

JPROF. DR. NELE SAWALLISCH
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[Website](#)

May 2022

APPOINTMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

10/2021-	Assistant Professor of American Literature (“W1,” with tenure track) Trier University
10/2020-10/2021	Senior Lecturer (Akad. Rätin) in American Studies KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt
2020	Runner-Up for the position of Assistant Professor in “American Studies” (W1) University of Hamburg
10/2016-09/2020	Lecturer Direct Exchange Program Assistant Assistant Editor, <i>Amerikastudien/American Studies</i> (until 05/19) Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz
10/2015-03/2016	Adjunct Faculty Member Transnational American Studies Institute Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz
04/2014-09/2016	German Academic Scholarship Foundation (Studienstiftung) <i>PhD scholarship</i>
09/2013-03/2014	Non-Academic Project Staff Member Dean’s Office, FB 05, Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz Project: LOB - Lehren, Organisieren, Beraten – Gelingensbedingungen von Bologna (Teaching, Organizing, Consulting—Key Success Factors of the Bologna Reform)
09/2011	Interpreter and Translator Summer School for doctoral students and young researchers Project Title: “The Role of Civil Societies for the Processes of Convergence and Reconciliation (France-Germany, Greece-Turkey) - III. Borders und Cross Border relations.” Research Program <i>Living Together After the Conflict</i> Project Organization: IRICE—Mainz University—Franco-German Youth Office

06/2011-02/2012 **Research Assistant**
 Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz
 Romance Languages Department

EDUCATION

04/2017- **Postdoctoral Project: "Comedic Interventions: Late Night America"**
 (WT)

03/2017 **Ph.D. (Dr.phil.)**
 Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies
 Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany
 PhD Thesis: "Fugitive Borders: Black Canadian Cross-Border Literature
 at Mid-Nineteenth Century"

03/2012 **State Exam for Teachers**
 Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany
 English, French, Education

01/2012 **Magistra Artium, M.A.**
 Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany
 American Studies, French, English Studies
 Master's Thesis "Slave Rescue Cases in Nineteenth-Century Canadian
 Thought"
Maîtrise (English)
 Université de Bourgogne

10/2006-03/2012 **Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz, Germany**
 English, French, and Science of Education
 trinational, integrated study program organized by the Dijonbüro,
 Mainz, dedicated to the formation of high school teachers
 Bishop's University, Lennoxville, QC, Canada (09/2008-04/2009)
 English, French, History
 Third-Year Diploma: Licence, equivalent of a B.A., from Université
 de Bourgogne

 Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France (10/2007-06/2008)
 French and English (Lettres Modernes, Anglais)
 Second-Year Diplomas: DEUG Lettres Modernes, DEUG LLCE
 Anglais

RESEARCH INTERESTS

recent: Humor Studies, Comedy Formats, Affect Studies, Sentimentality; African American
 and African Canadian history, literature, and literary history; Early American Studies;
 Nineteenth-Century American Literature; Life Writing; Transnational American Studies

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2020	<p>Global Sentimentality Fellowship FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany (moved to Jan-Feb 2023)</p> <p>12th International Summer Academy of the BAA, „Cultural Narratives of the State in a Comparative Perspective“, 16.-24.5.2020, Lexington, KY (moved to 2023 due to pandemic)</p>
2017-2018	<p>Christine de Pizan Women’s Mentoring Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz</p>
09-10/2016	<p>Fulbright American Studies Institute 2016 San Francisco State University “Why Black Lives Matter: Race and Politics in the U.S.”</p>
2016-2020	<p>Travel Grants by inneruniversitäre Forschungsförderung JGU Mainz For papers at SSAWW, CAAR, MESEA, Frederick Douglass Symposium, DGfA</p>
2016	<p>Travel Grant, German Academic Scholarship Foundation Paper at C19</p>
2015	<p>Travel and Research Grant, German Academic Scholarship Foundation Paper at NeMLA; research National Archives Toronto, attendance of BCSA Halifax</p>
06-07/2014	<p>Institute for World Literature (Harvard University) City University of Hongkong Seminars: Karen Thornber (World Literature and Environmental Crises), Theo D’haen (World Authors, World Literature) <i>Schubel-Stiftung, University of Mainz</i> <i>Spezielle Promotionskollegs, University of Mainz</i></p>
01-04/2013	<p>Research Grant, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) McGill University, Montreal (French Atlantic History Group) Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa (Ph.D. Thesis)</p>
04-09/2011	<p>Stipendienstiftung Rheinland-Pfalz, Mainz <i>M.A. thesis scholarship</i></p>
09-12/2010	<p>Research Grant, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Research trip to Montreal, Canada (M.A. thesis)</p>
09/2008-04/2009	<p>Bishop’s University, Lennoxville, QC, Canada <i>Scholarship from the Conseil Régional de Bourgogne, France</i></p>
10/2007-06/2008	<p>Université de Bourgogne, Dijon, France</p>

