

# RUDESA Program (Nijmegen):

## Monday: Theory and Practice

08:00 Departure Campus Essen, Universitätsstrasse 12, 45141 Essen

10:00 Arrival at Nijmegen

10:30 Welcoming by staff members, getting to know each other,  
Hans Bak, Barbara Buchenau, Elena Furlanetto, Frank Mehring, Josef Raab and  
Mathilde Roza: "Grounding Transnational American Studies"

11:30 Break

11:45 Frank Mehring: American Memorial Mania, Cultural Transfer and the European  
Liberation Route

12:30 Lunch Break at Rafter Cafeteria

13:30 Transition to the National Liberation Museum

14:00 Introduction by Museum Director Wiel Lenders and Archivist Rense Havinga

14:15 Anja Adriaans: Sites of Memory and the Culture of Liberation: Case Study "The  
Oversteek Bridge"

14:45 Museum visit, guided tour

15:45 Break

16:15 Frank Mehring: The Cultural Matrix of the Marshall Plan (in the movie theater of the  
Museum)

17:30 Transition to Nijmegen

18:30 Welcome Dinner at Gelagkamer/De Firma close to the iconic Waal Bridge

### **Required Reading for morning session:** (PDFs will be put on a digital Dropbox)

Winfried Fluck, *Romance with America? Essays on Culture, Literature, and American Studies*.

Laura Bieger and Johannes Voelz (eds.). Heidelberg: Winter, 2009. (chapter on  
"Theories of American Culture (and the Transnational Turn in American Studies")  
69-86).

Donald Pease, "Introduction: Re-mapping the Transnational Turn" in Winfried Fluck,  
Donald Pease, and John Carlos Rowe, ed. *Re-Mapping the Transnational Turn in  
American Studies* (Darmouth: Darmouth CP, 2011).

Shelley Fisher Fishkin, "Crossroads of Cultures: The Transnational Turn in American  
Studies – Presidential Address to the American Studies Association, November 12,  
2004," *American Quarterly* 57.1 (2005): 17-57

Erika Doss, *Memorial Mania: Public Feeling in America*, Chicago & London: University of Chicago Press 2012. (chapter on "Gratitude," 187-206).

**Required Reading for afternoon session:**

David W. Ellwood. "Inflating Europe with the Marshall Plan." *The Shock of America. Europe and the Challenge of the Century*. Oxford University Press, 2012. (341-358).

*The Crossing: A Dutch Tribute to 48 American War Heroes* (pages 6-7 introduction, pages 34-39 Cainie Clemons interview)

Please read the article in the *New York Times*:

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/18/world/europe/a-dutch-town-honors-us-soldiers-wartime-bravery-at-germanys-edge.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/18/world/europe/a-dutch-town-honors-us-soldiers-wartime-bravery-at-germanys-edge.html?_r=0)

Watch "Waalcrossing Market Garden Eerbetoon 2014"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZNpd7gmluw> ( 2,46 min).

Read a letter from John Hereford, family member of the honored US paratroopers

<http://blogs.denverpost.com/opinion/2013/12/10/70-years-later-a-denver-family-honors-a-fallen-hero/42364/>

Check the content of the website of the Sunset March, a recent initiative by Dutch Veterans from the municipality Overbetuwe <http://sunsetmarch.nl/index.php/Welcome>

**Recommended Reading:**

Joseph Nye, *The Future of Power*. New York: Public Affairs, 2011. ("What is Power in Global Affairs")

Al Hemsing. "The Marshall Plan's European Film Unit, 1948–1955. A Memoir and Filmography." *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*. 14(3) (1994): 269-297.

## Tuesday: Academic Interaction and Conversation

9:00 Hans Bak and Barbara Buchenau: "Games Indians Play — Cultural Practice and Historical Template in Contemporary Native American Literature and Film" (fiction, painting, photography, film).

10:30 Break

11:00 Jorrit van den Berg: US American Elections, emphasis on Barack Obama's "Toward a more perfect union" speech (or the "Race Speech") and Obamania in Europe

12:30 Lunch Break at Refter Cafeteria

14:00-16:30 MA PEER GROUPS – Help to advance the argument of your fellow thinker

- Small groups of students with one faculty member who advises them
- groups of 5, 3 presenting, the rest listening and commenting, 1 moderator
- Presenters introduce their master projects or a specific scholarly task they are currently addressing in no more than 15 minutes →
- Participants should formulate ideas for their thesis to discuss at the spring school
- Please submit working titles to Elena Furlanetto by March 1

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS & GROUP WORK:

Please prepare **one** of the following four options

- What questions do I have trouble answering
- What problems do I have
- Bring a theoretical text, ask others to read it with you
- Bring a novel / literary text I found fascinating, how do I theorize it

17:00 Film Screening: *Sin Nombre* (ca. 90 minutes)

18:30 Exploring the Night Life of Nijmegen / open evening / perhaps Sunset Walk on the Oversteek Bridge.

**Required Reading for morning session:** (PDFs will be put on a digital Dropbox)

Mithlo Nancy Marie. "Red Man's Burden: The Politics of Inclusion in Museum Settings," *The American Indian Quarterly* 28.3 (2004): 743-63.

