Johannes Gutenberg-Universität (JGU) Mainz
Johannes Gutenberg University (JGU) Mainz

Fachbereich 07 – Geschichts- und Kulturwissenschaften
Faculty of Historical and Cultural Studies

Institut für Ethnologie und Afrikastudien

Department of Anthropology and African Studies

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http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de / http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/eng/index.php

ADDRESS

Institut für Ethnologie und Afrikastudien / Department of Anthropology and African Studies
Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
Forum universitatis 6
55099 Mainz
Germany

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT (GESCHÄFTSFÜHRENDE LEITUNG DES INSTITUTS)

October 2020 – September 2021: Jun.-Prof. Dr. Nico Nassenstein

October 2021 – September 2022: Prof. Dr. Markus Verne

GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL OFFICE (SEKRETARIAT)

Stefanie Wallen / Christine Weil

Phone: ++49 – (0)6131 – 39 20117 / – 39 22798

Fax: ++49 – (0)6131 – 39 23730

Email: wallen@uni-mainz.de / chweil@uni-mainz.de

DEPARTMENTAL STUDY ADMINISTRATION (STUDIENBÜRO)

Head (Studienmanagerin): Dr. Anna-Maria Brandstetter (brandste@uni-mainz.de)

Cristina Gliwitzky (Prüfungsverwaltung) / Elke Rössler (Lehrveranstaltungsmanagement)

Email: pruefungsamt-fb07-gliwitzky@uni-mainz.de / roessler@uni-mainz.de

Phone: ++49 – (0)6131 – 39 20118

Fax: ++49 – (0)6131 – 39 23730

STUDENT ADVISORY SERVICE (STUDIENFACHBERATUNG)

B.A. “Linguistik mit Schwerpunkt Afrikanistik” (Linguistics with specialization in African Languages and Linguistics):

PD Dr. Holger Tröbs, Jun.-Prof. Dr. Nico Nassenstein

M.A. “Ethnologie des Globalen” (Anthropology of the Global) and B.A. “Ethnologie” (Anthropology):

Dr. Cassis Kilian, Dr. Anna-Maria Brandstetter

DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARY (BEREICHSBIBLIOTHEK ETHNOLOGIE UND AFRIKASTUDIEN)

Phone: ++49 – (0)6131 – 39 24390

Email: m.jantz@ub.uni-mainz.de

Internet: https://www.ub.uni-mainz.de/de/ethnologie
https://www.ub.uni-mainz.de/de/afrikanische-philologie

Staff: Dr. Martina Jantz

STUDENT REPRESENTATION (FACHSCHAFTSRAT)

Email: ethnologie@zefar.uni-mainz.de Internet: http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/162.php

INTRODUCTION

2021 was an eventful year for the Department of Anthropology and African Studies. I will not bore you with yet another sentence about how difficult the situation was due to the pandemic. Research took place, although to a lesser degree than usually. Teaching took place, although mostly online. Talks and conferences took place, again mostly online. Publications were written, although they often took longer to be published than usually.

However, we were happy to welcome a large number of new colleagues in Mainz. In April, Jun.-Prof. Franziska Fay joined us. She will continue the department's long-standing tradition of political anthropology and will also expand its regional expertise with a dedicated focus on East Africa. Her ethno-linguistic interests will help integrating the department's Africanist and anthropological strands. Furthermore, a number of new colleagues joined the department: Bianca Baumann, whose research interests include material culture, provenance research, etc., Marion Grimberg, who works on beautification practices and racialization, Yaatsil Guevara, who focuses on forced migration and refugee studies, Andrea Hollington, working in numerous linguistic fields, Artemis Saleh, who concentrates in her research in Kinshasa and Lagos on queerness, womanhood and spirituality. Finally, we are happy that Solomon Waliaula rejoined our department for a research project on cinema narration in East Africa. Sadly (but obviously to his pleasure), Axel Brandstetter retired from his work in the African Music Archives.

After several years of preparation, the new B.A. program "African Languages, Media and Communication" was launched in winter semester 2021/22. As part of the Rhine-Main-Universities (RMU) cooperation framework, it is taught both at our department and the Institute for African Studies, Goethe University, Frankfurt a. M. As a result, African Studies in the Rhine-Main region has experienced a change of direction in terms of content and includes input from anthropology, linguistics and media studies.

In March, the project CEDITRAA – Cultural Entrepreneurship and Digital Transformation in Africa and Asia – started its activities. Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the project investigates how digitization changes cultural production in sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia. Focusing on music and film, the joint project of Goethe University Frankfurt and Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz examines cultural production in Nigeria and South Korea. Team members of our department include: Matthias Krings (Project Director), Nico Nassenstein (PI), Ute Röschenthaler (PI), Artemis Saleh, Tom Simmert, and Hauke Dorsch (Associated Researcher).

On 1 July, the Collaborative Research Center (SFB 1482) "Humandifferenzierung" (Studies in Human Categorization) was established at the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz and the Leibniz Institute for European History (IEG). Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), the aim of the Center is to study a fundamental cultural and social phenomenon: the perpetual categorical differentiation by and of humans. This occurs for example according to nationality, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, achievement, sexual orientation, etc. The ifeas is represented with three projects. The project headed by Matthias Krings looks at the meaning of skin color and its staging in everyday social situations and in social media. A second anthropological project, directed by Heike Drotbohm, examines how people deal with human differences that take place in encounter situations of informal help. Finally, the Africanist project led by Nico Nassenstein deals with language borders and national affiliations in Central Africa.

In 2021, the Ernst Wilhelm Müller Foundation, named after the former professor of anthropology, started financing its first research projects. Established in support of the African Music Archives, the Ethnographic Collection and the Jahn Library for African Literatures, it now supports financially projects such as the digit-

ization of objects from the Ethnographic Collection that were acquired in colonial contexts, or one on the digitization of historical tapes by the German Africa journalist Gerd Meuer (1941–2017).

In 2021, the Sulzmann Award, which is granted by the Sulzmann Foundation (JGU) to students of the department who have written outstanding Master's or Ph.D. theses on Africa or an Africa-related topic, was shared between Annalena Kolloch, Godwin Kornes and Antonia Weßling. Annalena Kolloch's Ph.D. thesis is entitled "Faire la magistrature au Benin: Karrierewege, Selbstbilder und die Aushandlung von Unabhängigkeit der beninischen Richter- und Staatsanwaltschaft (1894/2016)" and was supervised by Thomas Bierschenk. Godwin Kornes' Ph.D. thesis is entitled "Heroes, Martyrs, Comrades: The Aesthetics and Politics of Liberation Memory in Namibia" and was supervised by Carola Lentz. Antonia Weßling's Master's thesis is entitled "Alte Debatten in neuem Gewand: Staatliche Regulation des Handels mit Wachsdruckstoffen in Ghana aus der Perspektive von Händler*innen" and was supervised by Ute Röschenthaler.

Carola Lentz, whose senior research professorship has been extended for two more years, was ceremonially awarded her certificate of membership in the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina on 3 November. On 6 December, ifeas alumnus Blessings Chinsinga was appointed as Minister of Local Government in Malawi.

More activities, achievements and accolades of individual members of our department, too numerous to be mentioned here, may be found in the following pages of this report.

