

DR. STEPHAN KUHL
CURRICULUM VITAE

Institute for English and American Studies
Goethe University Frankfurt
Norbert-Wollheim-Platz 1
D-60629 Frankfurt am Main
kuhl@em.uni-frankfurt.de

Academic Employment

Assistant Professor (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt, October 2012–September 2013, October 2014–March 2015, April 2016–

Adjunct Lecturer (Lehrbeauftragter) and Research Assistant (Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft), Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt, April 2015–October 2015

Various Positions as Teaching Assistant (Tutor) and Research Assistant (Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft), Institute for English and American Studies and Comparative Literature Department, Goethe University Frankfurt, 2007–2012

Education

Postdoctoral Researcher in the Project “American Literature and the Transformation of Privacy,” funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), October 2016–

Dr. phil., Goethe University Frankfurt, Dissertation: “The Novels of Crude Psychology: Richard Wright, Fredric Wertham, and the Twofold Truth of Literary Practice” (“summa cum laude”), Advisor: Prof. Dr. Christa Buschendorf, Reviewers: Prof. Dr. Johannes Völz (Goethe University) and Professor Werner Sollors (Harvard University), July 2012–July 2016

Magister Artium in American Studies and Comparative Literature (“with honors”), Goethe University Frankfurt, October 2005–March 2012

International Research

German Library of Congress Fellow, John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, December 2013–September 2014

Visiting Student, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, in affiliation with the Department of African and African American Studies, August 2009–May 2010

Fellowships and Grants

Conference Grant, The Ralph and Fanny Ellison Charitable Trust, “(Re)Reading Ralph Ellison.” Co-organized with Luvena Kopp and Nicole Lindenberg. Symposium at Goethe University Frankfurt, July 2019

Conference Grant, ProPostDoc Program of the Frankfurt Humanities Research Center (Forschungszentrum Historische Geisteswissenschaften), “(Re)Reading Ralph Ellison.” Co-organized with Luvena Kopp and Nicole Lindenberg. Symposium at Goethe University Frankfurt, July 2019

Conference Grant, Association of Friends and Supporters of the Goethe University Frankfurt (Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt), “(Re)Reading Ralph Ellison.” Co-organized with Luvena Kopp and Nicole Lindenberg. Symposium at Goethe University Frankfurt, July 2019

Conference Grant, Dr. Bodo Sponholz-Stiftung für Wohlfahrt, Kunst und Wissen, “(Re)Reading Ralph Ellison.” Co-organized with Luvena Kopp and Nicole Lindenberg. Symposium at Goethe University Frankfurt, July 2019

Travel Grant, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), The International Ralph Ellison Symposium, Oxford University, Oxford, England, September 2017

Travel Grant, Association of Friends and Supporters of the Goethe University Frankfurt (Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt), Research trip to the Harvard University Libraries, Cambridge, MA, the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library of Yale University, New Haven, CT, and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of the New York Public Library, New York City, NY, August 2016–September 2016

Travel Grant, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), European Association for American Studies Conference, Ovidius University, Constanta, Romania, April 2016

Travel Grant, Association of Friends and Supporters of the Goethe University Frankfurt (Vereinigung von Freunden und Förderern der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt), Creating, Shaping, Signifying: The 10th Brno Conference of English, American and Canadian Studies, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic, February 2015

German Library of Congress Fellowship, awarded by the German Association for American Studies (DGfA) and the John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, December 2013–September 2014

Stipend, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, December 2013–June 2014

Full Stipend, German-American Fulbright Commission, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, August 2009–May 2010

Full Stipend, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), for study at a US-American University in the 2009/2010 academic year (declined)

Awards

Fulbright American Studies Award, awarded by the German-American Fulbright Commission and the German Association for American Studies (DGfA) “in recognition of outstanding research in the field of American Studies,” 2019

Obama Dissertation Prize (for “The Novels of Crude Psychology: Richard Wright, Fredric Wertham, and the Twofold Truth of Literary Practice”), Transnational American Studies Institute, Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, 2016

Publications

Monograph

Crude Psychology: Richard Wright's Literary Practice. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, (under contract).

Articles

“Emily Dickinson, the Leisure Class, and Critical Theory.” *Spending Time With/In the Nineteenth Century*. Ed. Rieke Jordan, (in preparation).

“Psychoanalysis and Fredric Wertham’s Reading of *Hamlet*.” *Richard Wright in Context*. Ed. Michael Nowlin. New York: Cambridge UP, (forthcoming).

“The Wright School.” *Ralph Ellison in Context*. Ed. Paul Devlin. New York: Cambridge UP, (forthcoming).

“Richard Wright’s Transnationalism and His Unwritten *Magnum Opus*.” *The Cambridge Companion to Richard Wright*. Ed. Glenda R. Carpio. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2019. 185–198.

“The Private Sphere of the Text: Emily Dickinson’s Literary Practice and Her Public.” *American Counter/Publics*. Ed. Ulla Haselstein, Frank Kelleter, Alexander Starre, and Birte Wege. Heidelberg: Winter, 2019. 343–358.

