

ANKÜNDIGUNGSTEXTE KELLETER (SOMMERSEMESTER 2025)

A Note on My Courses in the Summer Semester 2025

Following requests from course evaluations, my lecture courses in the summer semester are again listed as three-hour “Vorlesung mit integriertem Tutorium.” However, participants will gain credit on the basis of the regular (two-hour) lecture slot; attendance of the additional academic hour (“tutorial” with further time for Q&A) is optional.

Please make sure to read the Course Descriptions (Syllabi) before the beginning of the term! You can download them from the “Teaching” section of my JFKI website or from the Blackboard sites of my courses. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

VORLESUNG (mit integriertem Tutorial)

American Culture after World War II

Emerging from World War II as a world power, the United States faced numerous problems of cultural self-definition in the second half of the 20th century. The Cold War produced not only an ideology of international leadership but also new anxieties about America’s social identity and the nation’s changed position in the world. Topics discussed in this lecture course include: the arrival of a postindustrial economic order, the decline of New Deal liberalism, postmodernist aesthetics, the New Hollywood, and the interrelated emergence of the New Left and the New Right. In the early 21st century, many of these developments have been radicalized under the conditions of military hegemony, globalized capitalism, corporate anti-statism, neoliberal governance, and catastrophic ecological transformations. Our lecture course focuses on select phases and moments of cultural production between 1945 and 2025, when American novels, poems, films, and TV shows often defined the state of the art in their respective fields. We will concentrate on literary sources (especially poetry and fiction), sociological writings, political documents, cinema, television, and other cultural fields.

The lecture course serves as “Vorlesung” of Culture-Module C (*Kulturgeschichte einzelner Medien und ästhetischer Darstellungsformen*) in the M.A. program. **Registration:** All participants should be registered via Blackboard *and* Campus Management by the first session. If you cannot register online, please contact Prof. Kelleter before the beginning of the term. **Requirements and Organization:** See **Syllabus and Course Description** in the “Teaching” section of Prof. Kelleter’s JFKI website or on Blackboard (go to “Kursmaterial”; you may have to click on “open Syllabus here” to download it; if this doesn’t work, try a different browser: students have reported problems with the Chrome browser). Please note that this course is listed as a three-hour “Vorlesung mit integriertem Tutorium.” However,

participants will gain credit on the basis of the regular two-hour (4-6) lecture slot; attendance of the additional hour (“tutorial” with further time for Q&A, 6-7) is optional. **First session:** April 15.

(Tue, 16-19, JFKI 319 – in person, no hybrid option)

HAUPTSEMINAR (Master Studiengang)

Post-Classical Theory

This seminar serves as “**Hauptseminar**” of Culture-**Module C** in the **Master’s degree program**. We will study different types of cultural theory that have emerged after the “classical” paradigms of psychoanalysis, phenomenology, orthodox Marxism, and their poststructuralist inflections. Our introductory sessions will survey several developments from the 1970s-2000s (revisionary Marxism, field theory, actor-network-theory, systems theory). Additional topics (to be chosen and prepared by students) can include, but are not limited to, later or other paradigms such as poststructuralism (e.g., Gilles Deleuze, Jacques Derrida), affect theory (e.g., Lauren Berlant, Kathleen Stewart, Sara Ahmed, Margaret Wetherell), post-critique and new formalism (e.g., Rita Felski, Caroline Levine), new queer theories (e.g., José Esteban Muñoz), trans theories (e.g. Jack Halberstam, Paul Preciado), media archaeology and media ecology (e.g., Lisa Gitelman, Katherine Hayles, Jay Bolter, Richard Grusin), post-cinema theories (e.g., Shane Denson), seriality studies (the JFKI’s own Popular Seriality Research Unit, e.g., Kathleen Loock, Maria Sulimma, Daniel Stein, Ruth Mayer, Frank Kelleter), contemporary aesthetic theories (e.g., Sianne Ngai), critiques of postfeminism (e.g., the Judith Butler-Nancy Fraser debate, Catherine Rottenberg), black feminism and intersectionality (e.g., Combahee River Collective, Audre Lorde, bell hooks, Kimberlé Crenshaw), theories of neoliberalism (e.g., David Harvey, Wendy Brown), critical university studies (e.g., Christopher Newfield), critical whiteness studies (e.g., Claudia Rankine, David Roediger), Afropessimism and philosophies of blackness (e.g., Hortense Spillers, Saidiya Hartman, Fred Moten), black Marxism (e.g., Angela Davis, Cedric Robinson, Karen and Barbara Fields), contemporary theories of neofascism (Alberto Toscano, David Neiwert, Cynthia Miller-Idriss, George Hawley, Simon Strick), or any other new publication or trend you would like to discuss.

Unlike Prof. Kelleter’s lecture course, this seminar will be largely student-driven; more than half of our sessions will be designed and moderated by the participants. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with potential course material (theoretical paradigms and texts) *before* the first meeting, when all participants will be asked to propose and sign up for one session topic (theoretical paradigm and/or set of texts; compare Syllabus). **Registration:** All participants need to be registered via Blackboard *and* Campus Management by the first session. If you cannot register online or cannot attend the first session, please contact Prof. Kelleter before the beginning of the term (no later than April 11). Before our first meeting, all communication about and within this class will be channeled through the course’s Blackboard site, so make sure you are registered there. **Organization:** Please download the **Syllabus and Course Description** (with a description of all course requirements) from the “Teaching” section of Prof. Kelleter’s JFKI website or from Blackboard (go to “Kursmaterial”; you may have to click on “open Syllabus here” to download it; if this doesn’t work, try a different browser: students have reported problems with the Chrome browser). **Please read the Syllabus/Course Description carefully!** It contains detailed information on the seminar’s structure and suggestions for preparing “your” session. Note that we will finalize our class

schedule in the first two meetings. This means that **everyone who wants to attend this course needs to be present in the first session** in order to sign up for a topic (student-run session) *or* have contacted Prof. Kelleter beforehand by e-mail (no later than April 11). There is no auditing this class. **First session:** April 15.

(Tue, 14-16, JFKI 319 – in person, regular attendance required, no hybrid option)

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Advanced Theory and Methods in the Study of Culture

This Ph.D.-course continues last semester's "Theory and Methods in the Study of Culture." Members of the Graduate School are invited to attend. Please register prior to the first class with Prof. Kelleter (no later than April 11).

(Wed, 14-16, JFKI 201)

FORSCHUNGSKOLLOQUIUM

Forschungskolloquium der Abteilungen Kultur und Literatur

Each summer semester, the Departments of Culture and Literature organize a joint research colloquium with invited speakers. This course is addressed chiefly to Ph.D. students, post-docs, visiting scholars, and faculty members, but it is open to B.A. and M.A. students and the general public as well. For details, please see poster and program (online).

(Wed, 18-20, JFKI 201)

POLICY FOR B.A. AND M.A. THESES

If you want Prof. Kelleter to be the advisor/first reader of your Master's Thesis ("M.A. Abschlussarbeit"), you should have attended at least one of his seminars ("Hauptseminare"). Alternatively, you can use one of his seminars (preferably plus lecture course) as an M.A. colloquium, in which you will present your M.A. project. You will have to choose a topic connected to the seminar's material. Similar arrangements can be made for a B.A.-Thesis (please discuss in office hours). Seminar topics are always broad enough—usually covering an entire period—to provide interesting material for a final Thesis to all students of American cultural history.