The department mourns the death of our former colleague Hiltrud Marzi. She passed away on 15 February 2021 at the age of 85. In 1989, she received her Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology with a thesis entitled "Alter und Status. Ein ethnologischer Beitrag zur modernen sozialwissenschaftlichen Altersforschung." In 1992–1994 she conducted research on old age and ageing in Rwanda ("Ethnologie und Altern in Ruanda"). and subsequently displayed her findings in a traveling exhibition "Alter in Afrika. Tradition und Wandel", that she developed with a team of anthropology students from Mainz and that was on display.

Hauke Dorsch
Editor-in-chief
February 2022

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND AFRICAN STUDIES

The Department of Anthropology and African Studies (ifeas) at the JGU Mainz is an interdisciplinary institution which covers a broad spectrum of both research and teaching activities. These include social, political, religious and economic anthropology, transnational and humanitarian studies, the politics and sociology of development, media and visual anthropology, modern popular culture, aesthetics as well as African literatures, African music, theater and film and the languages of Africa.

The department's faculty includes the following professorships:

Heike Drotbohm (Anthropology of African Diaspora and Transnationalism)

Franziska Fay (Anthropology with a Focus on Political Anthropology (junior professor)

Matthias Krings (Anthropology and African Popular Culture)

Carola Lentz (Anthropology) (senior research professor)

Nico Nassenstein (African Languages and Linguistics) (junior professor)

Markus Verne (Anthropology with a Focus on Aesthetics)

In addition, **Ute Röschenthaler** is Extranumerary Professor (apl. Prof.) and **Helmut Asche** is Honorary Professor at the department.

Degree programs offered at the department

The department currently offers a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Anthropology ("Anthropology of the Global"), a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Anthropology ("Ethnologie"), a B.A. in "African Languages, Media and Communication" as well as in African Languages and Linguistics ("Afrikanistik") and a Ph.D. (Promotion) in Anthropology ("Ethnologie") and African Languages and Linguistics.

The focus of the curriculum and research program is on contemporary Africa and its entanglements with other world regions. Teaching and research go hand in hand, and advanced students are actively involved in research projects. Cooperation with African universities and collaboration with African colleagues play a central role in all these endeavors.

M.A. "Ethnologie des Globalen" (Anthropology of the Global)

http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/293.php / http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/eng/293.php

The two-year program offers research-oriented training in anthropology. It is closely connected with the department's main research interests and the department's exceptional resources with five professorships and numerous academic staff, the Ethnographic Collection, the Jahn Library for African Literatures, and the African Music Archives. The program combines a broad engagement with the areas, theories and methods of anthropology on an advanced level in the context of a student research project, supervised by members of the department's academic staff, in which students explore a thematically and regionally specific topic, plan and carry out fieldwork as well as processing, analyzing, interpreting and presenting their data. In the course of student research projects, relevant anthropological research methods are acquired and practiced.

B.A. "Ethnologie" (Anthropology)

http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/1713.php / http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/eng/294.php

The three-year program focuses on the diversity of contemporary cultural and social practices and aims to provide students with a thorough grounding in the methods, theory, and history of anthropological research. While enabling students to explore human practices in all regions of the world, the program's regional focus is on Africa (south of the Sahara). It integrates the concerns, approaches and methods of anthropology, sociology, history, literary studies, media studies, cultural studies, and linguistics. Students have plenty of scope to develop and pursue their own thematic interests.

B.A. "Linguistik mit Schwerpunkt Afrikanistik" (Linguistics with specialization in African Languages and Linguistics)

https://www.linguistik.fb05.uni-mainz.de/ba-linguistik/

The B.A. "Linguistik" with specialization in "Afrikanistik" is a three-year study program offered by the Department of English and Linguistics in cooperation with the section of African Languages and Linguistics within the Department of Anthropology and African Studies. The B.A. program focuses on the reconstruction and analysis of similarities across the four language phyla of Africa. Aiming to offer a broad approach to Africa as a field of linguistic research, students study the different geographical areas and their specific linguistic features. Apart from classificatory systems of African languages and their development, the focus lies on insights into phonological as well as structural phenomena (such as noun class systems, verbal extensions, word order, etc.). The program offers the whole range of African linguistics, covering the transcription of unwritten languages, their morphosyntactic structures, language contact scenarios as well as processes of linguistic change.

Publications of the department

The department publishes three series:

Mainzer Beiträge zur Afrikaforschung, edited by Heike Drotbohm, Franziska Fay, Matthias Krings, Nico Nassenstein, Anja Oed, and Markus Verne; Cologne: Rüdiger Köppe, https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/publikationen-2/mainzer-beitraege-zur-afrikaforschung/).

Mande Languages and Linguistics/Langues et Linguistique Mandé, edited by Raimund Kastenholtz.

Furthermore, the department publishes an online series of working papers, **Arbeitspapiere des Instituts für Ethnologie und Afrikastudien der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz** / Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz (https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/publikationen-2/arbeitspapiere/)**.** Managing editor: Theresa Mentrup. In 2021, five new working papers were published:

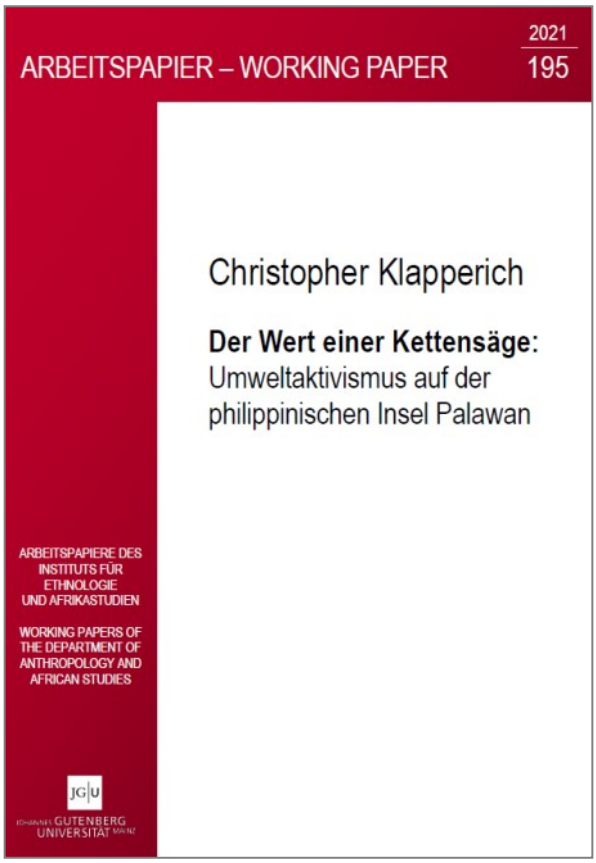
Marcel Müller, Was ist Auto-Ethnografie? Eine Positionierung vor dem Hintergrund einer ethnologischen Forschung zur Polizei. *Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz* 194.

Christopher Klapperich, Der Wert einer Kettensäge: Umweltaktivismus auf der philippinischen Insel Palawan. *Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz* 195.

Konstanze N'Guessan, Doing being father in Côte D'Ivoire: Intimate fathering, performances of care and paternal determinism. *Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz* 196.

