

DR. MARLON LIEBER

CURRICULUM VITAE

Goethe-Universität Frankfurt
Institut für England- und Amerikastudien
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Academic Employment

Assistant Professor of American Studies (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Apr. 2022

Contract Teacher (Lehrbeauftragter), School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Universität St. Gallen, March Apr. 2020, Nov. 2020, Apr. 2022

Contract Teacher (Lehrbeauftragter), Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Oct. 2016 Feb. 2017, Oct. 2018 Feb. 2019, Oct. 2020 Feb. 2021, Apr. July 2021, Oct. 2021 Mar. 2022

Assistant Professor of American Studies (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), English Department, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Oct. 2016 Feb. 2022

Assistant Professor of American Studies (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Apr. 2013 Mar. 2015

Education

Dr. phil. (summa cum laude), Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Feb. 2014 Feb. 2018

Magister Artium in American Studies and Theater, Film, and Media Studies, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Oct. 2007 Jan. 2013

International Research

Visiting Research Scholar, Department of English, University of Illinois at Chicago, Host: Walter Benn Michaels, July Dec. 2015

Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

Scientific Network, "The Failure of Knowledge / Knowledges of Failure," Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation), 2020-23 (Principal Investigators: Katharina Motyl and Regina Schober)

Travel Grant, Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (German Academic Exchange Service), Apr. 2018

Travel Grant, Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität (Friends and Supporters of the Goethe-University), July / Dec. 2015

Travel Grant, Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität (Friends and Supporters of the Goethe-University), Feb. 2015

Calliopean Prize 2013 for best Magister thesis at the Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Feb. 2013

Monographs

Reading 'Race' Relationally: Embodied Dispositions and Social Structures in Colson Whitehead's Novels (under contract with transcript for the "Lettre" series, forthcoming Spring 2023).

The Living Dead in the Long Downturn: Zombie Narrative Form and the Crises of the Present (in preparation).

Edited Volumes

Deautomating the Future: Marxist Perspectives on Capitalism and Technology, edited by Johannes Fehrle, Marlon Lieber, and J. Jesse Ramírez (under contract with Brill for the Historical Materialism Series, manuscript submitted Jan. 2022).

Im/Possibility: On the Production, Distribution, and Articulation of the Possible and the Impossible, special issue of *Coils of the Serpent*, no. 8, 2021, edited by Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich, Cord-Christian Casper, Emmanuel Tristan Kugland, and Marlon Lieber.

Marx and the United States, special issue of *Amerikastudien / American Studies*, vol. 62, no. 4, 2017, edited by Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich and Marlon Lieber.

Articles

"Myths of the American West." *Cultural Studies: An Introduction to the Study of British and American Cultures*, n.d. [Oct. 2021], www.cultural-studies.org/an-introduction-to-the-study-of-british-and-american-cultures/cowboys-the-american-west.

"The Living Dead in the Long Downturn: Im/Possible Communism and Zombie Narrative Form." *Coils of the Serpent*, no. 8, 2021, pp. 143-68.

(with Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich) "To Preserve the Possibility of Communal Life and Emancipation." Interview with Joshua Clover. *Coils of the Serpent*, no. 8, 2021, pp. 169-85.

- (with Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich, Cord-Christian Casper, and Emmanuel Tristan Kugland) “Im/Possibility: On the Production, Distribution, and Articulation of the Possible and the Impossible.” Introduction. *Coils of the Serpent*, no. 8, 2021, pp. 1-13.
- (with Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich) “Riotology: A Dialogue on Riots and Resistance.” *SOAR: Society of Americanists Review*, vol. 2, 2019-20, pp. 46-88.
- “Art and Economic Objecthood: Preliminary Remarks on ‘Sensuous Supra-Sensuous’ Things.” *The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies*, special issue of *REAL – Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature*, vol. 35, 2019, edited by Winfried Fluck, Rieke Jordan, and Johannes Voelz, pp. 61-80.
- (with Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich) “The United States of Marx and Marxism: Introduction.” *Amerikastudien / American Studies*, vol. 62, no. 4, 2017, pp. 511-29. [Chinese translation by Liu Enzhi in preparation, “美国的马克思主义: 导论”].
- “I Was Always Interested in Capitalism.” Interview with Walter Benn Michaels. *Amerikastudien / American Studies*, vol. 62, no. 4, 2017, pp. 663-75.
- “Sind die Vereinigten Staaten von America ‘post-racial’?” *POLIS: Report der deutschen Vereinigung für politische Bildung*, no. 3, 2014, pp. 15-17.

