Veranstalter:	PD Dr. Simone Knewitz
Modul:	DIGITAL: Contemporary American Poetry: Protest,
	Resistance, and Empowerment in Contemporary
	American Poetry
	[ENG-7, ENG-7a, ENG-13, AA7, AA11, LAA10, LAA13,
	IAA22, AA-MA01, AA-MA02, AA-MA03, AA-MA05]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-562
Zeit:	2st. Mi, 10-12
Raum:	via Zoom
Beginn:	13.10.2021

Course description:

In recent years, poetry has functioned as a particularly vibrant literary genre to articulate political protest and resistance, to empower marginalized identities, and to imagine alternative forms of collective agency and identity. At the same time, volumes of poetry such as Claudia Rankine's *Citizen: An American Lyric* (2014), which contemplates what it means to be a black American citizen, have received widespread public recognition beyond academic circles. In this class, we will explore the works of four contemporary American poets whose engaged writing intervenes in contemporary political discourses: in addition to Rankine's *Citizen*, we will read Solmaz Sharif's 2016 debut poetry collection *Look*, an indictment of the 'war on terrorism'; Tommy Pico's *NaturePoem* (2017), which provides a queer indigenous ecocritical perspective on contemporary American culture; and Juliana Spahr's *That Winter the Wolf Came* (2015), which revolves around the Occupy protests to reflect on the intersection of economic and ecological catastrophe.

Closely reading these book-length poetic works, we will explore how the four poets engage with pressing political issues of the present day by scrutinizing the aesthetics they employ. What are the specific contributions that poetic forms can make to voice protest and to project a stance of resistance to the status quo? In what sense can poetry be empowering? How does poetic discourse relate to other cultural discourses? In which ways do these contemporary works link up with poetic traditions of protest and resistance?

Sprechstunden im Semester:	s. Sprechstundenliste
Sprechstunden in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	s. Sprechstundenliste