Heike Drotbohm, Care beyond repair. *Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz* 197.

Elena Reichl, Einen Fluss steuern? Hilfs- und Kontrollpraktiken in einer staatlichen Unterkunft für Transitmigrant*innen in Costa Rica. *Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz* 198.



Research facilities in the department

The department's research facilities include the following resources, which are available to students, the faculty as well as to other researchers:

- a **departmental library** (Bereichsbibliothek Ethnologie und Afrikastudien), which complements the holdings of the university library and comprises approximately 50,000 volumes as well as about 70 journals.
- the **Jahn Library for African Literatures** (Jahn-Bibliothek für afrikanische Literaturen)
- the **African Music Archives** (Archiv für die Musik Afrikas)
- the **Ethnographic Collection** (Ethnografische Studiensammlung)
- a **video archive** (http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/230.php) comprising ethnographic films, documentaries on African cultures and societies and on current events in the region as well as music clips and African films and film adaptations.
- the **Online Archive: African Independence Days** (https://bildarchiv.uni-mainz.de/AUJ/), which provides users with full digital access to more than 20,000 images as well as data collected in collaborative research on the Independence Days in twelve African countries.
- the **Archive: West African Settlement History** (http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/781.php) comprising more than 6,000 pages of notes, transcriptions, and translations relating to almost 800 interviews conducted with village elders, earth priests, and village chiefs in the border regions of Burkina Faso and Ghana, as well as further documents from various regional archives.

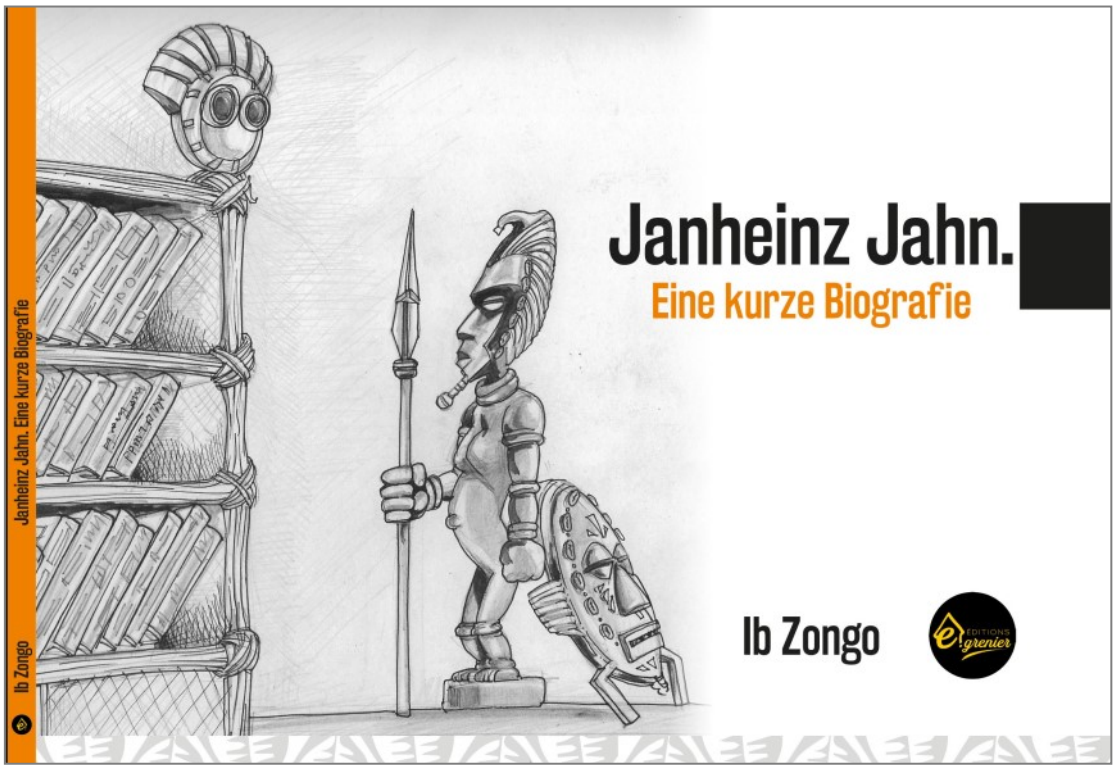
A sample of AMA vinyl records.
Photographed by Thomas Hartmann.

Jahn Library for African Literatures

The Jahn Library for African Literatures (http://www.jahn-bibliothek.ifeas.uni-mainz.de) holds a unique collection of literary works in more than ninety languages. It is one of the earliest and most comprehensive research facilities for African literatures worldwide. It evolved from the private collection of Janheinz Jahn (1918–1973), whose interest in African literature arose during a public talk by the Senegalese poet and politician Léopold Sédar Senghor in Frankfurt in 1951. For the rest of his life, Jahn not only collected African literature but also translated and edited literary works by African writers, compiled bibliographies and reference books, and published widely on African literature and culture. In this way, he significantly enhanced public awareness of African literature in Germany and – at a time when works by African writers written in one of the colonial languages were still largely regarded as offshoots of the respective European national literatures – also contributed to the global acknowledgement of African literature across linguistic boundaries. The Jahn Library is headed by Anja Oed.

Apart from guided tours, student activities in the library normally include a format called biblio-speed-dating as well as book slams. In 2021, most of these activities once again had to be discontinued because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Jahn Library was involved in the planning of the International Online Colloquium "Senghor im 21. Jahrhundert: Rezeptionsdynamiken, kulturelles Erbe und aktuelle Lektüren / Ce que Senghor apporte au XXIe siècle Dynamiques de réception, héritage et lectures actuelles," convened by the Zentrum für Frankreich- und Frankophonieforschung (ZFF, JGU Mainz), which took place in June 2021.

In November 2021, the Jahn Library obtained funding from the Ernst-Wilhelm-Müller-Stiftung (Ernst Wilhelm Müller Foundation) for a project entitled "Afrikanische Schriftsteller:innen und Musiker:innen des 20. Jahrhunderts im O-Ton: Digitalisierung historischer Tonbänder des deutschen Afrika-Journalisten Gerd Meuer (1941–2017)." The project is concerned with the digitization of 20th-century audiotapes given to the department by the late German Africa journalist Gerd Meuer.



The cover of Ib Zongo's comic biography of Janheinz Jahn.

African Music Archives (AMA)

The AMA collects records of modern music from Africa; these include shellacs, acetate discs, reel-to-reel tapes, vinyl singles, vinyl LPs, music cassettes, CDs, VHS, video-CDs and DVDs. Since 2010, when Hauke Dorsch joined as the AMA's director, activities have focused on four main fields: conserving the records, cataloguing the collection, acquainting students with archival work through exhibitions, workshops and courses, and reaching out to the scientific community through conferences and workshops and to a wider public via old and new media. Established in 1991 by Wolfgang Bender the collection continues to be extended.