## Wednesday: On Crossing Borders - Collaborative Thinking and Writing in Nijmegen and Essen

09:00 Mathilde Roza and Luna Najera: Cultural Violence Across Borders (and *Sin Nombre*)

10:30 Break

11:00 Markha Valenta: Im/migration and the Politics of Trans-Atlantic Security Regimes - how transnational and international politics of race, religion, and violence intersect – comparing the problematization of (Latino and Muslim) im/migration in the US and in Western Europe relative to the War on Drugs, the War on Terror and post-9/11 security regimes.

12:30 Lunch at the Refter cafeteria (self-pay)

**13:30 Transition to Essen by bus** – Tandem Travel, Dialogic Thinking: What is my sense / my theory of how transnational American studies can be properly grounded?

15:30 Arrival in Essen

16:00: Elena Furlanetto: Literature on the Move (exercise/seminar)

17:00: Tandem Writing: Tandems write up their theory of grounding transnational American studies

18:30: Check-in at Hotel Unperfekthaus

[www.unperfekthaus.de](http://www.unperfekthaus.de), [www.wg-hotel.de](http://www.wg-hotel.de)

Friedrich-Ebert-Straße 18

45127 Essen-City

Essen students take their Tandem partner into town for dinner (self-pay)

**Required Reading for morning session:** (PDFs will be put on a digital Dropbox)

For section led by Markha Valenta

Aristide R. Zolberg & Long Litt Woon, “Why Islam Is Like Spanish: Cultural Incorporation in Europe and the United States,” *Politics and Society* 27.1 (March 1999): 5-38.

Joseph J. Kolb, “The Narcos’ Saint,” *The Crime Report* (11 July 2013)

Neda Ulaby, “Mustafa Bayoumi: Being Young And Arab In Post-Sept. 11 America,” *NPR Book Tour* (16 September 2008) - <http://www.npr.org/2008/09/16/94494559/being-young-and-arab-in-post-sept-11-america>

Jocelyn Cesari, "The Securitization of Islam in Europe," Research Paper 15, CEPS Challenge Programme (April 2009)

Juan Cole, "Paris Terrorist was Radicalized by Bush's Iraq War, Abu Ghraib Torture," *Informed Comment* (8 January 2015) -  
<http://www.juancole.com/2015/01/terrorist-radicalized-torture.html>

# RUDESA Program (Essen):

## Thursday: Theory and Academic Conversation

10:00 Josef Raab: Germany in the American Imagination

11:30 Frank Mehring: Dutch and American Liberation Songs

12:30 Lunch at Duisburg-Essen Mensa (self-pay)

14:00-15:00 individual preparation for MA PEER GROUPS: Adapt presentation of your research question to new audience, including the suggestions received in the first meeting

15:00-15:30: Break

15:30-18:00 MA PEER GROUPS – refine the argument of your fellow thinker

- Newly arranged small groups of students with one faculty member who advises them
- groups of 5, 3 presenting, the rest listening and commenting, 1 moderator (new group setup – hence your audience will not be familiar with your work)
- Presenters return to their master projects or the specific scholarly task they are currently addressing and summarize it and introduce group to the results of the first session (no more than 15 minutes) →

### GUIDELINES FOR SECOND SET OF STUDENT PRESENTATIONS & GROUP WORK:

Please make sure that these sessions help to strengthen the quality of your argument / approach

- Which point did my previous work group find particularly striking?
- How can I use this to improve my grasp of the material?
- What remains still unclear / difficult to address?

18:15 Dinner at UNIT

19:45 Transfer to ZECHE ZOLLVEREIN

20:15 Night Tour of ZECHE ZOLLVEREIN

### Required Reading for morning session: (PDFs will be put on a digital Dropbox)

Freese, Peter. "What Is Really at Stake Is One's Image of Oneself,' or, The Function of American *Deutschlandbilder*." *Die deutsche Präsenz in den USA / The German Presence in the U.S.A.*. Ed. Josef Raab & Jan Wirrer. Münster: LIT Verlag, 2008. 291-313.

Mark Twain, Selections from *A Tramp Abroad* (1880).

Allen Ginsberg, "Ruhr-Gebiet." (1979).

**Recommended Reading:**

Waldemar Zacharasiewicz, *Images of Germany in American Literature*. Iowa City: U of Iowa P, 2007.

Josef Raab and Jan Wirrer, eds. *Die deutsche Präsenz in den USA / The German Presence in the U.S.A.*. Münster: LIT Verlag, 2008.

**Friday: Academic Conversation and Application**

10:00 Julia Sattler: Ruhr/Detroit

11:00 Julia Leyda: Urban Catastrophe in Contemporary Screen Culture

12:00 Joint Discussion

12:30 Lunch at Duisburg-Essen Mensa (self-pay)

14:00 Laszlo Muntean and Barbara Buchenau: Transnational Urban Spaces: Scripting and Heritage Formation

15:45-16:30 Wrap-Up over Coffee

16:45 Bus departs from Campus Essen, Universitätsstrasse 12, 45141 Essen

**Required Readings**

Klaus Benesch. "Concepts of Space in American Culture: An Introduction," *Space in America: Theory-History-Culture* (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2005): 11-21

Thomas F. Gyerin. "City as Truth Spot: Laboratories and Field-Sites in Urban Studies," *Social Studies of Science* 36.1 (February 2006): 5-38.