“The Topos of Lyrical Gunplay: Hip-Hop and the Process of Civilization.” *Violence from Slavery to #BlackLivesMatter: African American History and Representation*. Ed. Andrew Dix and Peter Templeton. New York: Routledge, 2019. 158–174.

“Intellectual Disposition and Bodily Knowledge: Richard Wright’s Literary Practice.” *Power Relations in Black Lives: Reading African American Literature and Culture with Bourdieu and Elias*. Ed. Christa Buschendorf. Bielefeld: transcript, 2018. 55–76.

“Guilty Children: Richard Wright’s *Savage Holiday* and Fredric Wertham’s *Dark Legend*.” *African American Literary Studies: New Texts, New Approaches, New Challenges*. Ed. Glenda R. Carpio and Werner Sollors. Spec. issue of *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 55.4 (2010): 667–684.

Reviews and Miscellaneous

Review of Jean-Christophe Cloutier, *Shadow Archives: The Lifecycles of African American Literature* (New York: Columbia UP, 2019). *African American Review*, (forthcoming).

“Wiederkehr ästhetischer Fragestellungen: Internationale Konferenz ‘The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies’ eröffnete neue Blickwinkel” (with Rieke Jordan). *UniReport* 52.1 (February 7, 2019): 13.

Conference Contributions, Guest Lectures, Colloquia

“Emily Dickinson and Theodor W. Adorno’s Defense of Culture.” American Studies Research Colloquium. Goethe University Frankfurt. July 14, 2020.

“Humor in the African American Cultural Tradition.” Guest speaker in the seminar “Cultural Theories of Humor and Comedy” by Magda Majewska. Goethe University Frankfurt. June 29, 2020.

“Spending Time in Emily Dickinson’s ‘Brain.’” Spending Time With/In the Nineteenth Century: An Interdisciplinary Conference. Goethe University Frankfurt. February 3–4, 2020.

“Deconstruction.” Guest speaker in the seminar “Current Research in American Studies” by Johannes Völz. Goethe University Frankfurt. December 5, 2019.

“(Re)Reading Ralph Ellison in Theory.” (Re)Reading Ralph Ellison. Symposium at Goethe University Frankfurt. July 19–21, 2019.

“Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man*.” Fully Booked—American Literature at Goethe University. Goethe University Frankfurt. June 18, 2019.

Panel Moderation. “Aesthetic Theory Today.” The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies Conference. Goethe University Frankfurt. November 29–December 1, 2018.

“Privacy and Americanist Literary Studies: The Case of Emily Dickinson.” Current Research in American Studies. Goethe University Frankfurt. October 31, 2018.

“Private Language and American Literary Publics.” “American Counter/Publics”: 65th Annual Conference of the German Association for American Studies. Free University of Berlin. May 24–27, 2018.

“The Trope of the Shooting Mouth: Signification and Depacification in Hip-Hop.” American Studies Research Colloquium. Goethe University Frankfurt. January 16, 2018.

“‘Race’ and Hannah Arendt’s Concept of Privacy.” Current Research in American Studies. Goethe University Frankfurt. November 28, 2017.

“Richard Wright’s *Native Son*.” Fully Booked—American Literature at Goethe University. Goethe University Frankfurt. November 14, 2017.

- “‘Finding the Formula’: Ralph Ellison, Richard Wright, and Their Positions in the Literary Field.” The International Ralph Ellison Symposium. Oxford University, Oxford, England. September 28–30, 2017.
- “Riots and Rage in Music (N.W.A, Beyoncé, and Kendrick Lamar).” Guest speaker in the seminar “Black Uprisings/Black Rage: Critical Discourse and Social Battles from the 19th Century until Today” by Luvena Kopp. University Tübingen. July 26, 2017.
- “The Private and the I: Detective Fiction between Romanticism and Modernism.” “Modernities and Modernization in North America”: 64th Annual Conference of the German Association for American Studies. Leibniz University of Hanover. June 8–11, 2017.
- “Privacy, Consciousness, Literature” (with Johannes Völz). Current Research in American Studies. Goethe University Frankfurt. November 30, 2016.
- “Obama Dissertation Prize Lecture.” Transnational American Studies Institute. Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. November 24, 2016.
- “James Baldwin and Richard Wright in Paris.” “A Language to Dwell In”: James Baldwin, Paris, and International Visions Conference. The American University of Paris, France. May 26–28, 2016.
- Panel Moderation. “The Myriad Connections of James Baldwin.” “A Language to Dwell In”: James Baldwin, Paris, and International Visions Conference. The American University of Paris, France. May 26–28, 2016.
- “‘Bigger Thomas was not black all the time; he was white, too’: References to Richard Wright in Contemporary American Literature.” “Mapping Transnational America”: European Association for American Studies Conference. Ovidius University, Constanta, Romania. April 22–25, 2016.
- “The Aesthetics of Surveillance and the Process of Allegorical Reading.” Surveillance | Society | Culture: International Conference. Georg-August-University Göttingen. February 26–28, 2016.
- “Signification and Depacification: Violence in the Aesthetics of Hip-Hop.” Violence in the American Imagination Conference. Loughborough University, Loughborough, England. July 22–23, 2015.
- “Richard Wright’s Social Trajectory and ‘Literary Capital’.” American Studies Research Colloquium. Goethe University Frankfurt. June 30, 2015.
- “Richard Wright’s Urgent Scholasticism: On the Necessary Social Conditions for ‘Signifying’ and Intertextuality.” Creating, Shaping, Signifying: The 10th Brno Conference of English, American and Canadian Studies. Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. February 5–7, 2015.
- Panel Moderation. “African American Voices: McKay, Hurston, Fauset.” Creating, Shaping, Signifying: The 10th Brno Conference of English, American and Canadian Studies. Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic. February 5–7, 2015.