The year 2021 was yet another year of many challenges. We could open the archives only some weeks over summer and autumn and could not reach out to a wider public through concerts or exhibitions. So, most of our work took place behind closed doors. We catalogued a large amount of the numerous records, books and journals we inherited from Flemming Harrev. Furthermore, we started another project devoted to the donations we received in 2020. Alimatou Ndiaye went through and re-organised the collection of Senegalese music and interview transcripts donated to the AMA by Cornelia Panzacchi. Ndiaye's work with this material is conceptualized as some sort of archive-based re-study of Panzacchi's outstanding work on Senegalese popular music. Another project finalized in 2021 was the transcription and translation of covers of Ethiopian and Moroccan tape cassettes by Andreas Wetter. We were also involved in organizing the above-mentioned colloquium on Senghor (p. 8).

The AMA provided the "Ansichtssache" exhibit at the University Library with a shellac disc, a single, a LP, a MC and a CD. https://www.sammlungen.uni-mainz.de/da-spielt-die-musik/

This year, an era ended for the archives, as Axel Brandstetter retired after 24 years of work for the AMA. His exceptionally engaged, original and thorough input will we be sorely missed. We managed to have a small farewell party. The current team consists of Hauke Dorsch, Clémentine Nkongolo, Michael Restorff, Asya Weißgerber, Barbara Wenger and Moritz Zielinsky and continues his wonderful work.

As we are scheduled to move to a new building in 2022, a lot of preparatory work went into finding, planning and designing new rooms for the future AMA.

Records used for the "Ansichtssache" exhibit in the library.
Photographed by Thomas Hartmann.

Ethnographic Collection

Dr. Erika Sulzmann started the department's ethnographic collection in 1950 (http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/1007.php). In 1948, she became the first lecturer of anthropology at the newly established Institut für Völkerkunde at the JGU and immediately began building up an ethnographic collection. From 1951 to 1954, she spent more than two years in the Belgian Congo (now Democratic Republic of Congo), carrying out fieldwork among the Ekonda and Bolia in the equatorial rainforest together with Ernst Wilhelm Müller, who was a Ph.D. student in anthropology at the time. They collected more than 500 objects, which formed the original core of the department's holdings. Erika Sulzmann constantly expanded the collection during subsequent research trips to the Congo between 1956 and 1980.

Today, the collection encompasses about 2,900 objects, mainly from Central and West Africa, but also from Australia, Papua New Guinea, and the South Pacific. The collection's items are used in teaching. Students learn how to handle ethnographic objects according to ethical considerations, how to conserve them, and how to design small exhibitions around them. Since 1992, Anna-Maria Brandstetter has been the collection's curator.

As in 2020, there were only a few visitors to the collection this year. One of the few visitors was Sara Müller, a research assistant in the joint project "Provenance Research in Non-European Collections and Ethnology in Lower Saxony" (PAESE) and a Ph.D. student in History at the University of Göttingen, who was interested in the 16 cultural artifacts from Papua New Guinea that were acquired during "Kaiserin-Augusta-Fluss-Expedition" (1912/13, today's Sepik River) and came to the Mainz collection via Stuttgart in 1971.

Exhibition miniature about coffee for a coffee lover, realized in 2021.

Small coffee pots made of clay or recycled tinplate are part of the everyday culture of the Sudan, which, along with Ethiopia, is considered the home of the coffee plant. Via Arabia and the Ottoman Empire, coffee began its triumphal march around the world. The spread of coffee cultivation is closely linked to the plantation economy in the European colonies from the early 18th century onwards. Especially in Brazil, veritable "coffee dynasties" developed, enriching themselves from the labour of enslaved people from Africa. To this day, Brazil is the world's largest producer of coffee (and Germany the main importer of coffee from Brazil), closely followed by Vietnam. Only recently have there been transnational initiatives to overcome the global inequality in the coffee value chain that still exists today.

The coffee pots ġábana with foot rim wigaya were bought by Andreas Kronenberg in Omdurman (Sudan) in 1965 for the Ethnographic Collection; clay, beads, fabric; inventory numbers 1526, 1527 and 1528.

The spoon made of recycled tin cans for roasting coffee beans was bought by Barbara Wenger in 2003 at the old market of Khartoum (Sudan); gift to the Ethnographic Collection in 2021; inventory number 3410.

Other objects: private collection.
Photographed by Anna-Maria Brandstetter.

The Ethnographic Collection is one of 25 institutions in Germany which were selected to implement the pilot phase of the "3-Road Strategy on the documentation and digital publication of collections from colonial contexts held in Germany." In this preliminary pilot phase, the data is provided via an interface to the Deutsche Digitale Bibliothek ("German Digital Library," DDB), where it is published in a central portal "Collections from Colonial Contexts." In November, the DDB has launched this online portal at the URL ccc.deutsche-digitale-bibliothek.de. The Ethnographic Collection submitted 225 references to cultural items mainly from Cameroon. The data can be accessed by entering "Sammlungen der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität" in the field Data Provider.

Since spring 2021, a team with three research assistants (M.A. students Lena Scheibinger, Victoria Stein und Moritz Zielinski), Lisa Marie Roemer, coordinator of the JGU Mainz university collections, and Anna-Maria Brandstetter has started digitizing the Collection's objects for the university collections' database "Gutenberg Objects." In summer 2021, Larissa Arlt, a photographer in the Servicezentrum Digitalisierung und Fotodokumentation (University Library Mainz), joined the team. The digitization is made possible with substantial funding by the Ernst-Wihelm-Müller Foundation as well as with support from the department.

In the fall of 2021, anthropology student Johanna Schramm documented and analysed the exchange between the Linden Museum and the Institute of Anthropology in Mainz. 50 years ago, exactly on December 16th, 1971, the contract for the exchange was signed, in which 732 cultural objects from Afghanistan/ Pakistan from the Ethnographic Collection in Mainz were exchanged for 637 objects mainly from Oceania and Africa from the Linden-Museum.

Online Archive: African Independence Days

The online archive "African Independence Days" (https://bildarchiv.uni-mainz.de/AUJ/) holds more than 28,000 images collected on the Independence Days in twelve African countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Mali, Namibia, Nigeria and Tanzania. Created in 2010, the archive is one of the outcomes of a large comparative research project on African national days directed by Carola Lentz. The material comprises photographs, newspaper articles, documents, and objects. Some of the material is also stored in the physical archive on African Independence Days at ifeas as well as in the department's Ethnographic Collection. Most of the material concerns recent celebrations, but the collection has been complemented by some documentation of earlier festivities. The material offers unique insights into practices of national commemoration and political celebrations in Africa. It is intended to invite scholars to further engage in the study of national commemoration and political celebrations in Africa and, more generally, processes of nation-building and state-making.

Since 2020, the online archive has been integrated into the Ethnographic Collection at ifeas. For further information on the archive, see also https://visual-history.de/project/online-archive-african-independence-days/.