*Scholarship from the German-French University (DFH), Saarbrücken***MEMBERSHIPS**

German Association for American Studies (DGfA)
 Association for Canadian Studies in German-speaking Countries (GKS)
 American Studies Association (ASA)
 American Humor Studies Association (AHSA)
 TransCanada Forum (Universität Mainz)
 Observatoire de l'Humour (OH; Montréal)
 Trier Center for American Studies (TCAS)
 Trier Center for Canadian Studies (ZKS)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

2022	Successful application, RLP Klara Marie Faßbinder Guest Professorship for Women and Gender Studies, Trier University, Summer Term 2022. Invited Guest: Linda M. Morra, PhD
2022	Council Member, America Romana Center, Trier University
2022	Deputy council member, Graduate Center (GUT), Trier University
2021	Equal Opportunity Officer Faculty II (Gleichstellungsbeauftragte)
2018--	Coordinator for the Book Exhibit, GKS
2018--	Blind Peer Reviewer for collections and journals, including <i>COPAS</i> , <i>Abolitionism</i> (on Colored Conventions), <i>Adaptation</i> (on <i>Black Panther</i>), <i>Atlantic Studies: Global Currents</i> (on Teju Cole), <i>LISA e-journal</i> (on the Underground Railroad), <i>Literature</i> (on American Drama), <i>Open Cultural Studies</i> (on Black Womanhood in Popular Culture)
2017-2020	Member of the council of DEL, JGU Mainz
01/2017--	Selection Committee, German Academic Scholarship Foundation
2016-2019	Assistant Editor, <i>Amerikastudien/American Studies</i>
2016-2020	Direct Exchange Program Assistant
2014-15	Co-Organizer, Graduate and Post-Graduate Student Colloquium

PUBLICATIONS

2022	Sawallisch, Nele , and Marius Henderson. "Laurence Anyways." <i>The Lexicon of Global Melodrama</i> . Eds. Heike Paul, Sarah Marak, Katharina Gerund, Marius Henderson. Bielefeld: transcript. Open Access.
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- “Radical Legacies in Black Nineteenth-Century Canadian Writing.”
Harriet’s Legacies: Race, Historical Memory and Futures in Canada. Eds. Natalee Caple and Ronald Cummings. McGill-Queen’s UP.
- 2021 “‘Horsin’ Around’? #MeToo, the Sadcom, and *BoJack Horseman*.” *Media and Politics in the Age of Cringe*, Special Issue edited by Wieland Schwanebeck. *Humanities* 10 (2021): 115. <https://doi.org/10.3390/h10040115>.
- Sawallisch, Nele**, and Johanna Seibert, eds. *Black Editorship in the Early Atlantic World*. Special Issue *Atlantic Studies: Global Currents* 18. 4 (2021).
- “Deployments: Activism.” *Frederick Douglass in Context*, edited by Michaël Roy. Cambridge University Press. 356-367.
- 2020 “Ricky Gervais’s Sentimental Men.” *Anglistik International Journal of English Studies* 31.2 (Sommer 2020): 111-125.
- “North American Counter-Territoriality.” *American Territorialities*, edited by Nicole Waller, Jens Temmen. Special Issue *The Journal for Transnational American Studies* 11.1 (July 2020): 231-52.
- 2019 *Fugitive Borders: Black Canadian Cross-Border Literature at Mid-Nineteenth Century*. Bielefeld: transcript.
- Sawallisch, Nele**, and Rahab Njeri. “(German) Academia and White Supremacy.” Special Issue *White Supremacy in the United States and Beyond*, edited by Cedric Essi, Samira Spatzek, Paula von Gleich, Stephen Koetzing, Gesine Wegner. *COPAS* 20.2 (2019): 55-71.
- “Introduction: Transnational Black Politics and Resistance: From Enslavement to Obama: Through the Prism of 1619.” Special Forum *Transnational Black Politics and Resistance: From Enslavement to Obama*. *JTAS* 10.1 (Summer 2019), guest editors Elizabeth West, Pia Wiegink, **Nele Sawallisch**, Johanna Seibert, Frank Obenland.
- 2016 “Trudel’s Legacies: For a Critical Understanding of Slavery in Quebec.” *Zeitschrift für Kanadastudien* 65 (2016): 86-101.
- 2015 Caroline Heller, Diane Bélisle-Wolf, Melanie Hanslik, **Nele Sawallisch**, Nicole Poppenhagen, Xiuming He, eds. *COPAS* 16.1 (2015). Guest-editorship.
- Reviews:*
- 2017 Rev. of *Canada’s Forgotten Slaves: Two Hundred Years of Bondage*, by Marcel Trudel, transl. George Tombs. *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 62.3.

