



Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Amerikastudien

Universität
Rostock

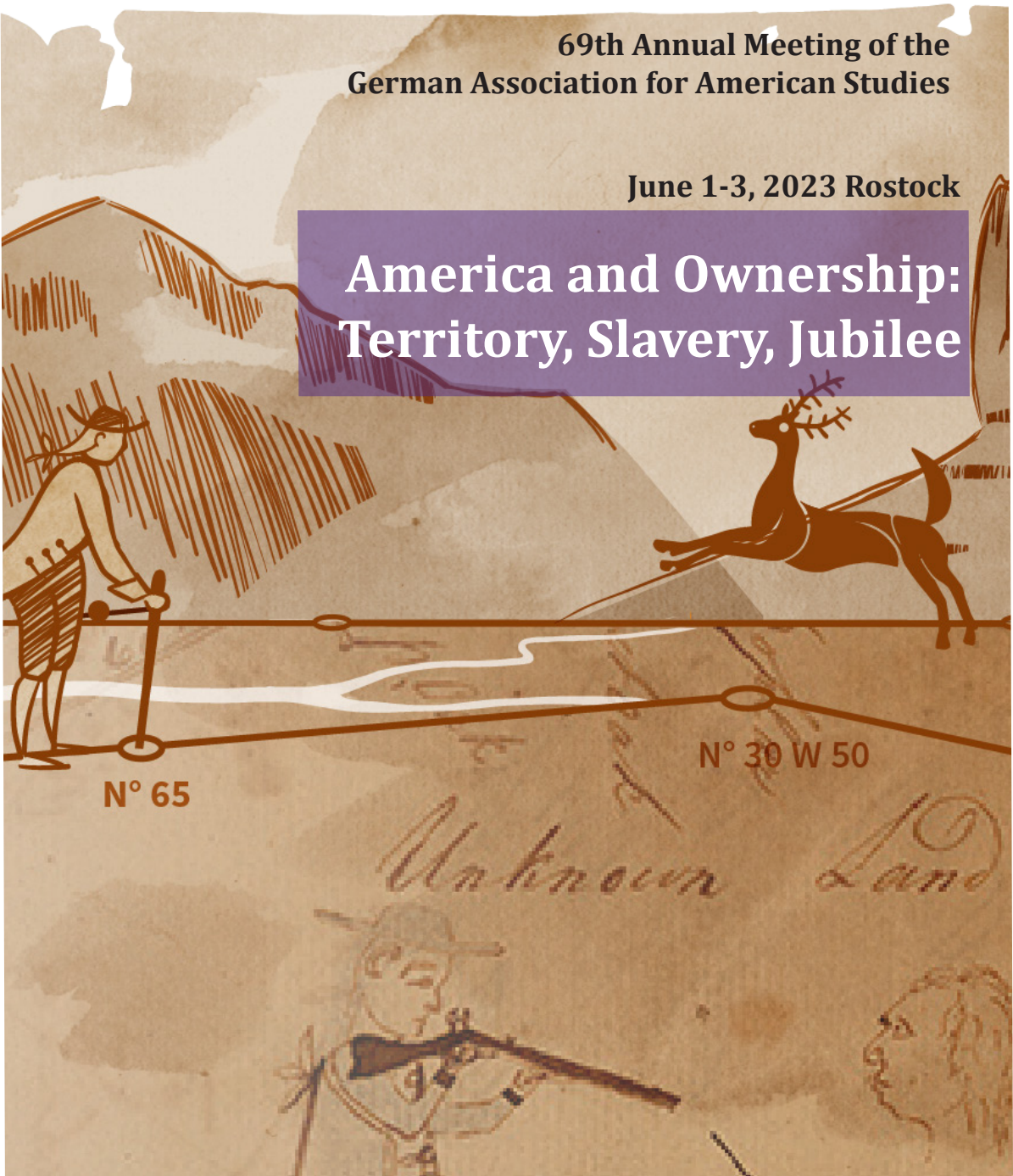


Traditio et Innovatio

69th Annual Meeting of the
German Association for American Studies

June 1-3, 2023 Rostock

America and Ownership: Territory, Slavery, Jubilee



DGfA/GAAS 2023

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR AMERIKASTUDIEN GERMAN ASSOCIATION FOR AMERICAN STUDIES

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Universität Rostock

North American Literature and Cultural Studies

August-Bebel-Str. 28

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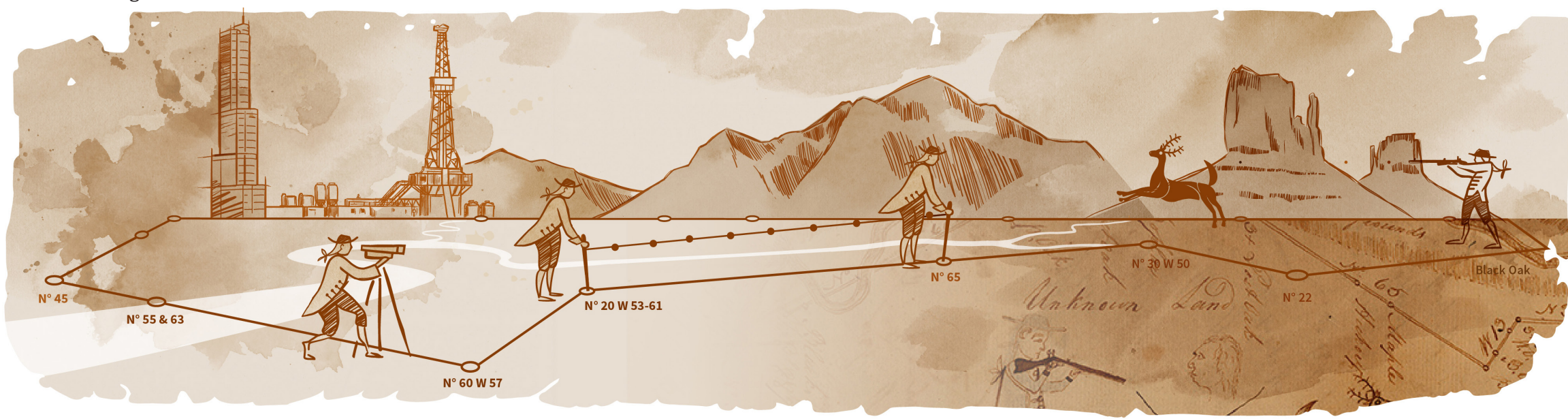
DESIGN

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A Welcome from the President

Welcome to the 69th Annual Meeting of the German Association for American Studies in Rostock! We're meeting all the way in the North-east, after having met all the way down in the Southwest last year – which nicely corresponds with our Association's spatial reach. Our conference topic this year works equally well to represent our conceptual and disciplinary scope. "America and Ownership: Territory, Slavery, Jubilee": This topic provides ample room for the wide range of interests, approaches, methodologies, and disciplinary expertise that characterizes our Association. Ownership is a fraught concept, and it is a concept that does not easily lend itself to celebratory takes. In their outline of the theme, the conference organizers point to the lack of academic attention that the topic of ownership has received in the past, and they are right. But once one starts thinking about ownership, one cannot really stop. The theme touches upon all the major debates of our field – from early American Studies and the ongoing concern with the politics of conquest and expropriation to the discussions of environmental justice and animal rights. The status of ownership is obviously a legal matter, so that reflections on ownership need to take into consideration the borderland where law, politics, and other social discourses intersect, merge, and clash with cultural and literary representations. This interference will be addressed both in keynotes and in workshop presentations. But ownership is so much more than an issue of jurisdiction and legislation; it is at the heart of the American economic system, it informs political philosophy and decision-making, and it serves to orchestrate processes of cultural identification, communication, and conflict. Ownership is a fundamental category informing the thinking of entitlement, governance, status, and identity deeply, though often invisibly.

The subtitle to our conference given by the organizers – Territory, Slavery, Jubilee – serves to channel our debates, and it epitomizes the relevance of the concept of ownership for the foundational discourses,

institutions, and practices of the United States: settler colonialism, slavery, and (im)migration. It is important to bear in mind, however, that the concept of ownership does not only serve as a staple element for the legitimation of rule and control; it also represents participation and equality. At the end of *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*, Harriet Wilson writes that even though she is free and reunited with her children, the dream of her life "is not yet realized. I do not sit with my children in a home of my own. I still long for a hearthstone of my own, however humble. I wish it for my children's sake far more than for my own," thus associating ownership with a future-directed sense of self-control, comfort, agency, and security. The claim to (self-)ownership energizes strategies of resistance, and we could take these reflections on the ethics of ownership further to think about the prominence of the themes of theft and robbery in contemporary cultures of protest. These are only a few facets of a topic that becomes more variegated and fascinating the longer you look at it. I'm looking forward to getting to know more and other takes on the subject matter in the course of our conference, while listening to keynotes and attending workshops, but also while hanging out between talks, and spending time away from the university halls, in cafes and at the beach. The framework for this conference is great, let's fill it with life.