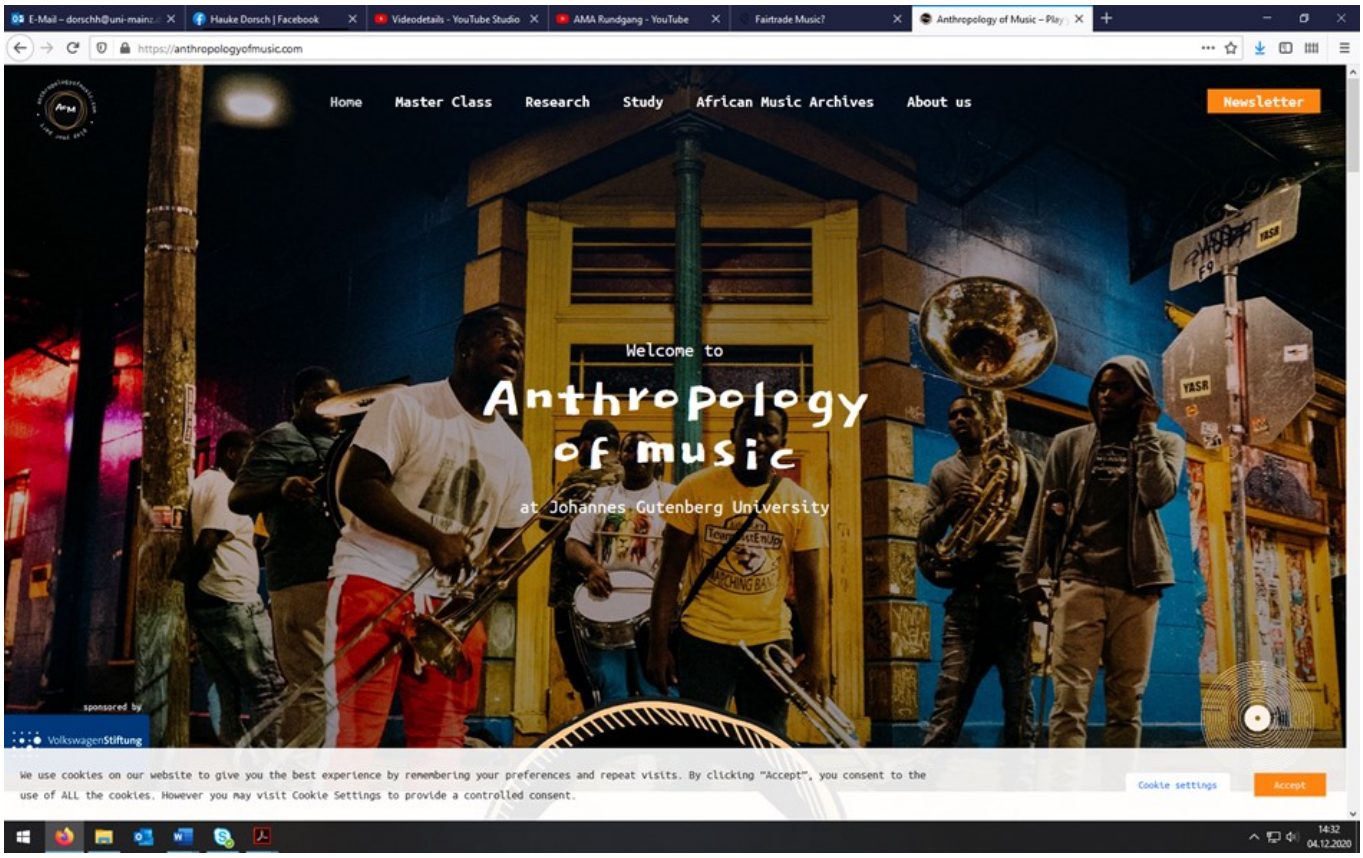
Website Anthropology of Music

Since 2020, the website anthropologyofmusic.com represents a new working group within the department. It was created to advertise the **Anthropology of Music Master Class and Lecture Series**, its subjects, presentations, and its findings. So far, this master class and lecture series took place twice, in 2018 and 2019, featuring Timothy Taylor (on the topic of "value and music") and Steven Feld (on "acoustemology"). The next is scheduled for July 13–16 2022 with Louise Meintjes as presenter and will focus on "sound, aesthetics and politics."

Apart from announcing and documenting these series, the website also introduces a wider public to the rapidly growing working group at the ifeas that focusses on anthropological approaches to the study of music and aesthetics. It introduces related research projects at the ifeas, activities of the AMA and the people involved. In the future, it shall also serve as a node for the participants of the master classes and other scholars interested in questions related to anthropological approaches to music. Furthermore, related study programs, news and events will be advertised. Scholars and students active in this project include Martin Büdel, Hauke Dorsch, Daniel Jákli, Maike Meurer, Anjuli Rotter, Tom Simmert, Markus Verne and Moritz Zielinski.

The master class and lecture series and this website are hosted by the ifeas and the AMA and financed by the Volkswagen Stiftung. The series were supported by: Ministry of Science, Further Education, and Culture Rhineland-Palatinate, German Research Council (DFG), Center for Intercultural Studies at JGU (ZIS). The website was designed by steinkuellerundsteinkueller.de.

For more information: https://anthropologyofmusic.com/



Screenshot of the website.

RESEARCH PROJECTS BY FACULTY MEMBERS

The Management of Loss: Politics of Life and Death in Minas Gerais (Brazil)

Project Director: **Heike Drotbohm**

Researcher: **Theresa Mentrup**

Duration: **March 2022 – March 2025**

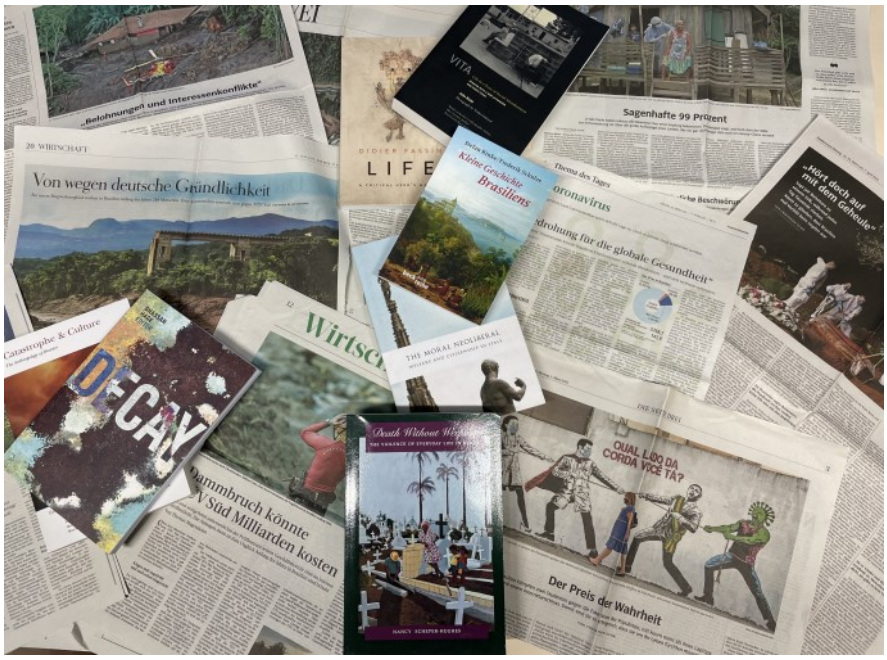
Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/2021/06/24/die-verwaltung-von-verlust-politiken-von-leben-und-tod-in-minas-gerais-brasilien/

Whereas "crises," such as the outbreak of an epi- or pandemic and the "catastrophic" collapse of infrastructures, are usually analyzed separately in anthropology, this project suggests a shift of attention. Instead, it scrutinizes the interrelated ways in which multiple crises shape expectations towards and understandings of governance and (state) care practices, and the consequences these bear for the people affected, by focusing on a specifically local, postcolonial and post-dictatorial context.