Rev. *The Black Atlantic Reconsidered. Black Canadian Writing, Cultural History, and the Presence of the Past*, by Winfried Siemerling. *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 62.3.

2016 Rev. of *Gettysburg Religion: Refinement, Diversity, and Race in the Antebellum and Civil War Border North*, by Steve Longenecker. *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 61.2.

2014 Rev. of *The Reverend Jennie Johnson and African Canadian History, 1868-1967*, by Nina Reid-Maroney. *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 59.3.

In Preparation:

“Black Women and Transnational Resistance.” *The Routledge Companion to Gender & Borderlands*, edited by Zalfa Feghali, Deborah Toner. Routledge.

“Slave Narratives.” *The Handbook to Black Canadian Literature*, edited by Andrea A. Davis, Leslie Sanders. Routledge.

“Performing While Pregnant: Unruly Women and Po(o)p Feminism.” (Workshop collection on “Stand-Up Today,” edited by Adrienne Boutang and Matthew Pires)

“Funny Women: Perspectives on Women in/and the Comedy Scene.” Special Issue for *European Journal of American Studies* (projected for 3/2024)

Co-ed. with Michael L. Moser, ““Participation and Humor in North America.” Special Issue for *Studies in American Humor* (projected for Fall 2023)

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Co-organized Conferences:

2021 **Funny Women. An International Symposium**, May 6-8, Amerikahaus Munich / zoom. In cooperation with the Bavarian-American Academy
Funding from: BAA, DFG

2017 **From Abolition to Black Lives Matter: Past and Present Forms of Transnational Black Resistance**, October 26-28, Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz.
Funding from: DFG, inneruniversitäre Forschungsförderung Universität Mainz, Zentrum für interkulturelle Studien Mainz, Freunde der Universität Mainz

2014 **25th Postgraduate Forum (PGF)** of the German Association of American Studies, October 6-8, Johannes Gutenberg-University, Mainz.
Funding from: U.S. Embassy, DGfA, Spezielle Promotionskollegs Universität Mainz

Conference Presentations and Other Formats:

- 2022 "Commemorating 'A Haytien Tale' of Black Liberation: Symbolic Memory and Nineteenth-Century Black America." *Ethnicisation des figures publiques en Amérique du Nord (anglophone et francophone). Enjeux nationaux, communautaires et locaux des célébrations*, Marie-Christine Michaud and Bertrand Van Ruymbeke, Université Bretagne Sud, Lorient, November 2022.
- Presentation, panel "Representations of Migration." Should I Stay Or Should I Go? Canadian and German Perspectives on Migration, Bi-Annual Partnership Conference between University of Manitoba and University of Trier, Prof. Dr. Ralf Hertel and Diana Thiesen, May 2022.
- 2021 "'The Pregnant Female Comedian': Unruly Women and Po(o)p Feminism." *Journée d'étude 'Le stand up aujourd'hui: interaction, circulation, hybridation*, Adrienne Boutang and Matthew Pires, Université Franche-Comté/zoom, March 2021.
- 2020 "Horsing Around: #MeToo and the Comedy of Discomfort of BoJack Horseman." *Painful Laughter: Media and Politics in the Age of Cringe*, PD Dr. Wieland Schwanebeck, Schloss Herrenhausen Hannover, Germany, October 2020.
- (Invited) "Claiming 'The Great Black North' in Contemporary Short Stories from Canada." *Diversity in Canadian Literature and Culture*, Prof. Dr. Jutta Ernst, Campus Germersheim, Germany, December 2020.
- (Invited) "The Literature of Black North American Mobility." Summer School "Migration, Inklusion und Marginalisierung. Transnationale Geschichte(n) der Mobilität," JProf. Dr. Rebecca Brückmann et JProf. Dr. Juliane Czierpka, Ruhr Universität Bochum, Germany, September 2020.
- 2019 "Worldmaking, Disrupted. Black Community Building in the Early Nineteenth Century." *African American Worldmaking in the Long Nineteenth Century*, Potsdam, October 2019.
- "Ricky Gervais' Distorted Men." Section "'Funny Men': Masculinities and Ridicule in Anglophone Cultures," *Anglistentag 2019 Leipzig*, September 2019.
- "National (Dis)Union, Civil Religion, and The Late Show with Stephen Colbert." Workshop: "Insult & Injury: American Comedy as a Platform of Social Critique." GAAS 2019, Hamburg, June 2019.
- "The (Im-)Possible Families of Henry Bibb: Black Families between Slavery and Freedom." Guest Lecture Otto-Friedrich-University, Bamberg, May 2019.