It is my happy task to welcome you to this conference, but the actual job of putting it together has been done by others. Let me end by acknowledging their commitment and hard work: many thanks to Gesa Mackenthun, Andrea Zittlau, Madeline Becker, Kylie Crane, and Claire Massey from the sections of American Studies and Cultural Studies at Rostock University for setting in motion this huge whale of a conference, helped doubtlessly by many others who I do not know (yet) by name. And thanks, of course, to all of you who are going to present and otherwise actively engage in the conference. Have a wonderful and inspiring time in Rostock!

RUTH MAYER

President of the German Association of American Studies /
Chair of American Studies, Leibniz University Hannover

Welcome to Rostock

The multi-crisis situation of our times is accompanied by an increase of property asymmetries. The global financial crisis, struggles over fossil fuel extraction, and the Covid pandemic have further consolidated existing material inequalities. "America and Ownership" addresses this global condition, focusing in particular on the United States of America. Taken together, these events testify to the centrality of property—in housing, in land, in resources (public and private), in data—to the U.S. economy and national culture.

The blatancy of the material condition is matched by the academic inattention this phenomenon has generally received. Questions of ownership—its history of slavery and dispossession, its economic relevance, its effect on social conditions, on human culture, and on the non-human world, deserve more study. While property in land was and is the key to political power, property of humans was a key to economic and political success, and continues in the guise of unregulated labor conditions and dependencies. Property by blood succession and inheritance has led to powerful dynastic formations and social privileges, while in certain social fields such as housing, property functions as a debt accelerator/stabilizer to the disadvantage of the financial underclass. The conviction that the non-human world may be owned and used has driven the planet into the probably worst environmental crisis ever. Finally, in the cultural sphere, individual security, consumer gratification, and digital membership are being promised in exchange for private data (humans' most intimate property) made available to corporations and the security sector. Political movements—such as Occupy, initiatives for a fairer distribution of housing, a cession of Indigenous dispossession, and a respectful and sustainable treatment of natural ecosystems—call for a critical reassessment of property culture in the United States.

The local organizers are pleased to host a conference promising to make a significant contribution to discussing these questions. We Rostockers are especially delighted about our three gifted and inspired keynote speakers and the panelists on the Current Events Panel dedicated to exploring the ramifications of the theme in the world outside academia and in hemispheric perspective. Those seeking relief from such heavy questions are warmly invited to join the boat trip to Warnemünde on Friday and the get-together after the award ceremony on Saturday.

Among the sponsors of this conference we would like to express particular thanks to the Schulze-Fielitz Stiftung Berlin and the U.S. Embassy for their generous support!

Welcome to Mecklenburg and to Rostock!

Gesa Mackenthun, Kylie Crane, Andrea Zittlau, Madeline Becker, Claire M Massey



Conference Program

All sections take place at the university main building
(Universitätsplatz 1).

May 31 | Wednesday

4:30 - 6:30 PM Editorial Board Meeting | Konzilzimmer

June 1 | Thursday

9:30 AM - 2:00 PM DGfA/GAAS Board Meeting | Konzilzimmer

12:30 - 13:30 PM Catered Board Meeting Lunch

2:00 - 5:00 PM Registration Office | SR 018 & SR 019

3:30 - 4:30 PM PGF Get-Together | HS 218

5:00 PM Conference Opening | AULA

Opening Remarks

Prof. Dr. Ruth Mayer | President GAAS

Welcome Address

Prof. Dr. Elizabeth Prommer | President of Rostock
University

Keynote Lecture | online

Nicole Maskiell (University of South Carolina)
“Dutch Masters: Wealth, Enslavement, and the
Construction of Historical Narratives”
Chair: Catrin Gersdorf (Würzburg)

8:00 PM Reception at Rostock City Hall | Neuer Markt 1

Welcome by Mayor Eva Maria Kröger

June 2 | Friday

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Registration Office | SR 018 & SR 019

9:00 - 10:30 AM Keynote Lecture | AULA

Peter Schneck (Osnabrück University)

“Discovery, Dominion, Discipline: Owning America”

Chair: Andrew Gross (Göttingen)

10:30 - 11:00 AM Coffee Break

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Workshops 1-5

1:00 - 2:00 PM Lunch

12:15 - 1:45 PM PGF Meeting and Brown Bag Lunch | SR 017

1:00-2:00 PM Teaching American Studies Lunch |

Konzilzimmer

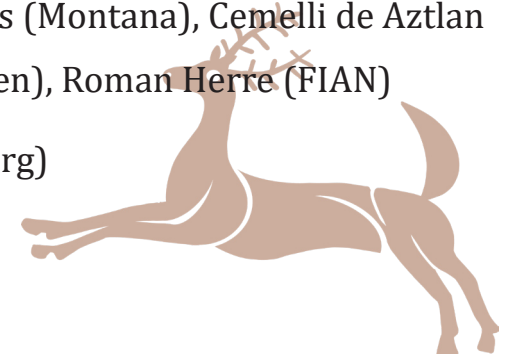
2:00 - 4:00 PM Current Events Panel | AULA | hybrid

“Current Questions of Ownership in the Americas”

Speakers: Krystal Rain Two Bulls (Montana), Cemelli de Aztlan
(El Paso), Claus Biegert (München), Roman Herre (FIAN)

Chair: Katja Sarkowsky (Augsburg)

4:00 - 4:30 PM Coffee Break



4:30 - 5:30 PM Women's Caucus | HS 218

5:30 - 6:30 PM Diversity Roundtable | HS 323

7:00 PM Boat Trip to Warnemünde & Free Evening | City Harbor

June 3 | Saturday

8:00 AM - 6:00 PM Registration Office | SR 018 & SR 019

9:00 - 11:00 AM Workshops 6-10

11:00 - 11:30 AM Coffee Break

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Keynote Lecture | AULA

Jean O'Brien (Minneapolis)

"Storied Lands, Sovereign Peoples: Indigenous Landscapes of Belonging"

Chair: Kerstin Knopf (Bremen)

1:00 - 2:00 PM Lunch

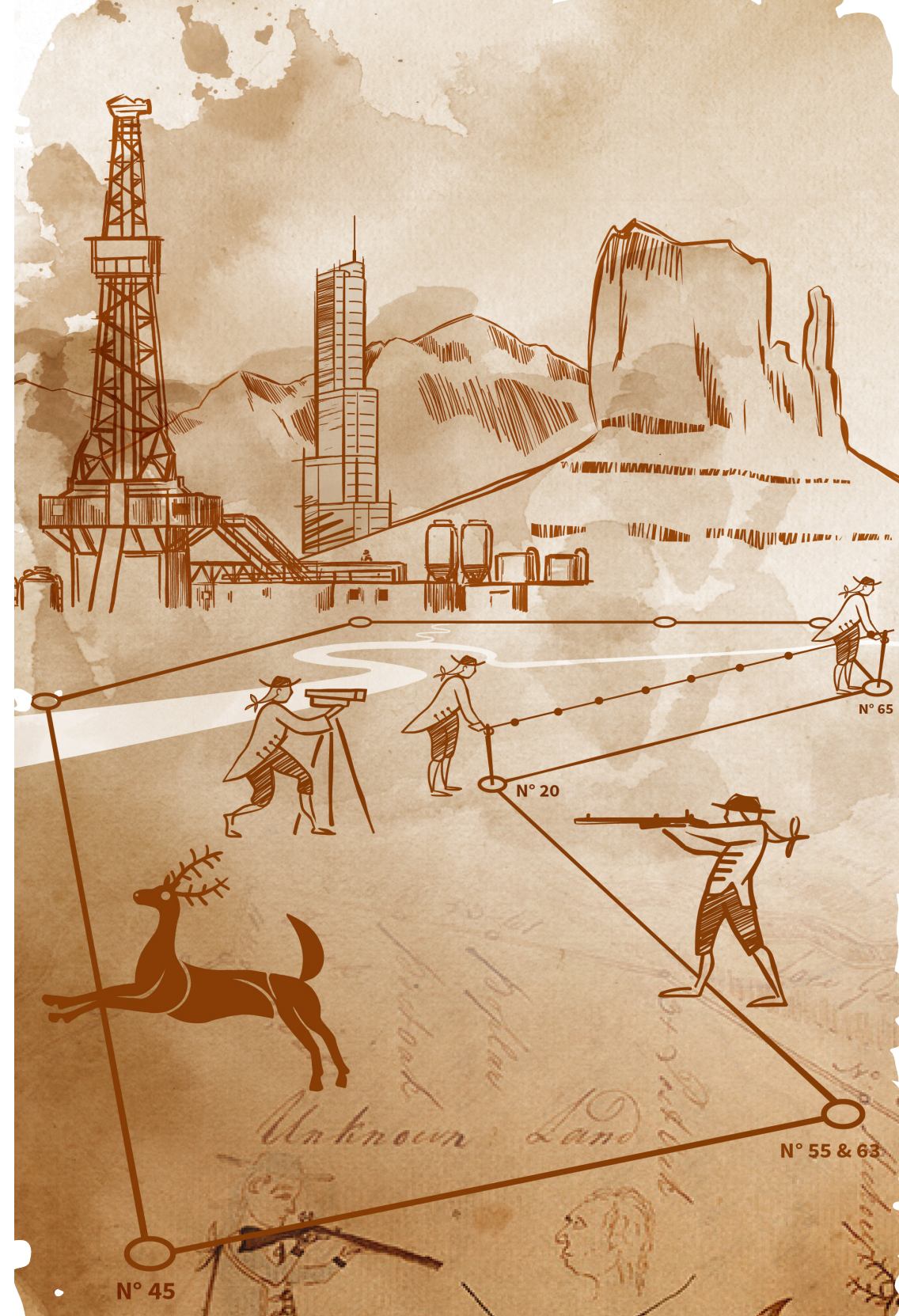
1:00-2:00 PM Digital American Studies Initiative and Amerikastudien Info Session | Konzilzimmer