Book Chapters

- (with Johannes Fehrle and J. Jesse Ramírez) “Marxism and the Technology Debate.” Introduction. *Deautomating the Future: Marxist Perspectives on Capitalism and Technology*, edited by Johannes Fehrle, Marlon Lieber, and J. Jesse Ramírez. Leiden: Brill (forthcoming).
- “Money Form and Master Painting, or, When Warhol Wanted to Paint the Universal Equivalent Form.” *U.S.-American Culture as Popular Culture*, edited by Astrid Böger und Florian Sedlmeier, Heidelberg: Universitätsverlag Winter (forthcoming 2022).
- “Lebende Tote im langen Abschwung: Colson Whiteheads *Zone One* (2011) und die Katastrophe der Kapitakkumulation.” *Literarische Perspektiven auf den Kapitalismus: Fallbeispiele aus dem 21. Jahrhundert*, edited by Annika Gonnermann, Sina Schuhmaier, and Lisa Schwander, Tübingen: Narr Francke Attempto Verlag, 2021, pp. 255-75.
- “Spaces of Communal Misery: The Weird Post-Capitalism of *Beasts of the Southern Wild*.” *Spaces and Fictions of the Weird and the Fantastic: Ecologies, Geographies, Oddities*, edited by Julius Greve and Florian Zappe, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019, pp. 183-200.
- “(Post-Black) *Bildungsroman* or Novel of (Black Bourgeois) Manners? The Logic of Reproduction in Colson Whitehead’s *Sag Harbor*.” *Power Relations in Black Lives: Reading African American Literature and Culture with Bourdieu and Elias*, edited by Christa Buschendorf, Bielefeld: transcript Verlag, 2018, pp. 101-21.

- “Being Afraid of ‘Post-Blackness’: What’s Neoliberalism Got to Do With It?”
African American Culture and Society After Rodney King: Provocations and Protests, Progression and “Post-Racialism,” edited by Josephine Metcalf and Carina Spaulding, Farnham: Ashgate, 2015, pp. 269-82.
- “It’s Always Mississippi in the fifties’: Colson Whitehead’s Imaginative Geography of the U.S. South.” *The South From Elsewhere*, edited by Marcel Arbeit, Olomouc: Palacký University Olomouc, 2014, pp. 115-28.
- “Rural Electrification plus Government Power: Leo Marx, the Materialist Dialectic, and *Power and the Land.*” *Rereading The Machine in the Garden: Nature and Technology in American Culture*, edited by Eric Erbacher, Nicole Maruo-Schröder, and Florian Sedlmeier, Frankfurt/New York: Campus Verlag, 2014, pp. 101-20.

Book Reviews

- Review of Amy A. Wendling, *Karl Marx über Technologie und Entfremdung*, Berlin: Dietz Verlag, 2022. *Soziopolis* (in preparation).
- Review of Bertram D. Ashe and Ilka Saal, editors, *Slavery and the Post-Black Imagination*, Seattle: U of Washington P, 2020. *Amerikastudien / American Studies* (in preparation).
- Review of Annie McClanahan, *Dead Pledges: Debt, Crisis, and Twenty-First-Century Culture*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2017. *The New Americanist*, vol. 1, no. 2, 2019, pp. 139-41.
- Review of Ian Fraser, *Identity, Politics and the Novel: The Aesthetic Moment*, Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2013. *Marx & Philosophy Review of Books*, Dec. 7, 2015, marxandphilosophy.org.uk/reviewofbooks/reviews/2015/2102.

Public Writing

- “Ideologie, Gewalt und stummer Zwang.” Interview with Søren Mau. *Analyse & kritik: Zeitung für linke Debatte und Praxis*, no. 678, Jan. 2022, p. 31.
- “Reichtum als soziales Verhältnis.” Review of Aaron Benanav, *Automatisierung und die Zukunft der Arbeit*, Berlin: Suhrkamp, 2021. *analyse & kritik: Zeitung für linke Debatte und Praxis*, no. 676, Nov. 2021, p. 33.
- “Neoliberalismus von links: Der Soziologe Daniel Zamora über die neoliberale Anschlussfähigkeit von Michel Foucault.” Interview with Daniel Zamora. *analyse & kritik: Zeitung für linke Debatte und Praxis*, no. 616, May 2016, p. 32.
- (with Daniel Zamora) “Rebel Without a Cause: The politics of *The Hunger Games* series aren’t as revolutionary as they’ve been hyped to be.” *Jacobin*, Jan. 4, 2016, www.jacobinmag.com/2016/01/hunger-games-review-capitalism-revolution-mockingjay-suzanne-collins/.

