

Veranstalter.....	PD Dr. Christina Meyer
Thema.....	Print Culture(s) in the U.S.: The Long Nineteenth Century
Art der Veranstaltung.....	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer.....	53-567
Zeit.....	16-18
Raum.....	Ü35-01016
Beginn.....	4 April 2019

### Course description:

This seminar is designed to introduce students to print cultures and their publics in American history between the American Revolution and the early twentieth century. We will look at different (yet related) fields of publishing – that is, newspapers, magazines, books, and advertising –, in order to get a better understanding of communication practices, knowledge management, and prevalent (visual) discourses in the long nineteenth century. Next to the economic, technological, political, and social environments of nineteenth-century print cultures we will examine a number of (written/drawn) reactions by different social agents – individuals and institutions – to new developments in these fields (as, for instance, the purity crusade and anti-vice campaigns by Anthony Comstock, legal commentary and the proposal of bills, diverse speeches and essays by social critics, novelists, temperance reformers, educators, theologists, legislators, librarians, etc., and caricatures and other forms of illustration). We will tackle such issues as the evolution of the newspaper from partisan papers, the penny press, to the so-called yellow journals, the place of periodicals in the daily lives of Americans, the rise of mass magazines in the 1880s, the evolution and development of printing processes (e.g. engraving, lithography, chromolithography) and the impact on consumption habits, the reading of literature in installments, the exchange of ideas through advertising trade cards, and more. In this class, students are encouraged to develop their skills in visual and verbal analysis and critical reading of primary sources and secondary literature, and to develop strategies for historical research of cultural artifacts.

A reader will be made available for download at the beginning of the semesters (please check announcements on STINE and AGORA). Students are kindly asked to acquaint themselves with the following online resources, archives, and databases:

- <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>
- <https://archive.org/index.php>
- <http://hearth.library.cornell.edu/h/hearth/browse/title/4732809.html>
- <https://www.hathitrust.org>
- <http://www.unz.org>

The following chapters from Paul Boyer's (et al.) *Enduring Vision* (4<sup>th</sup> ed., 2002) are prerequisites for the seminar (you must know the texts before the beginning of the semester; a short **reading quiz** will take place in the first session; this is a partial fulfillment of the "Studienleistung"/"Prüfungsleistung"): "Launching the New Republic, 1789-1800" (130-149); "The Transformation of American Society, 1815-1840" (170-185); "Life, Leisure, and Culture, 1840-1860" (207-222); "Rise of Industrial America" (353-373); "The Transformation of Urban America" (374-390); "Daily Life, Popular Culture, and the Arts, 1860-1900" (391-408).

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	By appointment
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Sprechstunden während der Semesterferien:	<p>Monday, 4 February 2019, 12-14h  Monday, 11 February 2019, 12-14h  Wednesday, 27 February 2019, 12-14h  Tuesday, 5 March 2019, 12-14h  Tuesday, 19 March 2019, 12-14h</p> <p>Email consultations during the semester break:  Wednesday, 10-12h</p>
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