2:00 - 4:00 PM Workshops 11-16

3:00 - 4:00 PM PGF Meet the Speakers | HSS 3 | Schwaansche Str. 3 (see number 4 on city map)

4:00 - 6:30 PM DGfA/GAAS Member's Assembly | AULA

7:00 - 8:00 PM Award Ceremony | AULA



Keynote Lectures

Nicole Maskiell “Dutch Masters: Wealth, Enslavement, and the Construction of Historical Narratives”



Nicole Maskiell is an Associate Professor of History at the University of South Carolina and a Peter and Bonnie McCausland Fellow. She specializes in family slaveholding networks in Anglo-Dutch colonial America. A native of Oak Park, Illinois, Dr. Maskiell received her A.B. cum laude from Harvard College in 2002, and her MA in 2010 and her Ph.D. in 2013 from Cornell University. Dr. Maskiell has been the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards, including the U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Dutch, the Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies Travel Grant for research in the Netherland Antilles (Curaçao), The Gilder Lehrman Fellowship for research in New York repositories, and the Huntington Mayers Fellowship for research in San Marino, California. Dr. Maskiell's book, entitled *Bound by Bondage: Slavery and the Creation of a Northern Gentry*, centers slavery as a crucial component to the rise and enduring influence of the moneyed Northeastern elite. Her work has been supported by the Kingdom of the Netherlands and been featured on the Dutch National Archives website. She has appeared on CSPAN, the podcast Ben Franklin's World, and in a Historic

Hudson Valley documentary film about the life and legacy of Margaret Hardenbroeck Philipse, an early female trader and enslaver. She is currently a series editor for Black New England, a University of Massachusetts Press book series that highlights original and innovative research on the history of African-descended people in New England from the colonial period through the present day.

Abstract

The phrase “Dutch Masters” most frequently conjures images of Vermeer or Rembrandt hanging in international art galleries, their famous canvases immortalizing the wealth, conviviality, and commerciality of seventeenth-century urban life in the Low Countries. The keynote address seeks to evoke another image of “Dutch Masters”: men, women, families, institutions, and companies that held generations of people in perpetual bondage. To be sure, the two images exist on the same continuum: indeed, the Atlantic system of commerce fueled by slavery and the products of slave labor made possible the blossoming of art, literature, and wealth within the Dutch Republic. Thus, mastery shaped the contours of the broader Dutch world – affecting cultural sentiment, the built environment, family, religious and social networks. Dutch colonial masters worked upon a canvas of human suffering, searing their marks – whether the initials of the Dutch West India Company or that of private slaveowners – onto the flesh of those they held in bondage. The violence in the pursuit of gain, and the ensuing ripples of its effect, remain at the heart of the lecture's exploration into the enduring importance of the Dutch Atlantic slaveholding diaspora to the development of American enslavement.

Peter Schneck
**“Discovery, Dominion,
Discipline: Owning
America”**



Peter Schneck is Professor and Chair of American Literature and Culture at Osnabrück University, and currently the director of the Institute for English and American Studies. After studying American Studies, Media and Communication Studies at the Free University Berlin and Yale University, he received his Ph.D. at the FU Berlin. Between 1997 and 2006 he taught at the Amerika-Institut / LMU Munich where he concluded his postdoctoral thesis (Habilitation). Publications include *The U.S. and the Questions of Rights* (Heidelberg 2020; co-ed); *Rhetoric and Evidence: Legal Conflict and Literary Representation in American Culture* (Berlin, 2011); as well as articles on cognitive poetics, literature and visual art, media history, cultural studies, and law and literature. Since 2019, he has been leading a research group at Osnabrück University on the formation of literary property within the Collaborative Research Centre (SFB 1385) “Law and Literature,” hosted by the WWU Münster and funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

Abstract

If possession is a fact, ownership is a way of weaving around the fact of possession (and in turn the fact of dispossession) a web of distinct narratives and practices. Owning thus means more than (physically) possessing. Ownership is a claim, a practice and above all a form of speaking. The rhetoric of ownership translates possessive relations into meaningful and, indeed, fundamentally justifying and legally binding narratives. Rightful ownership – whether acknowledged by other owners (individuals, collectives, institutions) – necessitates and thus generates discursive and narrative affirmation. That narrative in turn justifies and establishes rightful dominion – if only in the moment of speaking and narrating. Consequently, and paradoxically, America comes into being only through such instances of possessive narration – from discovery to dominion to discipline. The talk attempts to weave together and, at the same time, demonstrate the inter-weaving between the central discourses and narratives about ‘owning’ America and the formation of ‘disciplinary ownership’, i.e. the particular way in which ‘America’ has been claimed as a privileged subject to be owned in fields of studies and scholarship.

Jean O'Brien "Storied Lands, Sovereign Peoples: Indigenous Landscapes of Belonging"



Jean O'Brien (citizen, White Earth Ojibwe Nation) is Distinguished McKnight University Professor and Northrop Professor of History at the University of Minnesota. She is a co-founder and past president of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association and inaugural co-editor (with Robert Warrior) of the association's journal, *Native American and Indigenous Studies*. She has published seven books, most recently, *Allotment Stories: Indigenous Land Relations Under Settler Siege* (edited with Daniel Heath Justice, University of Minnesota Press, 2022). Her most recent monograph (with Lisa Blee) *Monumental Mobility: The Memory Work of Massasoit* won the inaugural Winthrop Prize for the Outstanding Book on Seventeenth-Century New England for 2019-2020 from the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, an honorable mention from the National Council on Public History, and was a finalist for the Best Subsequent Book from the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association. O'Brien is an elected member of the Society of American Historians and was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2022.

Abstract

In this talk, Jean O'Brien surveys the trajectory of her past and current scholarship around the themes of Indigenous land, political sovereignty, and notions of belonging. From seventeenth century Indigenous defense of homelands through dialogue with the institutions of English colonialism (*Dispossession by Degrees: Indian Land and Identity in Natick, Massachusetts, 1650-1790*), Non-Indigenous practices of historical narration that sought to define Indigenous peoples out of existence (*Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Existence in New England*), and contests over historical interpretation in public history and monumental practices into the twenty-first century (*Monumental Mobility: The Memory Work of Massasoit*), her work has sought to understand Indigenous resilience and resurgence in the northeastern United States. Her current and future research returns to her Ojibwe roots in Minnesota through the medium of family history as a lens on the White Earth Ojibwe Nation. The unifying theme of her work is land as the location of stories that root Indigenous peoples through their own notions of place and belonging and give meaning to their lives and histories.