- “Issues in Black Canadian Studies.” Hauptseminar, PD Dr. Stefanie Schäfer, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, January 2019.
- 2018 “JB & FD & CW: Geographical Meditations on John Brown and Frederick Douglass.” Frederick Douglass across and against Times, Places, and Disciplines, Paris, October 2018.
- “Families and the U.S.-Canadian Border Zone in the Nineteenth Century.” MESEA, Graz, May 2018.
- “‘Pioneer’, ‘Activist’, ‘Icon’: Remembering Viola Desmond and Her (Hi)Story of Black Civil Rights in Canada.” Annual Conference of the Gesellschaft für Kanadastudien, Young Scholars’ panel, Grainau, Germany, February 2018.
- 2017 “‘Nothing here but Indians and wild beasts’ – Sophia Pooley’s Cross-Border Story of Enslavement.” Society for the Study of American Women Writers, Bordeaux, France, July 2017.
- “Transatlantic Antislavery Travels of Samuel Ringgold Ward.” Collegium of African American Research, Málaga, Spain, June 2017.
- 2016 “The Unsettling Canadian Slave Narratives.” Annual Conference of the Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19), State College, PA, March 2016.
- 2015 “The Dilemma of Canadian Slave Narratives.” Forum INPUTS, University of Bremen, November 2015. Online.
- “The Radical Discourse of Black Nineteenth-Century Canadian Writing.” Postgraduate Forum, Bamberg, Germany, November 2015.
- “Slavery in Granada and New France.” Young Scholars’ Meeting, German Academic Scholarship Foundation, Granada, Spain, September 2015.
- “Failure under the Lion’s Paw: Questioning the Canadian Haven for Black Fugitives.” Annual Convention of the NeMLA, Toronto, May 2015.
- “Challenges of Black Canadian (Minority) History.” Annual Conference of the Gesellschaft für Kanadastudien, Young Scholars’ Panel, Grainau, Germany, February 2015.
- 2014 “Trudel’s Legacies.” Institute for World Literature, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, June-July 2014.

2013 Presentation of Dissertation Project. Course “Histoires des Amériques noires”, Jean-Pierre LeGlaunec, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, February 2013.

“Fugitive Slaves in Nineteenth-Century Canada.” French Atlantic History Group, McGill University, Montreal, February 2013.

Workshops and Panel Chair:

2022 “Revolutionary Lieux de Mémoire and Lieux d’Oubli,” co-org. with Torsten Kathke, Ethnicisation des figures publiques en Amérique du Nord (anglophone et francophone) : Enjeux nationaux, communautaires et locaux des célébrations November 2022.

2021 “Are you laughing with us or at us? Participatory Laughter in North America,” co-org. with Michael L. Moser, Annual Conference of the GAAS, Heidelberg/zoom, June 2021.

2018 “I Longed to Have a Future: Douglass in Our Time.” Frederick Douglass across and against Times, Places, and Disciplines. Organizers: Claire Bourhis-Mariotti (Paris 8); Agnès Derail (ENS); Hélène Le Dantec-Lowry (Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris 3); Claire Parfait (Paris 13); Hélène Quanquin (Lille); Cécile Roudeau (Paris Diderot); Michaël Roy (Paris Nanterre). October 11-13, 2018. Paris.

