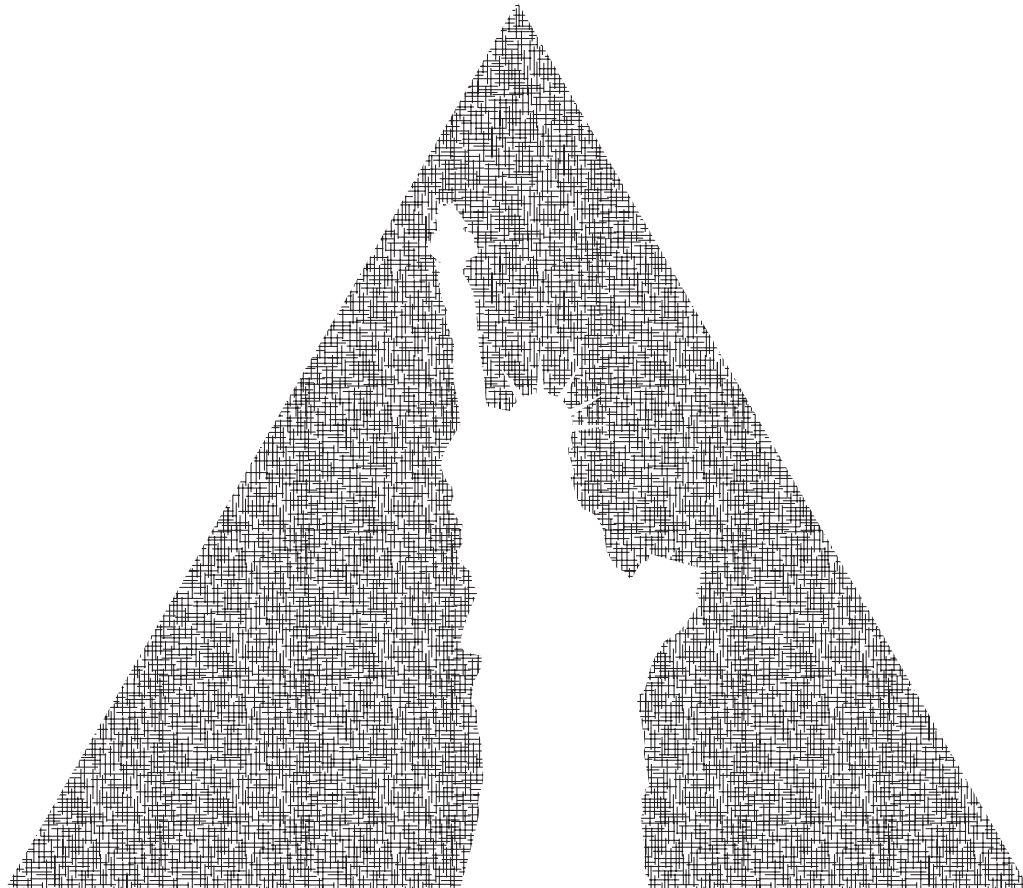


# Teach about the USA



## U.S. Presidential Elections 2012 In-Service Training for English Teachers

Date Friday, 16 March 2012  
Time 9:30 – 17:00  
Place Internationales Begegnungszentrum  
Rostock e.V.  
Bergstraße 7a, 18057 Rostock

***IQMV***



**da!**  
DEUTSCHER DAVIDENVERBAND

Universität  
Rostock



Traditio et Innovatio



# The Schedule

9.30-10.00 Welcome & Opening Remarks

10.00-11.00 Charles Postel

## **The American Crisis of Inequality: Election 2012 in Historical Context**

U.S. society is presently experiencing levels of inequality unmatched since the last Gilded Age nearly a century ago. A study of the Congressional Budget Office recently concluded that over the last thirty years the top one percent of households have doubled their share of the national income. The tax and regulatory policies that have created this crisis of inequality are at the center of the American politics and provide the essential context for understanding the election of 2012.

Coffee break

11.30-12.30 Christianna Stavroudis

## **U.S. Elections through the Political Cartoonist's Lens**

Kevin Kallaugher, political cartoonist for *The Economist*, has described his profession as one of being an artist, a journalist, and a satirist. How does each of these roles influence the unique position and task cartoonists have in the realm of political discourse? In this lecture, we will explore the function of political cartoonists in American society as well as the question if they can make or break an election.

Lunch Break

13.45-15.00 Charles Postel

## **The Origins of the Tea Party Movement**

In the summer of 2009, the Tea Party movement mobilized loud and angry opposition to the Obama administration's health care reform. Since that time, it has set the agenda of the Republican Party and has been the focus of national political debate. The roots of the Tea Party lie in the far right conservative politics of the Cold War, which have reemerged with renewed force within the present crisis of American and global political economy.