Current Events Panel

Current Questions of Ownership in the Americas

Krystal Rain Two Bulls

Krystal Rain Two Bulls is an Oglala Lakota and Northern Cheyenne organizer, Executive Director of Honor the Earth and the former Director of the NDN Collective's Landback Campaign. She is a grassroots organizer with experience on the frontlines with campaign development and management around social, racial and environmental justice. Krystal's identity as a Native American veteran is central to her organizing and storytelling. At the heart of Krystal's work is Sovereignty, LANDBACK, cross movement relationship building and a deep commitment to her People. In healing from her experience as a veteran, Krystal has dedicated herself to embodying what she views as the essential quality of a warrior: a commitment to the well-being of not only her People and their relationship to the land, but that of all Peoples.



Roman Herre

Roman Herre is a human rights activist working on human rights-based land policies and land rights at FIAN (FoodFirst Information and Action Network), a human rights organization that advocates for the realization of the right to food. He did research on the impact of financialization and digitalization of land on rural, including indigenous, communities. Roman Herre is engaged in the work of the Committee on World Food Security CFS through the Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism CSIPM – currently in the CFS work stream on 'data for food security'. He is also a member of the IPC for Food Sovereignty Working Group on Land under which he just recently supported the international campaign "The Land Struggles Series – We belong to the Land" that tries to refocus land policies on equitable control over land and territories, including the implementation of land and agrarian reforms in the context of a massive increase of land concentration. He furthermore participated in the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights' consultation on a General Comment on Land (2023) and in the CFS negotiations on the UN Land Tenure Guidelines (2012).



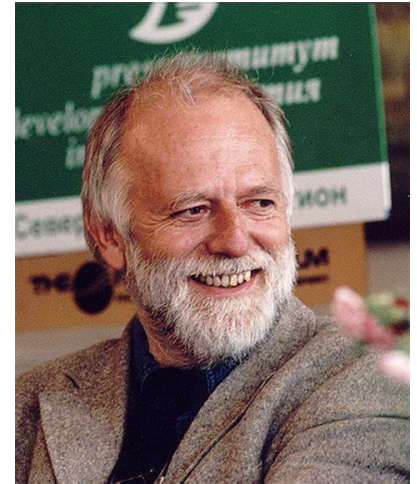
Cemelli de Aztlan

Cemelli de Aztlan is a community organizer with La Mujer Obrera engaged in advocacy, grassroots community organizing and movement building to defend communities rights to exist as we heal our relationships with the earth. As a mother, Cemelli advocated against unjust barrio school closures and demanded clean-up of contaminated public school playgrounds, joining parents on a 7-day hunger strike encampment. The Central Labor Union honored her with the Outstanding Labor Achievement award in 2017 for serving as the lead organizer of the local labor rights border coalition on the renegotiation of NAFTA. As a representative of La Mujer Obrera, Cemelli was appointed to the EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council to speak on behalf of the border community and address the negative environmental impacts of NAFTA. In the summer of 2020, during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, Cemelli organized a multinational campaign and 30+ organization coalitions to demand the immediate release of labor rights leaders illegally imprisoned for bringing attention to the conditions of the exploited maquiladora workers in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua and Matamoros en Tamaulipas, Mexico. While Cemelli was faculty at the University of Texas at El Paso (2014-2021) she created and taught upper-level courses to include: Indigenous Spirituality, Women of the Americas: Colonization to Femicide, Gender & Religion. Cemelli received her Bachelor of Arts from Concordia University at Austin, and a Master in Divinity with a focus on Women in Religious Studies & Indigenous Religious Studies from Harvard University.



Claus Biegert

Claus Biegert is a Munich-based journalist whose publications have been essential in producing counter-cultural knowledge about the living conditions of Indigenous peoples in North America, particularly the connections between colonial dispossession, colonial reeducation, land rights conflicts and controversies over energy and resource extraction in Canada and the United States. Having reported on life in the "fourth world" since the 1970s, Claus Biegert co-initiated the World Uranium Hearing in Salzburg in 1992 and founded the Nuclear-Free Future Award, which is rewarded annually since 1998 to activists around the world. Next to early book publications such as *Seit zweihundert Jahren ohne Verfassung* and *Indianerschulen* (both 1983), he published and co-published a large number of books and articles about nuclear power, as well as many documentary films, among them *The Secret and the Sacred: Two Worlds at Los Alamos/Los Alamos und die Erben der Bombe* (2001); *Die Donnergelfrau* on the Anishinabe activist Winona LaDuke (2003); and *Exit 16 – Onondaga Nation Territory* (2014). He writes regularly for the German journals *natur* and *oya* and until 2008 he taught at the Deutsche Journalistenschule in Munich. Biegert received various prizes for his outstanding social and environmentalist commitment.



Workshops

Workshops 1-5

June 2 | 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

1. Forms of Belonging: Land, Law, and Citizenship in Indigenous Literature and Film | HS 218

Stefanie Mueller (Frankfurt), Katja Sarkowsky (Augsburg)

Angela Benkhadda (Bonn)

“‘A Greater Law’: Legal Discourses, Citizenship, and Temporal Sovereignty in Beth Piatote’s *Antíkoni*”

Stefan Benz (Bonn)

“‘We gon’ need that land back’: Indigenous Hip Hop (Re)Claims Detroit”

Simone Knewitz (Bonn)

“‘River, River, River’: (Video-)Poetic Interventions in Indigenous Environmental Activism”

Kerstin Knopf (Bremen)

“Land, Belonging, Stewardship, and Responsibility in Angeline Boulley’s *Firekeeper’s Daughter*”



2. Whiteness as Property: Histories and Practices of Racial Capitalism | HS 323

Grit Grigoleit-Richter (Passau)

Andrew Wells (Kiel)

“When Slavery Didn’t Pay: Compensation for Slave Rebellion in New York City, 1712-1742”

Moana Jean Packo (Erfurt)

“On Time and Redress: ‘40 Acres and a mule’ in Memory and Legacy”

Anthony Obst (FU Berlin)

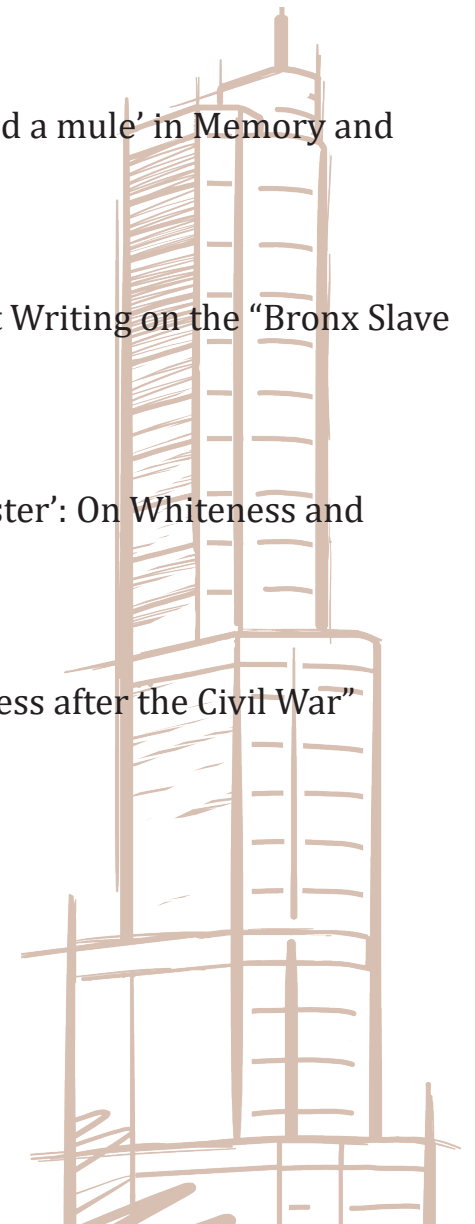
“‘Slavery ... 1939 Style’: Abolitionist Writing on the “Bronx Slave Market”

Dennis Büscher-Ulbrich (Kiel)

“‘We welcome the proletarian monster’: On Whiteness and Abolition”

Felix Krämer (Erfurt)

“Expropriated Freedom: Indebtedness after the Civil War”



3. Stories of Gentrification: Consumerism, Displacement, and Urban Transformation | SR 113

Juliane Borosch (Duisburg-Essen), Maria Sulimma (Freiburg)

James Peacock (Keele)

“Bullet Holes and Cocktails: Authenticity, Gentrification, and the Case of Summerhill”

Julia Roth (Bielefeld)

“‘We built this shit’: Hip Hop as Critique of Gentrification”

Heike Steinhoff (Bochum)

“Media and Gentrification Aesthetics”

Hannah V. Warren (Georgia / Freiburg)

“Resisting Filiation and Reconfiguring Epic Boundaries: Rhizomatic Origins in Zora Neale Hurston’s *Mules and Men*”

4. Ownership in Language, Literature, and Culture Education | SR 114

Silke Braselmann (Jena), Uwe Küchler (Tübingen), Ricardo Römhild (Münster)

Nicola Galloway (Glasgow)

“Language Attitudes and Global Englishes: A Systematic Overview”

Gunter Süß (Mittweida)

“‘You hereby grant to us a non-exclusive, royalty-free, transferable, sub-licensable, worldwide license’: Social Media Practices and Ownership”

Natalie Langensiepen (Wuppertal)

“Anti-Indigenous Racism in EFL Textbooks in Germany”

Anja Keil (Jena)

“Expanding the Canon: Multimodal Literacies and Anti-Racist Teaching with Graphic Novels”

Laurenz Volkmann (Jena)

“Fremdverstehen Meets Cultural Appropriation: Do We Need to Jettison a Well-established German EFL-Tradition?”



