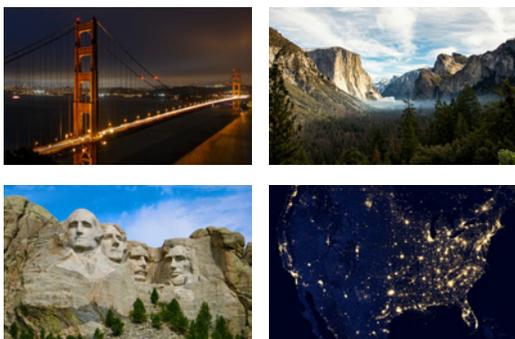


TEACH ABOUT THE U.S. VIRTUAL TEACHER SEMINAR



MARCH 18, 2021 · 15:00 – 19:30

PROGRAM

14:45 Log-in

(You will receive a link upon registration)

15:00 Welcome

Prof. Dr. Gabriele Linke, Rostock University
Darion Akins, Consul General,
U.S. Consulate General Hamburg
Ken Toko, Consul General,
U.S. Consulate General Leipzig

Introduction of the organizing team

Dr. Martina Kohl, U.S. Embassy Berlin

- Petra Boden, Chemnitz
- Nadja Borowski, SSA Rostock
- Astrid Eisenhardt, SSA Schwerin and Rostock
- Geertje Huendorf, U.S. Consulate General Leipzig
- Dr. Katja Schmidt, Rostock University
- Dr. Susanne Wiedemann,
U.S. Consulate General Hamburg

15:15 Lecture and discussion

Teaching Media Literacy

In an era of misinformation and fake news, it is more important than ever to teach our students how to validate media sources, analyze how social media presents news, assess the impacts of media literacy on democracy, and understand the spread of fake news via mass media.

Dr. Terri Towner

Professor of Political Science at Oakland University
in Rochester, Michigan

16:15 Break (15 mins.)

16:30 Workshop

Talking the Talk – Walking the Walk: Race, Racism, and Anti-Racism in the EFL Classroom and Beyond

Since any conversation on race starts with the self, **part I** of this workshop will focus on identity construction, white privilege, and implicit bias. **Part II** explores some implications of revised definitions of racism and best-practice activities for getting those difficult conversations going. We will further look at an interpersonal communication strategy that helps us actively and compassionately respond to bias remarks. **Part III** will challenge us to think about ways in which all of us can become actively anti-racist inside and outside the classroom. Suggestions for course materials, further reading, and short breakout session activities will complement each segment.

Dr. Sabrina Völz

Post-Doctoral Researcher and Senior Lecturer in
American Studies at Lüneburg University

17:45 Break (30 mins.)

18:15 Lecture and discussion

Native vs. Immigrant: The German Image of Native Americans and Political Appropriation until Today

The presentation will discuss the construction of the German image of Native Americans in the context of nationalism and “Indianthusiasm”. It will explain the image as a historical construct that helped build a mythological German national identity and fueled anti-Americanism. Text, image, and video examples will show how “Indians” served as role models for Germans during the Nazi era and how the extreme right today uses similar ideas and arguments to portray Europeans as “indigenous people” overrun by immigrants.

Dr. Frank Usbeck

Curator for the Americas at the State Art
Collections Dresden / Ethnographic Collections
Saxony (SKD/SES)

19:30 End of program

Registration:

Please register until **March 12, 2021**. You will receive a link to log into the virtual conference.

Via e-mail: sarah.grahm2@uni-rostock.de

Subject: “Teach About the U.S. 2021”

Please include your school address and your
Bundesland



FACULTY



Dr. Sabrina Völz

Post-doctoral Researcher and Senior Lecturer
in English and American Studies at
Leuphana University Lüneburg

Dr. Sabrina Völz has been teaching American Studies and English language courses in the Foreign Language Center at Leuphana since 1997. She received her Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University, USA, in 1998. She is co-organizer of, and presenter in, the series [Maple Leaf & Stars and Stripes: Encountering Canada and the United States](#). Dr. Völz is co-editor of, and frequent contributor to, the [American Studies Blog](#) which is supported by an Embassy grant. She has published frequently on diversity issues, minorities and teaching. Recently she has organized a number of workshops for future students on systemic bias and how to counter stereotypes and racism.



Dr. Terri Towner

Professor of Political Science at Oakland University
in Rochester, Michigan

Dr. Terri Towner is Professor of Political Science at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. Her research interests include examining how new media sources, particularly Web 2.0 sources, influence attitudes toward politics. She is currently engaged in several research projects involving the use of Twitter, Instagram, political memes, and more. In 2007, Dr. Towner received her Ph.D. in Political Science from Purdue University. She studies American Politics, specializing in public opinion, elections, voting behavior, and quantitative methodology. Presently, her specific research lines include investigating the role of race in politics, attitudes toward war, the influence of new media on political attitudes and the pedagogical value of social networks. She has authored several articles and book chapters on subjects ranging from the permanent campaign to the role of new media.



Dr. Frank Usbeck

Curator for the Americas at the State Art
Collections Dresden / Ethnographic Collections
Saxony (SKD/SES)

Dr. Usbeck, a researcher in the humanities, serves as curator for the Americas at the [State Art Collections Dresden](#) / Ethnographic Collections Saxony (SKD/SES), a museum collaboration with three cultural-anthropology museums in [Leipzig](#), [Dresden](#), and [Herrnhut](#). He holds an MA (magister artium) in American studies, modern and contemporary history, and journalism from Leipzig University. During his study-abroad year at the University of Arizona, he majored in American Indian Studies. In 2010, he earned a PhD at Leipzig University, with a study on Native American imagery in German periodicals and, particularly, in Nazi propaganda published as [Fellow Tribesmen](#) (New York: Berghahn, 2015). Dr. Usbeck has worked with high school students in Leipzig in conjunction with the current exhibit "[Posted! Reflections of Indigenous North America](#)" at [galerie KUB](#). It is jointly organized by [Grassi Museum / State Ethnographic Collections Saxony](#) and [Karl-May-Museum Radebeul](#). He also traces Native American images in the far right in the U.S. and Germany.

Dr. Usbeck runs his own scholarly blog:
<https://frankusbeck.net/about/>