Translations

Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich and Marlon Lieber. "Um die Möglichkeit eines gemeinsamen Lebens und der Emanzipation zu bewahren." Interview with Joshua Clover. *Communaut* (in preparation).

Christa Buschendorf. "We Have a Dream." Interview with Cornel West. *Gazette: Das politische Kulturmagazin*, no. 38, Summer 2013, pp. 71-77 (abridged translation of "'We Need Martin More Than Ever': Interview with Cornel West on Martin Luther King, Jr., August 2011." *Amerikastudien / American Studies*, vol. 56, no. 3, 2011, pp. 449-67).

Conference Panel and Workshop Organization

The Algorithmic Road to Socialism? A Workshop on Digital Technologies and Postcapitalist Imaginaries. Panel Discussion (participants: Aaron Benanav, Christina Gratorp, Jan Groos, Max Grünberg, and Jens Schröter). Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, June 3, 2022.

(with Marius Henderson and Molina Klingler) *The Subjugated/Subversive Knowledges of "Failed Individuals" and Questions of Affect vs. Knowledge*. 5th Workshop of the Research Network "The Failure of Knowledge – Knowledges of Failure, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Apr. 21-22, 2022.

Zombies: Representations of the Living Dead. Panel Discussion (participants: Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich, Johannes Fehrle, and Dorothee Marx). Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, July 7, 2021.

(with Luvena Kopp and Jesse Ramírez) "Representing Social Struggles: Riots and Racialized Violence in Visual Media." *Environment, Place and Protest*, Biennial Conference of the European Association for American Studies / 63rd British Association for American Studies Conference, King's College London, University College London, and Eccles Center for American Studies at the British Library, Apr. 5, 2018. Conference Panel.

(with Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich and Jesse Ramírez) "Did Somebody Say Dialectic?" *Contradiction Studies: Mapping the Field*, Universität Bremen, Feb. 11, 2017. Conference Panel.

(with Nicole Hirschfelder, Luvena Kopp, Stephan Kuhl, and Jiří Šalamoun) "Post-Black Aesthetics versus Black Lives Matter: Debating 'Race' in Contemporary American Society and Culture." Biennial Conference of the European Association for American Studies, Ovidius University, Constanța, Apr. 25, 2016. Conference Panel.

(with Wibke Schniedermann) "*Haupt- und Nebenwidersprüche*": *Klasse, "Rasse" und Geschlecht*. Feb. 21-27, 2016. Compact Seminar at Birkenhof, Lenzkirch.

Invited Lectures

- Round table. "Automation and Futures of Work." *Work: The Labors of Language, Culture, and History*. Biennial Conference of the Swiss Association for North American Studies, Universität St. Gallen, Nov. 5, 2021.
- "Desert Garden Desert Prime: On the World-Ecological Unconscious of the American West." Universität Trier, Feb. 19, 2021.
- "Desert Garden Desert': World-Ecology and Western Myths in Claire Vaye Watkins' *Gold Fame Citrus*." Technische Universität Dresden, June 25 2020.
- "Walls and Waves: Monstrous (Im)mobilities on a Warming Planet." Universität zu Köln, Dec. 17, 2019.
- "Lebende Tote im langen Abschwung: Colson Whiteheads *Zone One* und die Katastrophe der Kapitalakkumulation." *Literatur und Kapitalismuskritik: Aktuelle Perspektiven*, lecture series. Anglistisches Seminar, Universität Mannheim, Mar. 21, 2019.
- (with Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich) "The United States of Marx and Marxism: A Critical Survey of Contemporary Radical Thought." *Quo Vadis USA?*, lecture series, English seminar, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Dec. 18, 2018.
- "Politische Ontologie der Rasse' vs. Kritik der politischen Ökonomie: Frank Wildersons traditioneller Marx." Veranstaltungen des ASa der Universität Münster zur Ideologiekritik, Jan. 10, 2018.
- "Zombie Riots." *the end: (Post-)Apocalyptic Visions in British and American Cultures*, magazine launch, Fabrik der Künste, Hamburg, Jan. 20, 2017.
- "Who Needs a Black Bill Gates? Post-Blackness, Neoliberalism, and... Beyoncé." *Race and Intertextuality in Contemporary American Literature*, seminar conducted by Stephan Kuhl, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, June 28, 2016.
- "Fictions of Surplus Humanity." English Department, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, May 30, 2016.
- "Colson Whitehead's Temporary Apocalypse: Crisis, Unemployment, Zombies." *Contemporary American Literature: 1980 to the Present*, seminar conducted by Jennifer Ashton, Department of English, University of Illinois at Chicago, Oct. 13, 2015.
- "Neoliberalismus als ästhetisches Problem: Motive kritischer Ästhetik in Walter Benn Michaels' Fotografietheorie," *Gegenwartskultur und Kritische Theorie*, lecture series, Arbeitskreis Kritische Theorie, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Dec. 10, 2014.