5. [En]Closures: Spatial Confinement and Discursive Delineation in Early America | SR 217
Ilka Brasch (Hannover), Elena Furlanetto (Duisburg-Essen)

Abigail Fagan (Hannover)

“The Settler Colonial University and the Perception of Land as Property”

Katerina Steffan (Hannover)

“I ‘was so forced ... to do that which was contrary to my mind’: Puritans Lost in Possession”

Lukas Etter (Siegen)

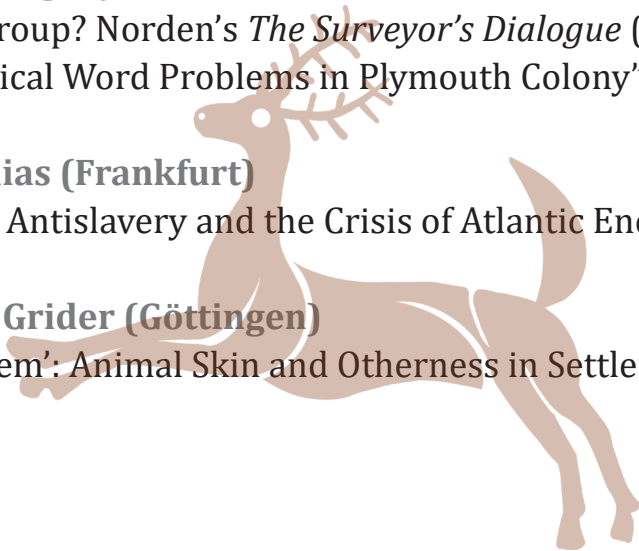
“Enclosing a Group? Norden’s *The Surveyor’s Dialogue* (1618) and Mathematical Word Problems in Plymouth Colony”

Cameron Seglias (Frankfurt)

“17th-Century Antislavery and the Crisis of Atlantic Enclosure”

Phillip James Grider (Göttingen)

“Pro Pelle Cutem’: Animal Skin and Otherness in Settler Colonial America”



Workshops 6-10
June 3 | 09:00 - 11:00 AM

6. Properties of the Posthuman | SR 114

Jens Temmen (Düsseldorf), Nicole Waller (Potsdam)

René Dietrich (KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt)

“Beyond Humanization: Decolonization, Relationality, and 21st Century Indigenous Poetry”

Franziska Wolf (Düsseldorf)

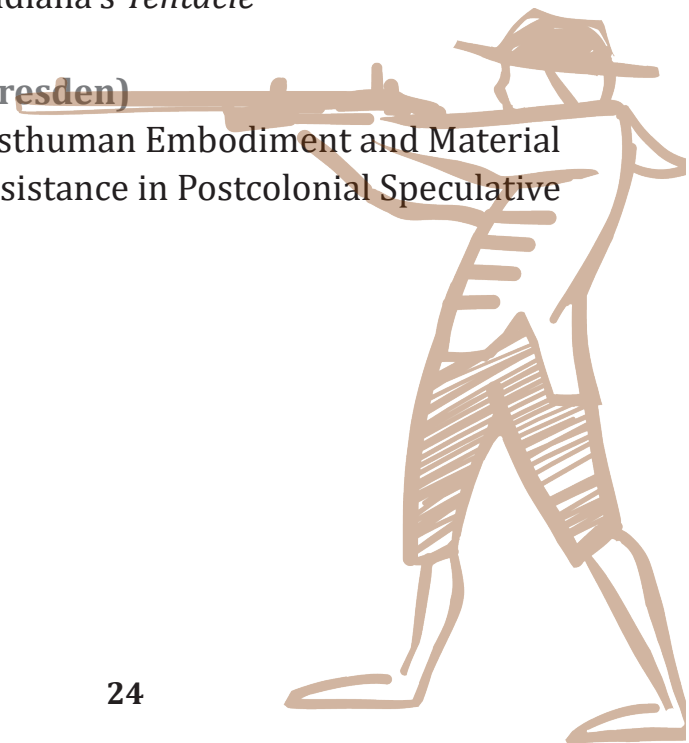
“Who owns the cold? Cool Empowerment and Frosty Hubris - (Indigenous) Female Reading and Writing of Snow and Ice”

Lea Espinoza Garrido (Wuppertal)

“Unsettling Art, Land, and Property: (Post)Human Entanglements in Rita Indiana’s *Tentacle*”

Julia Gatermann (TU Dresden)

“Breaking the Planet: Posthuman Embodiment and Material Agency as a Matter of Resistance in Postcolonial Speculative Fiction”



7. All That is Solid Melts Into Data: Property and Ownership in the Digital Age | SR 217

Alexander Dunst (Paderborn), Regina Schober (Düsseldorf)

Damien B. Schlarb (Mainz)

“Videogames, Playbor, and the Futures of Work”

Marlon Lieber (Frankfurt)

“The Algorithmic Road to Socialism and Its Discontents, or, Who Owns the Data in a Free Association?”

Dennis Mischke (FU Berlin)

“Hyperscaling Scarcity - NFT Art and the Evaporation of Critique in and with Arch Hardes’ *Arcadia*”

8. Ownership and Possession: Haunted Houses, Possessed Selves, and the Gothics of Property I | SR 113

Aleksandra Boss (HU Berlin), Martin Klepper (HU Berlin)

Bethany Jordan Webster-Parmentier (Flensburg)

“Possession(s) and Dispossession in Morgan Talty’s *Night of the Living Rez*”

Greta Kaisen (HU Berlin)

“Southern Gothic Settings in *Red Dead Redemption 2*”

Alexandra Hauke (Passau)

“Prisoners, Predators, Proprietors: Black Bodies and Ownership in Jordan Peele’s Horror Trilogy”

Annika Thiem (Tübingen)

“Ownership and Possession of the Past: Haunting History, Racism, and White Ignorance in Jesmyn Ward’s *Sing, Unburied, Sing* and LaTanya McQueen’s *When the Reckoning Comes*”

9. Spatial Movements and the Refusal of Ownership | HS 218

Alexandra Hartmann(Paderborn), Antonia Purk (Erfurt)

James Deutsch (Smithsonian, Georgetown)

"Mobility, Vagrancy, and Poverty in Early 20th-Century Los Angeles"

Stefanie Schäfer (Vienna)

"Vanguard Wheel Estate: Property, Grief, and the American Road Myth in Chloe Zhao's *Nomadland* (2020)"

Bailey Moorhead (JGU Mainz)

"Western Dominion and 'Homelessness' in Anita Scott Coleman's 'The Little Grey House'"

Debarchana Baruah (Tübingen)

"The House on the Other Side"

10. Racial Capitalism as a Concept for Writing U.S.-American History: A Roundtable | HS 323

Felix Kramer (Erfurt), Jan Logemann (Mainz/Göttingen)

Moderator:

Nina Mackert (Leipzig)

Discussants:

Jan Logemann (Mainz / Göttingen)

Harvey Neptune (Philadelphia)

Ronny Regev (Jerusalem)

Axel Schäfer (Mainz)

Workshops 11-16

June 3 | 2:00 - 4:00 PM

11. Class, Property, and the Politics of Literature in 19th-Century U.S. Culture | HS 323

Sebastian M. Herrmann (Leipzig), Stefan Schubert (Leipzig)

Pia Wiegink (Bonn)

"The Protocols of Dependency in Nineteenth-Century African American Life Writing"

Astrid Haas (Bergen/Norway)

"From Property to Proprietors: Free Black Entrepreneurialism in Mid-19th-Century Slave Narratives"

Thomas Dikant (Independent Scholar)

