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Education

- 2016 *Habilitation* in Modern History, Goethe University Frankfurt
2004 Ph.D. in Modern History, Free University of Berlin
2000 M.A. in Afro-American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Academic Employment

- 2018-present Associate Professor
Goethe University of Frankfurt, Institute of English and American Studies
- 2010-2018 Assistant Professor (*Juniorprofessor*)
Goethe University of Frankfurt, Institute of English and American Studies
- 2008-2010 Research Group Leader
University of Heidelberg, Transcultural Studies Program
- 2005-2008 Assistant Professor
University of Heidelberg, Department of History
- 2005 Assistant Professor
University of Bonn, English Department, North American Studies Program
- 2004 Associate Lecturer
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Afro-American Studies
- 2003-2004 Lecturer
Free University of Berlin, John-F.-Kennedy Institute for North American Studies

Current Research Projects

Life-Saving and Everyday Heroism in Twentieth-Century America
(research project/monograph)

Black Male Violence as Self-Defense in 1970s and 1980s America
(DFG-funded research project)

Selected Fellowships and Awards

- 2018 Visiting Professor, University of Freiburg, Collaborative Research Center
“Heroes – Heroizations – Heroisms”
- 2012-2013 Writing Fellowship (*Foerderstipendium*), Historisches Kolleg München
- 2009 German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
- 2008 Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University
Schlesinger Library Research Support Grant
Jolanta and Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Grant
- 2007 John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies Research Fellowship
- 2006 German Research Council (DFG) Travel Grant
- 2004 President’s Memorial Award (awarded by the Louisiana Historical Association)
Leucorea Foundation Research Fellowship
- 2003-04 Foundation for the Support of Scholarship and Culture, City of Hamburg
Dissertation Fellowship
- 2001-03 State of Berlin – Support of Junior Scholars Program (Nafog) – Dissertation
Fellowship
- 2002 German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., Dissertation-Research Fellowship
German Academic Exchange Service Travel-Research Grant
“Memphis State Eight” Paper Prize (awarded by the University of Memphis)
- 2001 Nafog Travel-Research Grant
- 1998-99 University of Wisconsin WARF Fellowship
German Academic Exchange Service Fellowship

Service to the Profession

Official reader for *Amerikastudien* (2011-2016, 2019-2024)

Member of the International Editorial Board of *Men & Masculinities*

Memberships

Organization of American Historians

American Historical Association

German Association for American Studies

Selected Publications

Books

The Daughters of the American Revolution and Patriotic Memory in the Twentieth Century. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, forthcoming

The Spirit and the Shotgun: Armed Resistance and the Struggle for Civil Rights. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2007.

Edited Volumes

Ed. with Barbara Korte and Nicole Falkenhayner, *Heroism as a Global Phenomenon in Contemporary Culture*, New York: Routledge, 2019.

Ed. *Warring over Valor: How Race and Gender Shaped American Military Heroism in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries.* New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2019.

Ed. with Brian D. Behnken and Gregory D. Smithers. *Black Intellectual Thought in Modern America: A Historical Perspective.* Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2017.

Ed. *Extraordinary Ordinarity: Everyday Heroism in the United States, Germany, and Britain, 1800-2015.* Frankfurt: Campus, 2016.

Ed. with Pablo Dominguez. *Masculinities and the Nation in the Modern World: Between Hegemony and Marginalization.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.

Ed. with Brian D. Behnken. *Crossing Boundaries: Ethnicity, Race, and National Belonging in a Transnational World.* Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2013.

Ed. with Manfred Berg. *Globalizing Lynching History: Vigilantism and Extralegal Punishment from an International Perspective.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.

Ed. with Manfred Berg. *Racism in the Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaptation.* New York: Berghahn, 2011.

Ed. with Michael Butter and Patrick Keller. *Arnold Schwarzenegger: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Body and Image.* Heidelberg: Winter, 2011.

Journal Articles

"Defenders of Patriotism or Mothers of Fascism? The Daughters of the American Revolution, Antiradicalism, and Un-Americanism in the Interwar Period." *Journal of American Studies* 47, no. 4 (2013): 943-969.

"Transnational Perspectives on the History of Race and Racism in North America." *Amerikastudien* 54, no. 3 (2009): 473-498.

"Protection or Path toward Revolution? Black Power and Self-Defense." *Souls* 9, no. 4 (2007): 320-332.

"'They Finally Found Out that We Really Are Men': Violence, Non-Violence and Black Manhood in the Civil Rights Era." *Gender & History* 19, no. 3 (2007): 543-564.

"God, Gandhi, and Guns: The African American Freedom Struggle in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 1964- 1965." *Journal of African American History* 89, no. 1 (2004): 36-56.