For this purpose, this project focuses on two disasters that are typologically different but coincide in time. In the city of Brumadinho, in the state of Minas Gerais in south eastern Brazil, the population is currently experiencing not only a particularly severe development of the Covid-19 pandemic, which confronts the entire South American country with the dramatic consequences of a chronically underfunded public health system (Sistema Único de Saúde – SUS); the community is also dealing with another central and, as yet, unresolved crisis: the collapse of the tailings dam of an iron ore mine in January 2019 that killed 272 people and devastated the surrounding area – a crime that gained worldwide attention.

The project understands the temporal intersection of these two crises as an opportunity to reflect on how iterating states of exception are (inter)related through different moral valuations and valorizations – of suffering, of life and death, but also of the right to be cared for by the state. Against this background, it asks to what extent both crises reconfigure the moral economies relating the state and its citizens, the living and the dead. The project, thus, draws upon the fact that no crisis, as mighty and current as it might seem, appears as a singular incident but rather refers (back) to a temporalization of "normality" that relates different dimensions and perceptions of "crisis." Accordingly, the project aims at contributing anthropologically towards the understanding of different complementing and competing layers of time and meaning based on the perspectives of the different actors involved.



Remote project preparation.
Photographed by Theresa Mentrup.

Migration and Im/Mobility in the Global South during a Global Pandemic (DFG network)

Project Coordination: **Heike Drotbohm, Antje Missbach (University of Bielefeld)**

Duration: **October 2021 – October 2024**

Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/2021/10/19/dfg-netzwerk-migration-und-im-mobilitaet-im-globalen-su%cc%88den-in-zeiten-einer-pandemie/

The global SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has produced unanticipated and novel experiences of isolation, confinement, and exclusion. The taken-for-granted nature of micro and macro-mobilities has been deeply ruptured. As part of initial initiatives designed to prevent SARS-CoV-2 from entering their national territories, and later as part of their containment measures, governments around the world have employed migration management tools and severe travel restrictions. Although border closures, social distancing orders, and the shutdown of businesses and workplaces have negatively affected countless people, they have more specifically impacted those for whom mobility is an essential act, such as seasonal workers and commuting care workers. In regard to refugee movements, the new mobility restrictions have produced more severe forms of exclusion and containment, with states able to justify delayed or even suspended resettlement intakes. Some states have even justified the pushbacks of refugee boats with pandemic-related health risks. In the context of such immobilization measures, mobile populations have become even greater targets of suspicion and xenophobia.

Over three years (2021–2024), this scientific network will bring together twenty migration researchers who will discuss their different empirical experiences and theoretical perspectives. Together we will examine the extent to which we are currently dealing with a normalization of experiences of decoupling, isolation and structurally generated waiting. We are also interested in whether this “new normal” will lead to an “age of immobility” and how we can conceptually sharpen this perspective. Our findings should be used to bring different classes of immobility and migration (micro, meso and macro) into a common theoretical perspective. At the same time, with a critical analysis of these new global frictions, we would like to make an important contribution to increasing public awareness of these issues. We will use a series of workshops and the involvement of experts to share our experiences, advise one another, promote joint publications and raise public awareness.

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Practice, affect, membership of right-wing-extremist internet communication (PAMRIK)

Subproject of the BMBF joint research project MISRIK (Memes, ideas, strategies of right-wing-extremist internet communication)

Team members PAMRIK:	**Konstanze N'Guessan, Jan Beek** (JGU)
Team members MISRIK:	**Kai Denker** (Project coordinator), **David Meier-Arendt, Thomas Arnold, Jonas Pfeiffer, Cecilia Liu, Gregor Geigle** (TU Darmstadt), **Georgios Terizakis, Marcel Noosten** (HfPV Wiesbaden)
Duration:	**August 2021 – August 2024**

Funded by the BMBF (Federal Ministry of Education and Research).

The subproject at ifeas is part of the joint research project MISRIK (Memes, ideas, strategies of right-wing-extremist internet communication), which brings together philosophical, computer science, sociologist and social anthropological perspectives in a multi-disciplinary collaborative research project in an attempt to understand right-wing extremist communication on social media, which pose a largely underacknowledged threat to civil security. As the recent "Querdenker" movement and their radicalization in telegram chats has shown, online hate only becomes visible once it emerges offline as violence. How do right-wing extremists of the so-called "New Right" use social media to subtly share their messages through memes and other forms of social media communication? What are the theories and strategies behind such metapolitical action? How do the affordances of social media platforms allow and channel for fluid and temporal virtual communities to take shape and how do messages eventually lead to offline action? How does one identify a "right-wing meme"?

Meme by right wing activists that was spread online and offline in 2021.

The socio-anthropological project follows an actor-oriented, ethnographic approach. It studies the fluid or gradual membership in right-wing digital communities, affective-emotional dimensions of "shitposting," trolling and engaging in memetic warfare and unravel how alternative truth claims are established and made "believable" through practices of digital communication. Through participant observation of digital practices offline and online, the subproject provides thick descriptions of practices and self-imaginaries of right-wing extremists, who often remain invisible behind their online presence and propaganda.

V-jaying in East Africa. An Intermedial Practice at the Interface of Film and Storytelling

Project Directors: **Matthias Krings, Claudia Böhme (Trier University)**

Researcher: **Solomon Waliaula**

Duration: **August 2021 – July 2023**

Funded by Thyssen Foundation.

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/kinoerzaehlen-in-ostafrika-eine-intermediale-praxis-an-der-schnittstelle-von-film-und-muendlicher-erzaehlkunst/

Cinema storytelling is a concept that refers to a media practice, mainly in East Africa, characterized by oral artists, also called V-jays, engaged in a play-by-play commentary of mainly foreign language films, initially for the benefit of those members of the audience that did not understand the foreign languages in which the films were produced. In the beginning, it was all about live performance but later the artists became more enterprising and dubbed their voice and wide gamut of verbal art on the films, producing new versions in the process. The artistic flair and imagination to the storylines rendered this process much more than mere translation, and the practitioners much more than translators. Kiswahili has been the major language used, particularly in Kenya and Tanzania, although, significantly, Sheng has also been used in Kenya. In Uganda, Luganda, the dominant language, has been used as well. Over time, cinema storytelling has gradually become a thriving industry with artistic, socio-economic, cultural and technological implications. Among other things, it is one of the emergent artistic genres, an opening for entrepreneurial activity, popular culture working within and also helping to produce other cultures, and also a major player in the transitions and conflation of media technology in East Africa.