"Disowned: Henry James's *The Princess Casamassima* and the Drama of Class"

Karin Hoepker (FU Berlin)

"Fictitious Commodities and the Spectacle of the Entrepreneurial Individual in Hawthorne's *Seven Gables*"

12. Knowing/Refusing 'Value': Reclaiming Kinship at the Expense of Capital | SR 017

Helen Gibson (Erfurt), Nadja Kloprogge (Gießen), Sebastian Jobs (FU Berlin)

Melina Morr de Pérez (Erfurt)

"Encounters of Different Ideas - Audre Lorde's Theory Formations Abroad"

Oluwatomisin Ogungbenle (Saint Louis)

"I am Human Too: A Black Womanist's Cry for Change"

Yanda Bango (Erfurt)

"Blackness as an Accepted but Misunderstood and Devalued Existence"

Walter Quiller (University of South Carolina)

"Blackness as Irreducible and Hopefully Unusable"



13. Copyright, Cultural Production, and Objects of Ownership | HS 218

Fenja Heisig (University of Münster), Samira Spatzek (FU Berlin)

Debora Stanca (Münster)

"A U.S. Copyright? Negotiating Authorship and Literary Property between 1834 and 1909"

Carsten Junker (TU Dresden)

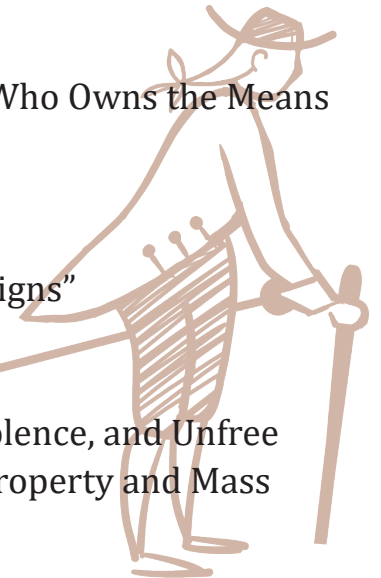
"The Recent Upsurge of the Manifesto, or: Who Owns the Means of Disruption?"

Miaïna Razakamanantsoa (Münster)

"Copyright and the Circulation of Book Designs"

Felix Brinker (LU Hannover)

"Marvel's *The Punisher*, the Privilege of Violence, and Unfree Symbolic Commons between Intellectual Property and Mass Appropriation"



14. Ownership and Possession: Haunted Houses, Possessed Selves, and the Gothics of Property II | SR 113

Aleksandra Boss (HU Berlin), Martin Klepper (HU Berlin)

Philipp Kneis (Oregon State)

"The State of Nature and the Politics of the Repressed: Traces of Indigenous Civilization in American Literature and Culture"

Mareike Spychala (Bamberg)

"Haunting Pictures: Negotiating Self-Ownership, Gender, and Class in Sarah Piatt's Poetry"

Lee A. Flamand (Bochum)

"Accursed Dis/possessions & Propertied Lamentations: William Faulkner's Gothic Indians"

Simon Schleusener (FU Berlin)

"Slavery, (Self-)Ownership, and the Gothic Imagination: A Reading of Hannah Crafts' *The Bondwoman's Narrative*"

15. Hazardous Territory - Environmental Discourses, Ownership, and Disaster Policies in the United States | SR 114

Natalie Rauscher (Heidelberg), Kirsten Twelbeck (Augsburg), Welf Werner (Heidelberg)

Eli Jelly-Shapiro (U South Carolina)

"Two Histories of Extraction"

Uwe Lübken (LMU, Munich)

"Vanport: A City Lost, a City Rediscovered"

Mélanie Meunier (Science Po, Strasbourg)

"The Dakota Access Pipeline Controversy: A Standoff Between the Fossil Fuel Industry and Anti-Pipeline Activists"

Verena Wurth (University of Cologne)

"Time, Territory, and Eco-TV: Extracting the Pasture in *Outer Range*"

16. Ownership, Human Differentiation, and the Politics of Consumption | SR 217

Torsten Kathke (Mainz), Axel Schäfer (Mainz)

Julia Sattler (TU Dortmund)

“Beauty is only the raw material of conquest’: Capitalism, Consumption and Categorization in Edith Wharton’s *The House of Mirth* (1905)”

Ylva Kreye (Mainz)

“Ow(n)ing Freedom from the Fear of Want: Isaac M. Rubinow and the Measuring of Need in American Consumer Society”

Anja-Maria Bassimir (Mainz)

“Owning One’s Health: Measuring Up to State-Sponsored Nutrition Advice”

To go to the online program, which includes all workshop abstracts, scan the QR-Code below.



Award Ceremony

June 3 | 7:00 - 8:00 PM | chaired by Miriam Strube (Vice President of the GAAS)

Awards

DGfA/GAAS Honorary Membership
Christa Buschendorf

Fulbright American Studies Award
David Bebnowski

Targeted Research Grant
Yanda Bango
Anthony Obst

Christoph Daniel Ebeling Fellowship
Phillip James Grider

John W. Kluge Center Fellowship
Leonie Werle

Amerikastudien/American Studies Best Article Award
Alexander Scherr

Franz Steiner Publisher Prize in Transatlantic History
Maximilian Klose

Closing Event

The Award Ceremony will be followed by a light soup and salad buffet, catered by Blauer Esel.

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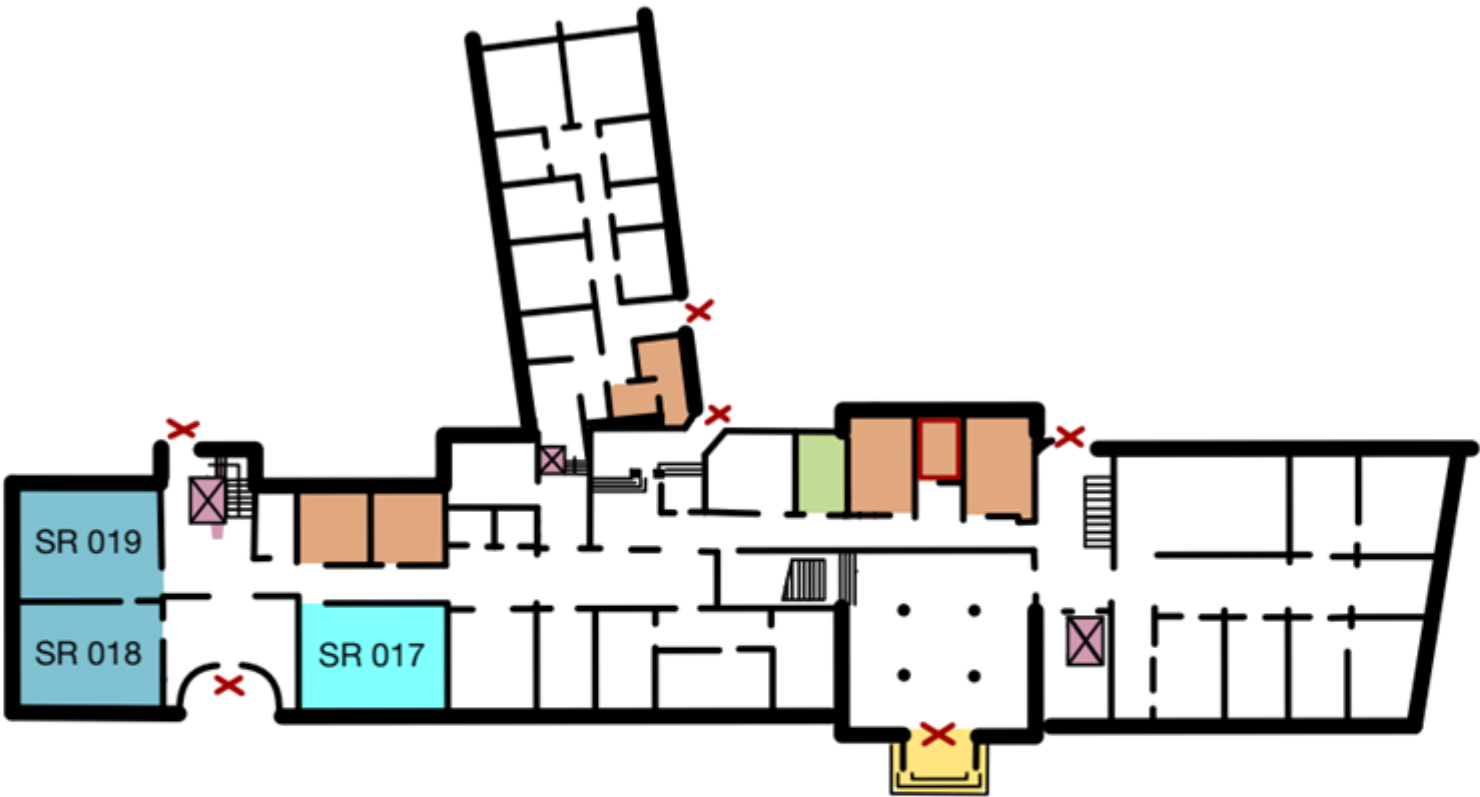