“Relational Sociology as Text Sociology: Pierre Bourdieu’s *Pascalian Meditations* and Richard Wright’s *The Outsider*.” Current Research in American Studies. Goethe University Frankfurt. January 20, 2015.

“Between Neurosis and Innocence: Richard Wright’s Psychology of Colonization and Decolonization.” Postgraduate Forum of the DGfA Conference. Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz. October 10–12, 2014.

“‘The Matricidal Theme’: Richard Wright, Fredric Wertham, and the Psychoanalytic Readings of *Hamlet*.” John W. Kluge Center of the Library of Congress, Washington, DC. August 19, 2014.

“Beyond Savagery: Richard Wright on West Africa and White America.” American Literature in the World Graduate Conference. Yale University, New Haven, CT. April 11, 2014.

“Repression and Omission in Richard Wright’s *Native Son*.” American Studies Research Colloquium. Goethe University Frankfurt. July 2, 2013.

“Money, Exchange, Language in Zora Neale Hurston’s *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.” Nathan I. Huggins Commemorative Conference. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. December 5, 2009.

(Co-)Organization of Conferences, Symposia, Panels, Workshops

“(Re)Reading Ralph Ellison.” Co-organized with Luvena Kopp and Nicole Lindenberg. Symposium at Goethe University Frankfurt. July 19–21, 2019.

“The Return of the Aesthetic in American Studies.” Organized by the Department of American Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt. Conference at Goethe University Frankfurt, November 29–December 1, 2018.

“*Reflections Unheard: Black Women in Civil Rights* (A Film by Nevline Nnaji).” Co-organized by the American Studies Departments of Goethe University Frankfurt, University Münster, and University Tübingen. Film Screening and Discussion at Goethe University Frankfurt. June 8, 2018.

“Rethinking Privacy: Interdisciplinary Perspectives.” Co-organized by DFG Research Project “American Literature and the Transformation of Privacy,” Goethe University Frankfurt, and DFG Research Training Group “Privatheit und Digitalisierung,” University Passau. Symposium at Goethe University Frankfurt, May 28, 2018.

“Post-Black Aesthetics versus Black Lives Matter: Debating ‘Race’ in Contemporary American Society and Culture.” Co-organized with Nicole Hirschfelder, Luvena Kopp, Marlon Lieber, and Jiří Šalamoun. Panel at “Mapping Transnational America”: European Association for American Studies Conference. Ovidius University, Constanta, Romania. April 22–25, 2016.

Teaching

- “Emily Dickinson,” Summer Term 2019 (Master and Lehramt; cross-listed with the Master certificate program Gender Studies of the Cornelia Goethe Center for Women’s and Gender Studies)
- “Privacy in American Literature and Culture,” Summer Term 2018 (Master and Lehramt)
- “Introduction to Literary Studies,” Summer Term 2016a (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Introduction to Literary Studies,” Summer Term 2016b (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Race and Intertextuality in Contemporary American Literature,” Summer Term 2016 (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Scenes of Withdrawal in Literature and Culture from the 1860s to the 1960s,” Summer Term 2016 (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Ghetto Poetry: Sociogenesis and Symbolism,” Summer Term 2015 (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Introduction to American Cultural Studies,” Summer Term 2015 (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Introduction to American Cultural Studies,” Winter Term 2014/15 (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Introduction to American Cultural Studies,” Summer Term 2013 (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Richard Wright, *Native Sons*: The Novel and Its Adaptations,” Winter Term 2013/14 (Bachelor and Lehramt)
- “Introduction to American Cultural Studies,” Winter Term 2013/14 (Bachelor and Lehramt)

Service

- Article referee for *African American Review*, 2019–
- Member of hiring committee for Professorship (W3) in American Studies, Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt, 2019–2020
- Member of the admissions committee for the Master’s Program in American Studies for the Winter Term 2016/17, Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt, 2016
- Member of selection committee for student exchange with North American partner universities, Goethe University Frankfurt, 2012, 2014
- Study Abroad Advisor, Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt, October 2012–September 2013
- Member of hiring committee for Junior Professorship (W1) in American History, Institute for English and American Studies, Goethe University Frankfurt, 2009

Memberships

Association of Friends and Supporters of Goethe University (VFF)

Frankfurt Humanities Research Centre (FZHG)

German Association for American Studies (DGfA)

German Fulbright Alumni Association

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Ralph Ellison Society