“‘Urge People *Not* to Carry Guns’: Armed Self-Defense in the Louisiana Civil Rights Movement and the Radicalization of the Congress of Racial Equality.” *Louisiana History* 45, no. 3 (2004): 261-286.

“Southern Intellectuals and the Defense of Slavery: The Proslavery Thought of George Fitzhugh and Henry Hughes.” *Southern Historian* 23 (2002): 56-70.

Book Chapters

“Paws of Courage: The Heroization of Dogs in Contemporary American Culture.” In *An Eclectic Bestiary: Encounters in a More-Than-Human World*, ed. Birgit Spengler and Babette B. Tischleder, 321-334. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2019.

“Instrument of Subjugation or Avenue for Liberation? African American Military Heroism in World War II and the Vietnam War.” In *Warring over Valor: How Race and Gender Shaped American Military Heroism in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*, ed. Simon Wendt, 57-78. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2019.

“American Studies as a Multi/Inter/Transdisciplinary Endeavor? Problems, Challenges, and the Potential of Heroism for Collaborative Research.” In *Projecting American Studies: Essays on Theory, Method, and Practice*, ed. Frank Kelleter und Alexander Starre, 197-205. Heidelberg: Winter, 2018.

“‘The Thought of a Black Male with a Weapon Scares America’: African Americans, the Second Amendment, and the Racial Politics of Armed Self-Defense in the Civil Rights Era and Beyond” (with Rebecca Rössling). In *The Second Amendment and Gun Control: Freedom, Fear, and the American Constitution*, ed. Kevin Yuill and Joe Street, 65-82. New York: Routledge, 2018.

“Intellectual Predicaments: Black Nationalism in the Civil Rights and Post-Civil Rights Eras.” In *Black Intellectual Thought in Modern America: A Historical Perspective*, ed. Brian D. Behnken, Gregory D. Smithers, and Simon Wendt, 170-205. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2017.

“Heldentum und Autorität in der US-amerikanischen Gesellschaft um 1900.” In *Autorität: Krise, Konstruktion und Konjunktur*, ed. Oliver Kohns, Till van Rahden, and Marc Roussel, 75-107. Paderborn: Fink, 2016.

“Eldridge Cleaver: *Soul on Ice* (1967) Oder: ‘I will not be free until the day I can have a white woman in my bed and a white man minds his own business.’” In *Race & Sex: Eine Geschichte der Neuzeit*, ed. Jürgen Martschukat and Olaf Stieglitz, 152-159. Berlin: Neofaris, 2016.

“White Elite Women, the Gendered Memory of Heroism, and American Nationalism, 1890-1939.” In *Bewunderer, Verehrer, Zuschauer: Die Helden und ihr Publikum*, ed. Ronald G. Asch and Michael Butter, 161-178. Würzburg: Ergon, 2016.

“Transnationalizing American and Transatlantic History: Chances and Challenges.” In *American Studies Today: New Research Agendas*, ed. Winfried Fluck, Erik Redling, Sabine Sielke, and Hubert Zapf, 3-24. Heidelberg: Winter, 2014.

“Nationalist Middle-Class Women, Memory, and Conservative Family Values, 1890-1945.” In *Gender Roles and the Family: Changing Values and Norms in 20th-Century United States*, ed. Isabel Heinemann, 31-58. Frankfurt: Campus, 2012.

“Bodybuilding, Male Bodies, and Masculinity in 19th and 20th Century America: Eugen Sandow and Arnold Schwarzenegger.” In *Arnold Schwarzenegger: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Body and Image*, ed. Michael Butter, Patrick Keller, and Simon Wendt, 25-48. Heidelberg: Winter, 2011.

“Transnationalizing American Studies: Historians’ Perspectives” (with Heike Bungert). In *American Studies/Shifting Gears*, ed. Birte Christ, Christian Kloeckner, Elisabeth Schäfer-Wünsche, and Michael Butter, 89-116. Heidelberg: Winter, 2010.

“‘We Were Going to Fight Fire with Fire’: Black Power in the South.” In *Neighborhood Rebels: Black Power at the Local Level*, ed. Peniel E. Joseph, 131-147. New York: Palgrave, 2010.

“Massenmedien und die Bedeutung von Helden und Stars in den USA (1890-1929).” In *Medien und Imagepolitik im 20. Jahrhundert: Deutschland, Europa, USA*, ed. Daniela Münkel and Lu Seegers, 187-205. Frankfurt: Campus, 2008.

“Martin Luther Kings Philosophie der Gewaltfreiheit – Prinzip oder Methode? Pazifismus, gewaltloser Protest und bewaffneter Widerstand in der afroamerikanischen Bürgerrechtsbewegung.” In *Martin Luther King, Jr.: Leben, Werk und Vermächtnis*, ed. Michael Haspel and Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson, 35-54. Weimar: Wartburg Verlag, 2008.