In November/December 2021, the project facilitated a preliminary fieldwork session in Kenya in the cities of Nairobi and Nakuru and the Eldoret, Naivasha and Narok towns. One of the initial observations made in the short time frame, cutting across the five places above-mentioned, was the shifting of the physical cinema halls to the more informal and low-income neighbourhoods, where they have been inserted into the everyday rhythm of life. In the fieldwork experience, it was established that live performance has diminished with time, and it was only still thriving in one video-hall in Narok. Advances in media technology, particularly the proliferation of commercial television stations (mainly in Kikuyu language) and the entry of Netflix and YouTube as players in the distribution of translated films, have led to the rise in both contracted and freelance V-jays that produce for television and YouTube. During the fieldwork experience, we worked closely with one such V-Jay that produces his translated films from his own improvised studio and oscillates between temporary television contracts and self marketing.

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Solomon Waliaula and V-Jay Mike in his studio.

Melanin Matters: Skin tone politics in Nigeria and beyond

Subproject A01 of the Collaborative Research Centre 1482 "Studies in Human Categorization."

Project coordination: **Matthias Krings**

Researchers **Marion Grimberg, Christopher J. Hohl**

Duration: **2021 – 2025**

Funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

https://www.blogs.uni-mainz.de/fb07-ifeas-eng/melanin-matters-skin-tone-politics-in-nigeria-and-beyond/

As the visible surface of the human body, the skin is subject to cultural ascriptions and manipulations. The project Melanin Matters studies how members of society differentiate among each other by drawing on cultural notions of skin tone. It takes into consideration that meanings ascribed to skin tone may exceed "racial" perceptions and seeks to understand how and when skin tone becomes a marker of ethnicity, caste, class, gender, attractiveness, health, or disability.

Melanin Matters examines two cases of human categorization that are based on relatively light skin tones. The first case focuses on people with albinism whose congenital condition results in hypopigmentation. The second case explores practices of artificial skin lightening. While dominant medical and "racial" discourses frame both phenomena as deviances from the norm, everyday interpretations vary: Individuals with albinism frequently experience stigmatization, while those with naturally light or artificially lightened skin embody a certain beauty ideal.

The project asks how skin tones are represented and negotiated, how and when skin tone is made meaningful, and which values are attached to it. Ethnographic fieldwork is conducted in Nigeria, the Nigerian diaspora in Germany, and online on social media. These contexts are characterized by varying cutaneous minority-majority relations and varying degrees of mediatization. The project aims at contributing to a broader theorization and "post-racial" conceptualization of skin tone as a flexible marker that potentially gains traction for various forms of human-made differentiations.

Photo "Secret wishes," courtesy by Yetunde Ayeni-Babaeko in collaboration with The Albino Foundation, Nigeria.

Rwandan or Burundian? Contouring and blurring of linguistic human categorization

Subproject B02 of the Collaborative Research Centre 1482 “Studies in Human Categorization”

Project Director: **Nico Nassenstein**

Researcher: **Deborah Wockelmann**

Duration: **2021 – 2025**

Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

The project focuses on the indication of language boundaries and national affiliations in Central Africa. In the colonial era, state demarcations have manifested two closely related languages in Rwanda and Burundi into separate linguistic systems. However, the more recent migration of people to neighboring Uganda shows how ambiguous language boundaries really are: They can be accentuated or levelled according to the needs of speakers, so that national demarcations often no longer correspond to the creative and hybrid speech practices of migrants and transients. Similarly, self-positioning and other people’s categorizations differ. In everyday life, speakers are placed in certain categories and stigmatized on the basis of various characteristics (e.g. choice of language, linguistic performance, clothing, behavior). To counteract such differentiation processes, some people conceal their origin and blur their biographical features by means of language choice and performance.

The project asks: How do speakers mark or conceal linguistic difference and what new fluid affiliations are indexed? How do speakers position themselves and how are they perceived and categorized by others? In which situations does human categorization become relevant in interpersonal interaction at all? And how do linguistic differentiation or de-differentiation processes manifest themselves?

A pilot study within this project on the categorization processes of Banyarwanda in Uganda was conducted by Deborah Wockelmann from August to October 2021. Further ethnographic fieldwork is conducted mainly in Central and Southwestern Uganda.

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Street in downtown Kampala, Uganda. Photographed by Deborah Wockelmann.

Linguistic human differentiation: (Situational) Self-positioning and external categorisations in Uganda

Project Director: **Nico Nassenstein**

Duration: **August 2021 – October 2021**

Funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) .

The research project deals with linguistic human differentiation of people in Uganda. Differentiation processes are an essential part of interpersonal interaction in daily life, but not infrequently lead to certain tensions between people – they can mark belonging just as they can mark otherness.

This sociolinguistic research project aims to illustrate human differentiation processes using the example of Banyarwanda in Uganda, i.e. Ugandans with Rwandan roots or Rwandans who have emigrated to Uganda a long time ago or recently. The Banyarwanda are nowadays an ambiguous indigenous group of Uganda. However, despite their official status and ambiguity, they are often categorized across the board based on various characteristics such as language, appearance, etc. and are situationally either alienated or privileged. The aim of the project is to discuss how self-positioning and foreign categorisation of Banyarwanda correspond or contradict each other, and in which ways differentiation processes are carried out or counteracted from a linguistic point of view. What role does language choice play in differentiation processes? Through which utterances and in which situations are differentiations marked or camouflaged? How is human differentiation meta-linguistically discussed and reflected?

The research is being conducted as part of the Africanist sub-project B02 in the DFG-funded SFB 1482 'Humandifferenzierung' at JGU Mainz (https://humandifferenzierung.uni-mainz.de/teilprojekt-b02/). From August to October 2021, Deborah Wockelmann conducted an initial pilot study in Kampala and Kisoro in Uganda, which will be followed by further research in the coming years.

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Fieldwork with a local coffee farmer in Kisoro, Uganda. Photographed by David Fernando Sánchez.

Providers and recipients of help. Human categorization between solidarity and differentiation in Portugal and Brazil

Subproject B04 of the Collaborative Research Centre 1482 „Human Categorization“

Project Director: **Heike Drotbohm**

Researchers: **Elena Hernández, Elena Reichl**

Duration: **July 2021 – July 2025**

Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/2021/10/19/helfende-und-hilfe-empfaenger-humandifferenzierung-zwischen-solidaritaet-und-sortierung-in-portugal-und-brasilien/

Informal practices of support are characterized by a key ambivalence: on the one hand, they aim at a humanistic ideal of human equality, on the other hand, they go hand in hand with naming, sorting and hierarchizing people. Human categorization can be generated by established official categories, but they can as well as be practiced, questioned or broken through emotional-affective distinctions. The subproject examines the interdependency between external and internal forms of categorizations in different ‘contact zones of support’ (neighborhood initiatives, networks, projects and associations) in which providers of help interact with the recipients. The project sheds light on the human categorization that is negotiated between civil society actors and people who are classified as “deserving” or “in need” and asks which human categories contribute to the empowerment or disempowerment of people. It pursues four analytical questions: (1) How do voluntary helpers sort and hierarchize people whom they perceive to be in need of help? (2) Which community affiliations and group identities of helpers are brought about through support practice? (3) What consequences do these interactions have for the ethnosociologies, self-classification and the scope for action of the recipients of help? And (4) how do the recipients of help categorize the voluntary helpers and their organizational forms?

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Eviction of some barracks in the Montemor quarter in Loures, Lisbon. Press representatives and social workers were denied access, August 2021. Photographed by Elena Hernández.

