Postliberal Trends” (with Andrew Gross). Roundtable discussion at Modern Language Association 2021 Convention (MLA), Toronto, January 8, 2021. Online.

“Democratic Malaise and the Postliberal Aesthetic” (with Andrew Gross). Roundtable discussion at conference “20/20 Vision: Citizenship, Space, Renewal.” 2020 European Association of American Studies Conference (EAAS), University of Warsaw, May 1–3, 2020. (postponed to 2021).

“Counter/Publics and the Private Sphere.” Workshop at conference “American Counter/Publics.” 65th Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), John F. Kennedy Institute, Free University of Berlin, May 24–27, 2018.

“How to Read the Literary Market: A Forum on Theories and Methods.” Workshop at conference “Modernities and Modernization in North America.” 64th Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), University of Hannover, June 8–11, 2017.

“American Romanticism and the Politicization of Nature.” Workshop at conference “America after Nature.” 61st Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies (DGfA), University of Wuerzburg, June 12–15, 2014.

“Beyond Resistance: Rethinking the Politics of the Aesthetics.” Roundtable discussion at conference “Dimensions of Empire and Resistance: Past, Present, and Future.” Annual Meeting of American Studies Association (ASA), San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 15–18, 2012.

“Narrating U.S. Security: State Violence and the Literary Imagination.” Special session at Modern Language Association 2011 Convention (MLA), Los Angeles, January 7, 2011.

“Precarious Belonging: Place, Community, and Citizenship in Nineteenth-Century U.S. Literature.” Panel at conference “Practices of Citizenship, Sustainability, and Belonging.” Annual Meeting of American Studies Association (ASA), Washington, DC, November 6, 2009.

“Academic Crossroads: Debating Transnationalism’s Second Phase.” Panel at conference “The United States from Inside and Out.” Annual Meeting of American Studies Association (ASA), October 13, 2006.

Manuscript referee for (selection): Cambridge University Press, Routledge, University Press of New England, *Amerikastudien/American Studies*, *Journal of Transnational American Studies*, *Contemporary Literature*, *Constellations*

Career advancement referee for: Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA; University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Third-party funding referee for: various German and international funding organizations (DFG, Humboldt, SNF, etc.)

Member of various selection committees at Goethe-University Frankfurt: International Campus-Program, Exchange Program (International Office), Wilhelm-Bender Dissertationspreis

Institutional Service, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt (since October 2016)

Speaker, Graduiertenkolleg Ästhetik der Demokratie / Research Graduate Training Group Aesthetics of Democracy (2026–)

Director of Task Force on Teaching and Internationalization, research initiative “ConTrust: Trust and Conflict in Political Life” (2022-2025)

Deputy Executive Director, Institute of English and American Studies (2020–2021)

Executive Director, Institute of English and American Studies (2019–2020)

Board of Directors, Forschungskolleg Humanwissenschaften Bad Homburg (October 2019–)

Chair of Hiring Committee, Professorship in Amerikanistik (W3), Goethe-University Frankfurt (2019–2021)

Board Member, Institute of English and American Studies (2016–)

Board Member, Faculty of Modern Languages (2017–2019)

Chair of Tenure Committee (2017–18)

Fulbright Commission Liaison Professor for Goethe-University Frankfurt (2016–)

Professional Affiliations

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ästhetik

European Association of American Studies (EAAS)

German Association of American Studies / Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien (DGfA)

Modern Language Association (MLA)

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