Coffee break

15.30-16.30 Torben Schmidt

## **Social Media in the EFL Classroom and a Preview of the "U.S. Presidential Elections 2012 School Project"**

Together with the U.S. Embassy Berlin, LISUM Berlin Brandenburg, and Explorarium e.V., Prof. Schmidt is developing the "U.S. Presidential Elections 2012 School Project". In his presentation he will discuss the possibilities, but also the limitations of Web 2.0 tools for the EFL classroom. He will address Web 2.0 literacy development, risks involved in using social media and copyright issues. Together with Dr. Martina Kohl, U.S. Embassy, and Dr. Stefan Heumann, U.S. Consulate Hamburg, he will briefly discuss the school project as a work in progress as well.

16.30-17.00 Wrap-up & Closing

The Speakers**CHARLES POSTEL**

is an award-winning historian of American political thought and society. He is the author of *The Populist Vision* (2007), a history of the original Populist movement of the 1890s, which received the Bancroft Prize in History and the Frederick Jackson Turner Award from the Organization of American Historians, two of the most prestigious prizes in the historical profession. His new book project is *Pursuit of Reform, 1865-1920*, a new interpretative work on the post-Civil War reform movements that culminated in the Progressive Era. He is also researching the historical origins of the Tea Party movement.

Dr. Postel earned both his B.A. in history (1995) and his Ph.D. in history (2002) from the University of California, Berkeley. He is an associate professor of History at San Francisco State University and has also taught at California State University, Sacramento, and at the University of California, Berkeley. At the moment, Dr. Postel is the Ghaemian Scholar-in-Residence at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies.

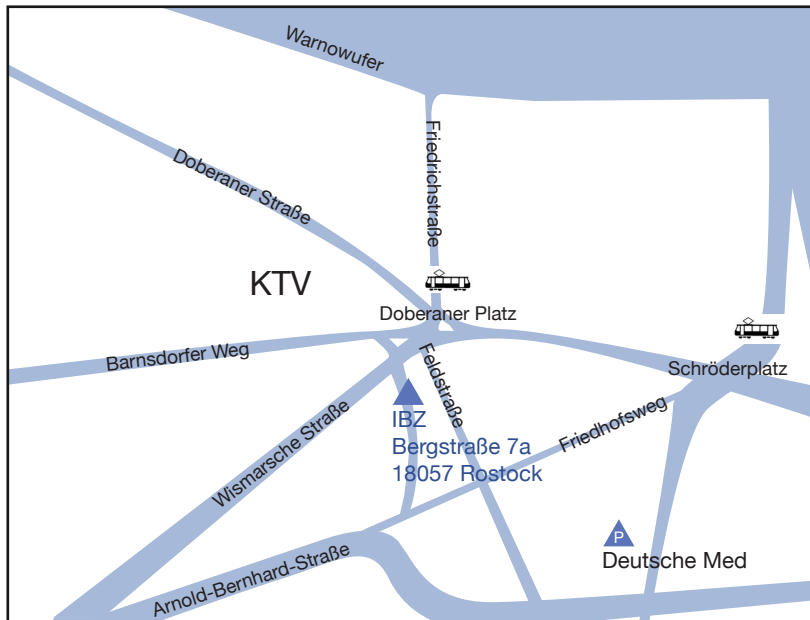
**CHRISTIANNA STAVROUDIS**

is an American lecturer in English language and linguistics at the Institute for British and North American Studies at the University of Greifswald. She holds a B.A. in Applied Linguistics from the University of Maryland-Baltimore County (USA) and an M.Sc. in Clinical Linguistics from the University of Potsdam. This past semester, she taught a course for first-semester students entitled *Reading American Politics: An Intercultural Perspective*, which focused on understanding U.S. government and U.S. domestic, foreign, and social issues relevant for the 2012 presidential elections. She is currently writing her dissertation within the field of language politics.

**TORBEN SCHMIDT**

is a professor at Leuphana University Lueneburg and expert on teaching English as a Foreign Language and the use of social media in the classroom. Dr. Schmidt received his teaching degree (state exam) in Mathematics and English from Gießen University in 2002 and his PhD from Frankfurt University in 2007. In 2010, he served as guest professor at Saint Mary's University in Halifax (Canada). Dr. Schmidt was granted several prestigious research and teaching fellowships as part of the Excellency Initiative of the German government.

# The Location



A parking garage is located at the Deutsche Med.

From the tram stations Doberaner Platz and Schröderplatz it is a five-minute walk to the IBZ.

# The registration

To register, please contact ...

## **NADJA WIELAND**

Beraterin im Unterstützungssystem des IQMV  
SSA Rostock  
Schwerpunkt Englisch Sek. 1

**Tel:** 038209/875296

**Email:** [n.wieland@iq.bm.mv-regierung.de](mailto:n.wieland@iq.bm.mv-regierung.de)

or

## **ASTRID EISENHARDT**

Beraterin im Unterstützungssystem des IQMV  
SSA Schwerin und Rostock  
Schwerpunkt Englisch Gymnasien

**Tel:** 038426/22 040 oder 0172/3 111 503

**Email:** [a.eisenhardt@iq.bm.mv-regierung.de](mailto:a.eisenhardt@iq.bm.mv-regierung.de)

Registration closes on 05 March 2012.