Conference Papers and Panel Moderations

- “Warhol’s Master Painting, Marx’s Money-Form: On the Knowledge of the Fetish-like Character of the World of Commodities and Its Limits.” *Embodied Knowledges & the Failures of Neoliberal Work Culture. The Failure of Knowledge / Knowledges of Failure*, Universität Mannheim, June 11, 2021.
- “Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Commodity Fetishism (But Were Afraid to Ask Andy Warhol).” *U.S.-American Culture as Popular Culture*. 66th Annual Convention of the German Association for American Studies, Universität Hamburg, June 15, 2019.
- “Fully Automated Luxury Pastoralism: Rereading Lewis Mumford’s *Technics and Civilization*.” *Posthuman Economies: Literary and Cultural Imaginations of the Postindustrial Human*, University of Basel, Apr. 13, 2019.
- Panel Moderation. “Aesthetic Theory Today.” *The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies*, Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Nov. 29, 2018.
- “Freaks of the Southern Wild – Culture, Biopolitics, Neoliberalism.” *The American Weird: Ecologies & Geographies*, Universität Göttingen, Apr. 14, 2018.
- “Organizing the Apocalypse: The Living Dead in the Age of Class Decomposition.” *Environment, Place and Protest*, Biennial Conference of the European Association for American Studies / 63rd British Association for American Studies Conference, King’s College London, University College London, and Eccles Center for American Studies at the British Library, Apr. 5, 2018.
- “Kunst und ökonomische Gegenständlichkeit.” *Das ist Ästhetik!*, X. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Ästhetik, Hochschule für Gestaltung, Offenbach am Main, Feb. 17, 2018.
- “Theorizing the Return of the Riot.” *From Abolition to Black Lives Matter: Past and Present Forms of Transnational Black Resistance*, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Oct. 27, 2017.
- “Wertgesetz, Rassismus und die ‘relative Überbevölkerung.’” *Marx Kongress 2017*, Universität Trier, Oct. 12, 2017.
- “‘Terror’ and ‘Hegemony’ in Fanon, Wilderson, and Marx.” *Contradiction Studies: Mapping the Field*, Universität Bremen, Feb. 11, 2017.
- “Im/possible Communism: Is ‘the simple thing / so hard to achieve’ so simple, after all?” *Im/Possibility: On the Production, Distribution, and Articulation of the Possible and Impossible*, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Oct. 1, 2016.
- “Bodies and the Logic of Capital: A Reading of Ben Lerner’s *10:04*.” *Embodiment, Perception, and Critical Practice*, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, July 9, 2016.
- Panel Moderation. “Post-Black Aesthetics versus Black Lives Matter: Debating ‘Race’ in Contemporary American Society and Culture.” Biennial Conference of the European Association for American Studies, Ovidius University, Constanța, Apr. 25, 2016.