2017 “The Black Atlantic in Contemporary American Short Fiction.” The American Short Story: New Horizons. Organizers: Prof. Dr. Oliver Scheiding. October 5-7, 2017. JGU Mainz.

“(Un)free Travels: Nineteenth-Century Black Mobility and Transatlantic Antislavery.” Diasporic Encounters, Subjectivities in Transit: Race, Gender, Religion and Sexualities in the African Diasporas. CAAR June 13-16, 2017. Málaga.

2014 “The Online Age: Contemporary Religion and Identity.” Religious Press and Print Culture. Organizers: Prof. Dr. Oliver Scheiding, Anja-Maria Bassimir, November 19-22, 2014. JGU Mainz.

Media:

2022 with Wieland Schwanebeck. Interview with Nicole Ficociello-Szober for “Gender Joke Gap,” *Zündfunk Generator*, Bayern 2, April 9.

2021 with Wieland Schwanebeck. Interview with Marlene Knobloch for “Ganz mein Humor,” *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, October 15.

with Wieland Schwanebeck. Interview with Jana Mundus for “Nicht lustig,” *Sächsische Zeitung*, June 15.

Live interview on “Funny Women,” *radioeins*, RBB, May 3.

2019 with Rahab Njeri. "Black Canada." *Talking American Studies*, Verena Adamik und Yasmin Künze, S1E5, December 2019. Podcast.

"African American Worldmaking in the Long Nineteenth Century."
Talking American Studies S1E4, November 2019. Podcast.

TEACHING

Universität Trier (all levels):

2022 North American Borderlands (includes **field trip** to MUDAM Luxemburg exhibition Zoe Lenhard, *Al Río* and the symposium "Riverine Borders: On Rivers and Other Border Materialities") (MA/MEd)
North American Literatures Today (MA/MEd)

2021-22 American Short Stories in the Long Nineteenth Century
Advanced Survey of American Literature

KU Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (all levels):

2021 Überblick Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte. Teil 2: Von der Romantik bis zur Gegenwart (Vorlesung u Lektürekurs, Vertretung)
Überblick Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte. Teil 3: Amerikanisches Drama (Vorlesung u Lektürekurs, Vertretung)
American Drama (BA/BEd)
Black Canada (BA/BEd)
Early American Literature (BA/BEd)
Propädeutikum (BA/BEd)

2020-21 Approaching Black Canada (MA/Med)
American Humor (MA/Med)
Introduction to Literary and Cultural Studies (BA/BEd)

JGU Mainz (BA and BEd levels):

2020 American Humor
Introduction to American Drama

2019-20 Introduction to Modernism
The American Novel to 1900

2019 Nineteenth-Century Classics
Science and Fiction from the Enlightenment to Romanticism

2018-19 Introduction to Early American Literature
Black Intellectuals of the Nineteenth Century

2018 Introduction to Colonial Literature
The Literature and Culture of the American West

2017-18 Introduction to American Poetry
Black Resistance in North America

2017 Cultural Studies I

2016-17 Introduction to African American Writing

2015-16 Introduction to Autobiography/Life Writing

QUALIFICATIONS

2022	Workshop on Hiring Committee Work [Gleichstellung an Hochschulen – Rechtliche Grundlagen und Gleichstellung in Berufungsverfahren] (DHV, online)
2021-2	4 Workshops on virtual teaching and learning, organized by AGIL, Trier University
2021	Supervising International PhD students [Internationale Promovierende betreuen] (Graduate Center Trier University, 2-day workshop)
2021	Workshop on Hiring Committee Work [Fairness in Berufungs- und Stellenbesetzungsverfahren. Gleichstellung als Bestandteil des Qualitätsmanagements] (Equal Opportunity Office Trier University, Dr. Dagmar Höppl, 2-day workshop)
2018	Certificate “Didactic Methods in Higher Education” (ZQ, Mainz University)
2017	Oral Exams Part 1 (Exam Center, Mainz University) Designing Exams Focused on Competencies, Skills, and Outcome (Exam Center, Mainz University)
2016	Blended Learning (Exam Center, Mainz University) Feedback (Exam Center, Mainz University)
2013	Visualizing process flows in Microsoft Visio Professional Process Management at institutions of higher education

LANGUAGES

German (native tongue)
 English (Level C2)
 French (Level C1)
 Spanish (Level A2)
 Latin