“Krieg und Heldentum in den USA: Die Heroisierung amerikanischer Soldaten vom Ende des Bürgerkriegs bis zum spanisch-amerikanischen Krieg.” In *Krieg: Vergleichende Perspektiven aus Kunst, Musik und Geschichte*, ed. Cord Arendes and Jörg Peltzer, 115-132. Heidelberg: Winter, 2007.

“Gewalt und Männlichkeit in der Black Power Bewegung.” In *Väter, Soldaten, Liebhaber: Männer und Männlichkeiten in der Geschichte Nordamerikas*, ed. Jürgen Martschukat and Olaf Stieglitz, 355-369. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2007.

“African Americans and Criminal Justice in the American South: The Convict Lease System, 1868- 1928.” In *Criminal Justice in Germany and the United States*, ed. Manfred Berg, Stefan Kapsch, and Franz Streng, 19-28. Heidelberg: Winter, 2006.

“The Roots of Black Power? Armed Resistance and the Radicalization of the Civil Rights Movement.” In *The Black Power Movement: Rethinking the Civil Rights-Black Power Era*, ed. Peniel E. Joseph, 145-165. New York: Routledge, 2006.

Encyclopedia Articles

„Lynching and Mob Violence.” In *The Mississippi Encyclopedia*, ed. Ted Ownby, et. al., 757-758. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2017.

“Daughters of the American Revolution.” In *Encyclopedia of American Social History*, ed. Lynn Dumenil, 246-248. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.

“Black Self-Defense;” “Deacons for Defense and Justice;” “Williams, Robert F.” In *Encyclopedia of African American History*, ed. Leslie Alexander and Walter Rucker, 665-667, 732-733, 1104-1105. Santa Barbara: ABL-CLIO, 2010.

“African American Resistance, Jim Crow Era;” “African American Resistance, Reconstruction Era;” “American Slave Rebellions.” In *International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest: 1500 to the Present*, ed. Immanuel Ness, 16-19, 19-21, 88-90. New York: Blackwell, 2009.

“Civil Rights Movement.” In *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896-Present*, ed. Paul Finkelman, 411-419. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

"Du Bois, W.E.B" and "Garvey, Marcus." In *Encyclopedia of the Jazz Age: From the End of World War I to the Great Crash*, ed. James Ciment, 183-184, 256-257. New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2008.

"Bunche, Ralph (1904-1971);" "Gandhi, Mohandas (1869-1948);" "Kenyatta, Jomo (1897/1898?-1978);" "King, Martin Luther, Jr. (1929-1968);" "Mau Mau;" "Weathermen." In *Encyclopedia of the Cold War: A Political, Social, and Military History*, ed. Spencer C. Tucker and Andrew McCormick, 214-215, 486-487, 711-712, 720-722, 832-383, 1417-1418. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2007.

"Southern Christian Leadership Conference;" "Poor People's Campaign;" "Selma March." In *Postwar America: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural, and Economic History*, ed. James Ciment, 987-989, 1103-1105, 1153-1155. New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2006.

"Parks, Rosa Louise." In *Encyclopedia of American Lives*, ed. Arnold Markoe, Karen Markoe, and Kenneth T. Jackson. Vol. 7, 413-415. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2006.

"Nonviolent Direct Action and the Civil Rights Movement"; "Congress of Racial Equality"; "Racial Violence and the Civil Rights Movement." In *Encyclopedia of American Social Movements*, ed. Immanuel Ness. Vol. 1, 202-207; 208-211; 222-226. New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2004.

"Cold War (1945-1950), The Start of the Atomic Age." In *Encyclopedia of Espionage, Intelligence, and Security*, ed. K. Lee Lerner and Brenda Wilmoth Lerner. Vol. 1, 230-233. New York: Gale, 2004.

"Malcolm X (Malik El-Shabazz)." In *The Scribner Encyclopedia of American Lives: The 1960s*, ed. William L. O'Neill. Vol. 2, 37-40. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2003.

Book Reviews

John H. Hale, *The Freedom Schools: Student Activists in the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2016. *Journal of American History* 104, no. 2 (2017): 546-547.

Charles E. Cobb Jr., *This Nonviolent Stuff'll Get You Killed: How Guns Made the Civil Rights Movement Possible*. New York: Basic Books, 2014. *American Historical Review* 120, no. 2 (2015): 672-673.

The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975. Dir. by Göran Hugo Olsson. Prod. by Annika Rogell, Joslyn Barnes, and Danny Glover. Louverture Films, 2011. *Journal of American History* 99, no. 1 (2012): 380-382.

Paul Alkebulan, *Survival Pending Revolution: The History of the Black Panther Party*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2007. *Journal of African American History* 94, no. 1 (2009): 125-127.

Mark Newman, *The Civil Rights Movement*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2004. *Journal of Southern History* 74, no. 1 (2008): 229.