- “‘Reflection of a Distortion’ or ‘Distorted Reflection’: Lukács’ Critical Realism and the Critique of Political Economy.” *Realism Bites: Disruptive Realisms in Modernity*, Biannual German Graduate Student Conference, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Nov. 6, 2015.
- “Language, History, and Neoliberal Multiculturalism in Colson Whitehead’s *Apex Hides the Hurt*.” *American Multiculturalism in Context*, Université de Haute Alsace, Mulhouse, Mar. 28, 2015.
- “Mercenaries, Monsters, and Markets: Neoliberalism and Violence in Colson Whitehead.” *Neoliberalism and American Literature*, Clinton Institute, University College Dublin, Feb. 21, 2015.
- “Post-Racial, Late Capitalist. Zombies and the Surplus Population in Colson Whitehead’s *Zone One*.” Postgraduate Forum of the German Association for American Studies 2014, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Oct. 12, 2014.
- “It’s always Mississippi in the fifties’: Colson Whitehead’s Imaginative Geography of the U.S. South.” *A View From Elsewhere*, Palacký University, Olomouc, June 21, 2014.
- Panel Moderation. *The Futures of Black Studies – Historicity, Objectives and Methodologies, Ethics*, Bremen Black Studies (BBS), Universität Bremen, Apr. 26, 2014.
- (with Christa Buschendorf and Nicole Lindenberg) “Symbolic Violence: A New Sociological Approach to Black Studies.” *The Futures of Black Studies – Historicity, Objectives and Methodologies, Ethics*, Bremen Black Studies (BBS), Universität Bremen, Apr. 25, 2014.
- “Being Afraid of Post-Blackness: The Neoliberal Threat.” *The African American Experience Since 1992*, Wilderforce Institute for the Study of Slavery and Emancipation (WISE), University of Hull, Sep. 20, 2013.
- “Rural Electrification plus Market Integration, or, Watching *Power and the Land* with Leo and Karl Marx.” *Rural America*, 60th Annual Convention of the German Association for American Studies, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Erlangen-Nürnberg, June 1, 2013.
- “Humor Between Symbolic Violence and Subversion in Ralph Ellison and Colson Whitehead.” *Who’s Laughing Now? Humor as Resistance and Subversion in US American Culture*, 10th Annual Students and Graduates Conference, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Nov. 11, 2011.
- “The Narrativization of an American Folk Hero: Colson Whitehead’s *John Henry Days*.” *American Heroes*, Student Conference in American Studies (SCIAS), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Nov. 5, 2011.
- “Persistent Frontiers: Symbolic Violence in *Native Son* and *Sag Harbor*.” *Transformations: Theorizing class and race in the 21st century*, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), June 18, 2010.

Teaching

Goethe-Universität Frankfurt

- “Desert Garden Desert Prime: The Great American Desert and Other Western Myths,” Summer 2022
- “Introduction to Literary Studies,” Summer 2022
- “The Afterlives of Slavery: On Afro-pessimism,” Winter 2020/21, Winter 2021/22
- “American Automation,” Winter 2021/22
- “American Revolutionary Thought After the Great Financial Crisis,” Summer 2021
- “Zombies! Theories and Histories of the Living Dead,” Summer 2021
- “The Western and World-Ecology,” Winter 2020/21
- “Introduction to American Culture and Cultural Studies,” Winter 2018/19, Summer 2014, Winter 2013/14
- “Black Liberation Struggles, 1954-2016,” Winter 2016/17
- “Hegel, Du Bois, and the Struggle for Recognition,” Winter 2014/15
- “Visualizing ‘Race’: From the Minstrel Show to the 21st Century,” Summer 2014
- “Marxism and Cultural Criticism,” Winter 2013/14
- “Post-Black? Post-‘Race’? Post-Soul? The Novels of Colson Whitehead,” Summer 2013

Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel

- “American Automation,” Winter 2021/22
- “‘The Progress That Shall Be Made’: On Science Fiction,” Winter 2021/22
- “Zombies: Representations of the Living Dead,” Summer 2021
- “The Culture of Technological Artifacts,” Summer 2021
- “Disaster Communism or Climate Barbarism? Representations of Post-Catastrophic Communities,” Winter 2020/21
- “(Anti-)Blackness on the Screen,” Summer 2020, Summer 2018
- “The Western,” Summer 2020
- “Prophets of #doom: Ecopessimism and Social Media,” Winter 2019/20
- “Technology and American Culture: Meanings, Materialities, Practices,” Summer 2019
- “The Coming Catastrophe: The Apocalypse in (Popular) Culture,” Winter 2018/19
- “American Art and Art Criticism After 1945,” Summer 2018
- “Thinking Through the Box: Global Culture and the Shipping Container,” Winter 2017/18

“The Photograph and the World: Meaning and Indexicality,” Summer 2017

“Representing ‘The People’: Populism in Theory and Practice,” Summer 2017

Universität St. Gallen

“Is Technology a Cause of or a Solution to Global Warming?,” Fall 2020, Spring 2022

“Technology and Social Change,” Spring 2020

University and Departmental Service

Member of selection committee for student exchange with North American partner universities, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Nov. 2013, Nov. 2014

Study Abroad Advisor, Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Oct. 2013 Mar. 2015

Professional Affiliations

German Association of American Studies / Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien (DGfA)

German Society of Aesthetics / Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ästhetik (DGÄ)