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Building Plan

University Main Building

Ground Floor



✗ (Main) Exits

Bathroom
barrier-free

First Aid Room

Elevator

Registration Office

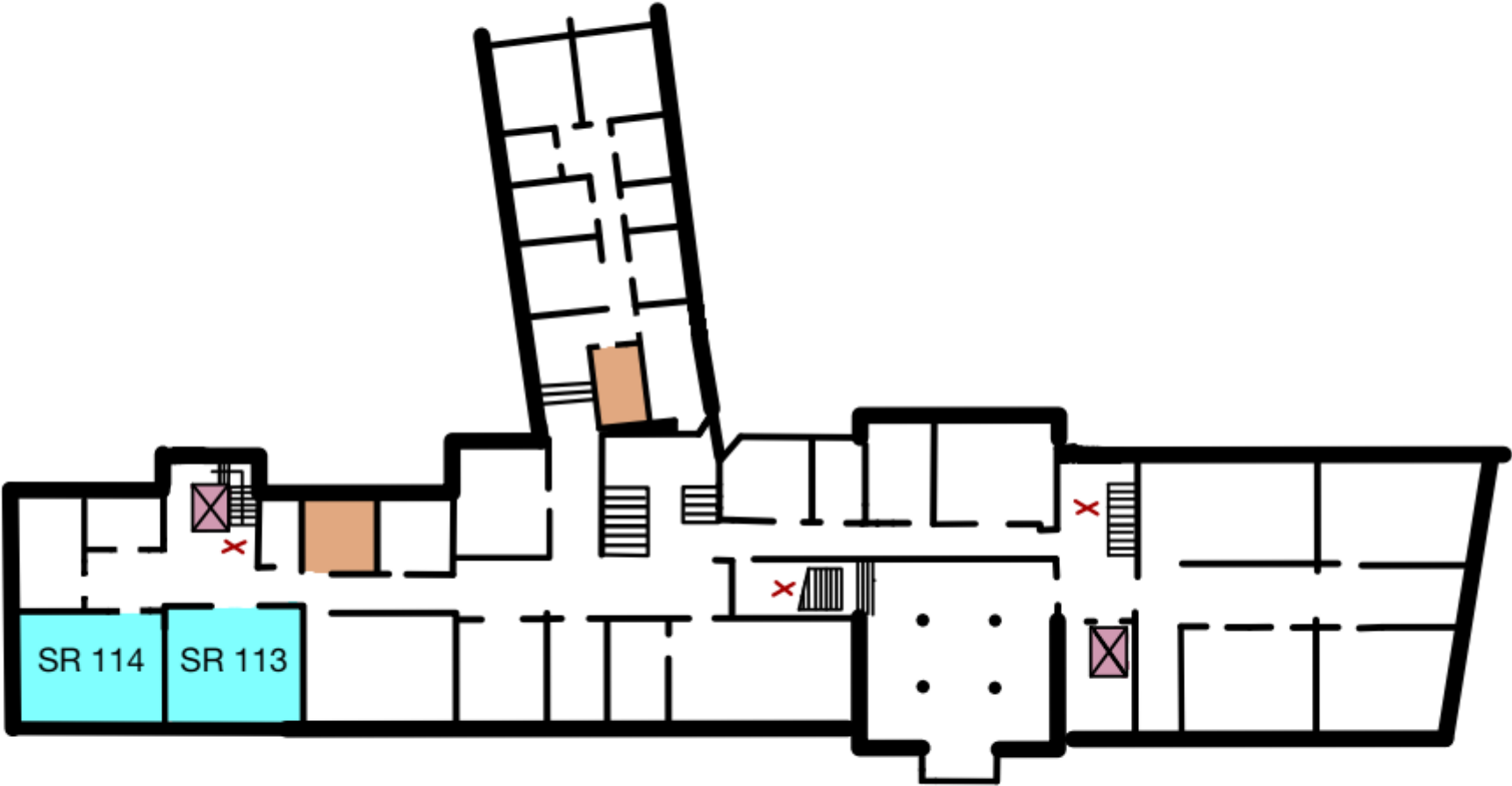
Additional Rooms

Workshop Rooms

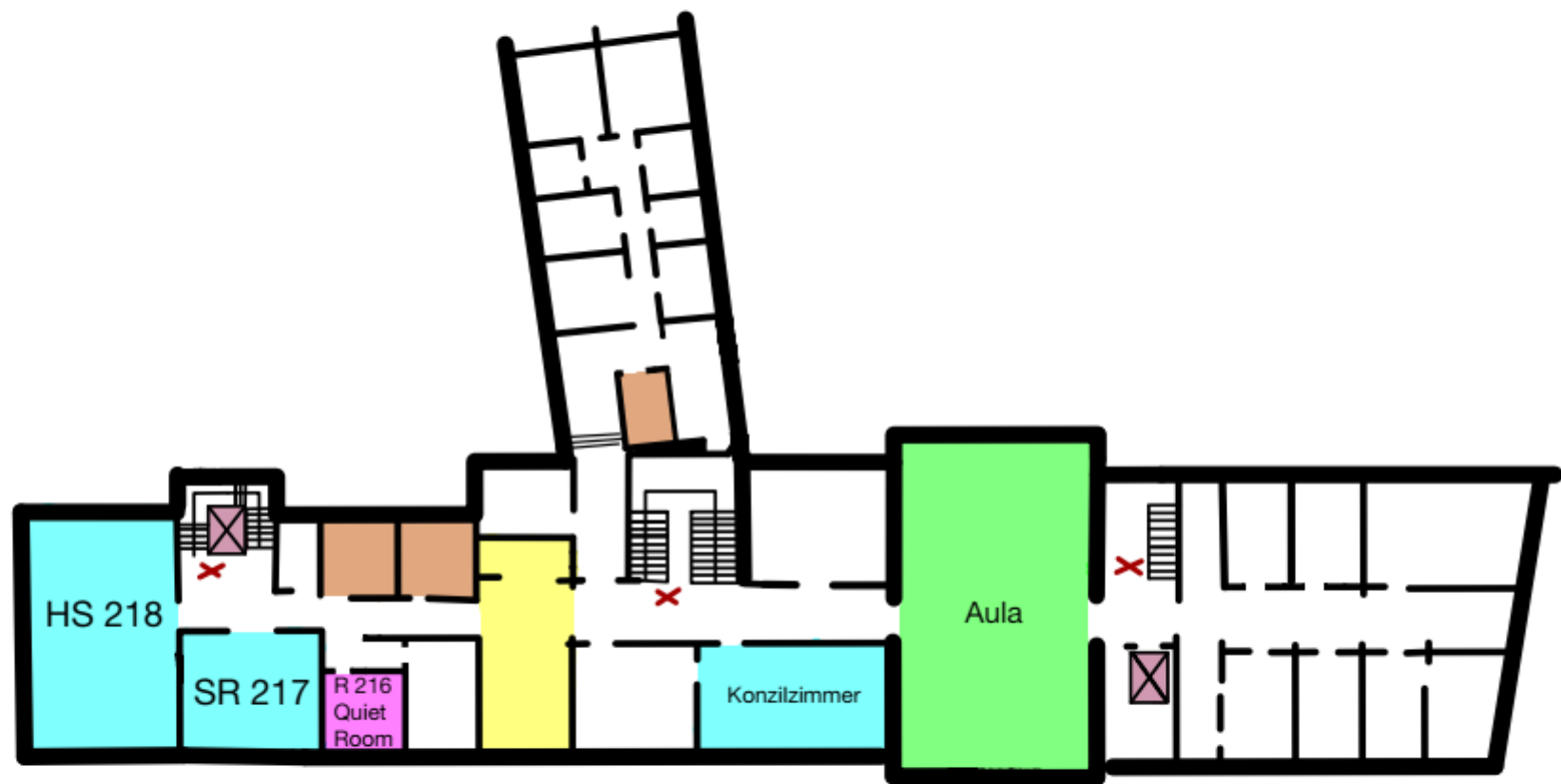
Aula

Catering Area

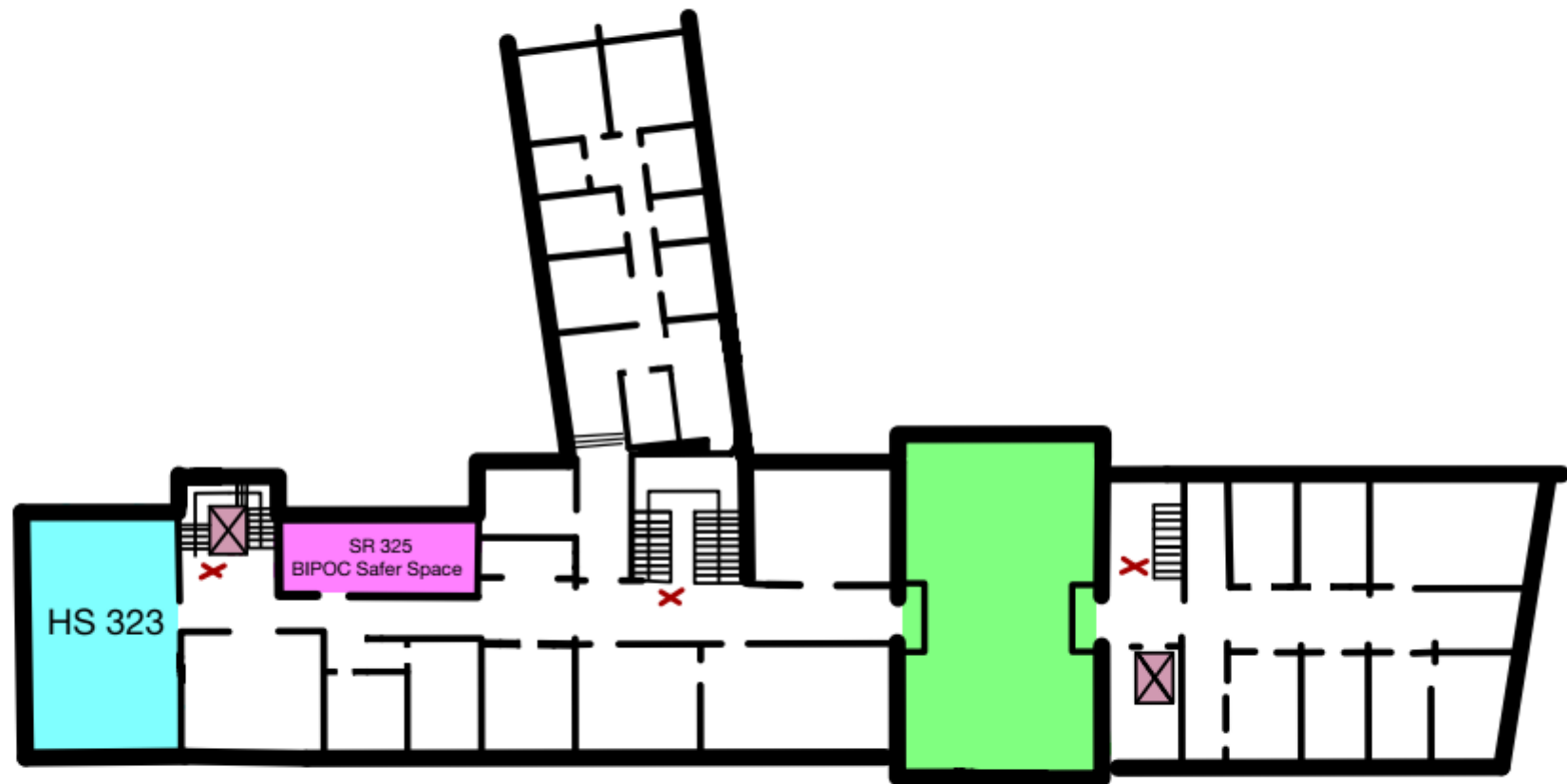
1st Floor



2nd Floor



3rd Floor



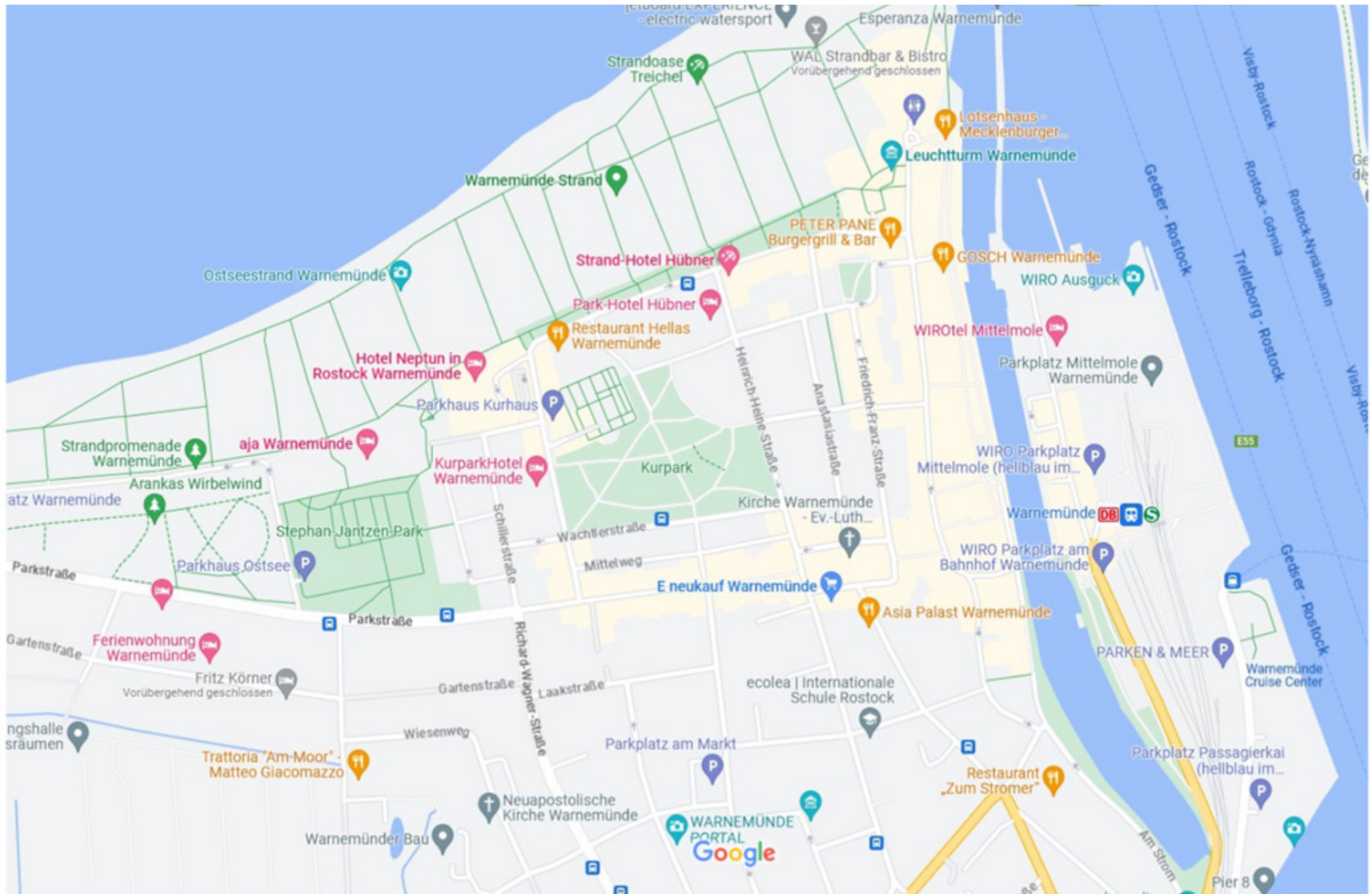
A map of Rostock, Germany, showing the city center and harbor. The map is overlaid with six numbered red markers and a legend on the left side. The legend lists the following locations:

- 1 University Main Building (Universitätsplatz 1)
- 2 City Hall (Neuer Markt 1a)
- 3 Hotel Vienna House (Neuer Markt 2)
- 4 HSS 3 (Schwaansche Str. 3)
- 5 Tram Stop Lange Straße
- 6 Rostock City Harbor

The map shows the harbor area with the Rostock Dock, the city center with the Neuer Markt, and the harbor area with the Rostock City Harbor. The map also shows the city's layout with streets and landmarks.

Hauptbahnhof/Main Station

Warnemünde





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