



The Bavarian America Academy in Munich invites  
applications for its

**9th International Summer Academy**  
for Doctoral Students and Junior Faculty in American Studies on

**“Questions of the Archive”**  
May 20 – June 3, 2016 in Nürnberg

in cooperation with Florida International University and Friedrich-Alexander-University  
Erlangen-Nürnberg

Following the so-called archival turn in the humanities, this year’s summer school focuses on questions of the archive, its production, authority, and transformation. We seek contributions in the broad interdisciplinary field of American studies that problematize and analyze questions of the archive with regard to a) poststructuralist scholarship on the contingency of the archive and the epistemic anxieties it reveals, b) assumptions of authority based on power relations (evident in canon debates and absences in the archive), and c) more recent technological developments and the changes they imply (big data, digital humanities). The technology of the archive informs both, history and memory, and thus the archive can claim to be invested with legitimacy and status. Questions of knowledge production in the present moment are prominently addressed by Diana Taylor (“archive and repertoire”), Ann Stoler (“the colonial archive”), and James Clifford (“archival silences”); these scholars call attention to explicit and implicit assumptions about archival energies in both preserving knowledge for future generations and potentially withdrawing it from ongoing public circulation. Next to these theoretical considerations, we will explore different kinds of ‘official’ archives (material, oral, digital, and so forth), forms of subverting the archive (‘ghosts’ in the archive), and alternative archives in a global, postcolonial world.

The program of the academy is structured into three parts:

1. **key-note lectures** by US- and European speakers – including, so far, **Donald Pease** (author of *The New American Exceptionalism* [2009, Minnesota UP], co-editor of *Futures of American Studies* [2002, Duke UP] and *Re-Framing the Transnational Turn* [2011, Dartmouth College P]), **Ann L. Stoler** (author of *Along the Archival Grain: Epistemic Anxieties and Colonial Common Sense* [2009, Princeton UP] and *Duress: Imperial Durability’s in Our Times* [2016, Duke UP]), **Barry Shank** (author of *A Token of My Affection: Greeting Cards and American Business Culture* [2004, Columbia UP] and *The Political Force of Musical Beauty* [2014, Duke UP]), **Gesa Mackenthun** (author of *Metaphors of Dispossession: American Beginnings and the Translation of Empire, 1492-1637* [1997, U of Oklahoma P] and *Fictions of the Black Atlantic* [2004, Routledge]), **Colleen Boggs** (author of *Animalia Americana: Animal Representations and Biopolitical Subjectivity* [2013, Columbia UP] and *Civil War Substitutes: How the Military Draft Changed America*, forthcoming), **Lloyd Pratt** (author of *Archives of American Time: Literature and Modernity in the Nineteenth Century* [2010, U of Pennsylvania P] and *The Strangers Book: The Human of African American Literature* [2015, U of Pennsylvania P]), **Martha Schoolman** (author of *Abolitionist Geographies* [2014, U of Minnesota P]), **Markus Heide** (author of *Grenzüberschreibungen: Chicano/a-Erzähl-literatur und die Inszenierung von Kulturkontakt* [2004, Winter] and co-editor of *Hemispheric Encounters: The Early United States in a Transnational Perspective* [2016, Lang]), and others,

2. **work-in-progress presentations** by the doctoral participants,
3. **workshop sessions** in which participants discuss key texts in the field.

The program also includes a cultural program in and around Nürnberg and trips to Munich and Bamberg as well as visits to museums, and other cultural events related to the overall theme of the summer school.

**We invite doctoral (and postdoctoral) students to apply electronically with**

- **a statement of purpose**
- **CV**
- **a 2-page project description**
- **one letter of recommendation**

Please send your application **by February 15, 2017** to:

Margaretha Schweiger-Wilhelm: [schweiger-wilhelm@amerika-akademie.de](mailto:schweiger-wilhelm@amerika-akademie.de)  
Heike Paul: [heike.paul@fau.de](mailto:heike.paul@fau.de)

Participants will be selected based on the strength of their applications. Acceptance to the Summer Academy includes a full academic and cultural program, accommodation, and a travel grant. The tuition fee is 300 €.