CEDITRAA – Cultural Entrepreneurship and Digital Transformation in Africa and Asia

Joint project of Goethe University Frankfurt and Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

Team members (JGU): **Matthias Krings (Project Director), Nico Nassenstein (PI), Ute Röschenthaler (PI), Artemis Saleh, Tom Simmert, Hauke Dorsch (Associated Researcher)**

Duration: Duration: April 2021 – March 2024

Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/ceditraa-cultural-entrepreneurship-and-digital-transformation-in-africa-and-asia/

How does digitization transform cultural production and particularly music and film in Africa and Asia? How does it contribute to the consolidation of a multi-polar "new world order of cultural production" (Bhutto 2019)? Building on the cultural and mobility turns in area studies CEDITRAA brings together an interdisciplinary team of economists, cultural anthropologists, africanists, koreanists, sinologists, and film and media scholars. Combining quantitative data analysis with digital ethnography and participant observation, audience ethnographies and textual and formal analysis, CEDITRAA focuses on the cultural production, digital circulation, and consumption of music and film with a focus on digital transformation; the project studies resources, creative processes and infrastructures, legal frameworks, archiving, and distribution and reception.

In 2021, the project was kicked off by two main events. At the international opening conference (8–9 July), 16 presenters from 11 countries and various disciplines discussed their research about digital transformation and its impact on entrepreneurship, innovation, archiving, heritage, the transnational consumption of cultural products and the legal matters of these topics. In our first method workshop (4–5 October), 8 speakers shared their insights into quantitative and qualitative methodological approaches for research on cultural entrepreneurship and digital transformation, from machine learning and big data analysis technologies to digital and hybrid ethnography.

From 29 October to 1 November, Nico Nassenstein and Artemis Saleh undertook a fact-finding trip to Brussels to establish and revive contacts and interact with art- and culture-making actors in the Belgian diaspora for their subproject on Nigerian presences in Congolese media worlds and media connections between Lagos and Kinshasa.

Music video editing at a Chocolate City Music studio in Lagos.
Photographed by Tom Simmert.

From October to December, Tom Simmert began his research on digital practices and the interaction between music professionals, other content creators and their audiences on the platform TikTok, as part of his and Matthias Krings' subproject about the innovation of formats and content of Nigerian popular music.

Until the end of the year, all project members made preparations for the project website https://ceditraa.net, which will be online early in 2022, and the corresponding Instagram channel: https://www.instagram.com/ceditraa/

Religious diversity and traditions in Burkina Faso: historical and contemporary challenges

Project directors: **Katrin Langewiesche and Alice Degorce**

Duration: **2021 – 2024**

Funded by DFG (German Research Foundation) and ARN

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/religioese-diversitaet-und-traditionen-in-burkina-faso-historische-und-zeitgenoessische-herausforderungen-divtradbf/

This project starts from the ambiguity of the notions of tradition and traditional religion, which are often referred to by the same term in local languages of Burkina Faso. Based on this observation, it proposes a pragmatic and epistemological approach to observe the relationship between tradition and local religions through the practices and discourses of artists, intellectuals, young people and local leaders, rather than focusing on pre-defined conceptual units. Far from being relegated to the past, debates about traditional religion and/or tradition in Burkinabe society remain timely. The project focuses on the historical and contemporary challenges of these "traditions" within Burkina Faso's religious diversity. The main question, therefore, concerns the relationships that these concepts create, what they defuse, rearrange or disrupt in Burkinabe society. How do the shifts, boundaries and similarities between traditional religion and tradition affect the practices and discourses of the actors? To what extent do they re-appropriate "tradition"? And how does this make sense in the current context of Burkina Faso?

Burkina Faso with its different religious and cultural traditions seems to be a good field of investigation to reflect on diversity, encounters and interactions, although studies on the current developments of traditional religions in Burkina Faso are rare. Moreover, today, high expectations are placed in traditional religions to tackle violent Islamic radicalism; yet it is not very clear what their contribution may well be. The aim is to examine the diverse perspectives of actors in specific social, political and historical processes on tradition and traditional religions. How do these people reinvest traditional religion at a moment in Burkina Faso's history marked by a rise in terrorism, major political uncertainties and worrying tensions between different population groups?

Five work packages (WP) will make it possible to carry out this project: the analysis of the discourses of political and intellectual elites, of the performing arts, of local rulers, of "ordinary" practices such as naming and, finally, of the re-articulation of tradition and its patrimonialization in rural areas. It is supported by a French team (IRD-Imaf) and a German team (University of Mainz, ifeas), who together supervise Master's students in Burkina Faso and collaborate with Burkinabe artists, both during the field research phases and in developing the methodology and valorizing the research.

Dancers in Ouahigouya, 1 december 2021.
Photographed by Katrin Langewiesche.

Early-career funding in German African academic cooperation: An overview

Project coordination: **Carola Lentz**

Project member: **Andrea Noll**

Duration: **December 2019 – December 2021**

Funded by BMBF (Federal Ministry of Education and Research).

https://www.blogs.uni-mainz.de/fb07-ifeas-eng/early-career-funding/

The project aims at composing a comprehensive overview of current and planned programs of academic cooperation between Germany and Africa in the field of early-career funding. There is an increasing wide range of programs that support German-African research projects and promote exchange with African scientists. Such programs range from well-established formats of long-term individual scholarships to the active recruitment of African fellows for Institutes of Advanced Studies in Germany and the establishment of such institutions in Africa to support for international networks of young academics. However, a systematic evaluation of past experiences and reflections on how to improve connections and synergies between the numerous individual programs are still missing. The project examines programs of cooperation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) as well as in the social sciences and the humanities. It also explores the experiences of African cooperation partners with these programmes.

In 2021, Andrea Noll completed her interviews with representatives of governmental funding institutions, private foundations, and universities as well as other research institutions in Germany on current, past, and planned initiatives. She also continued and finalized interviewing African cooperation partners. Since the Corona pandemic made journeys to Africa impossible, interviews with early-career scholars as well as senior researchers mainly from Kenya, Senegal, and South Africa were conducted via Zoom and Skype. In June, Andrea Noll presented first results of the project at the conference “Africa Challenges” of the African Studies Association in Germany (VAD). The final report on the findings of the project will be published in spring 2022.

International House, University of Ghana, Accra.
Photographed by Andrea Noll.

Police-translations: Multilingualism and the everyday production of cultural difference

Team members: **Jan Beek** (project coordination), **Thomas Bierschenk**, **Annalena Kolloch, Bernd Meyer, Marcel Müller** (associated Ph.D. student), **Theresa Radermacher** (associated Ph.D. student)

Duration: **March 2019 – August 2022**

Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/polizei-translationen-mehrsprachigkeit-und-die-konstruktion-kultureller-differenz-im-polizeilichen-alltag/

The interdisciplinary project studies how police officers and (non)citizens translate between different languages and, beyond that, between different normative ideas and how cultural difference is constantly produced (or dissolved) in everyday interactions. Cultural difference is understood not as a determining factor but as a potential, dynamic outcome of these interactions and of the negotiations taking place within them.

Together with six participating students, project members conducted a collaborative fieldwork for four months. In this study, we explored the practices and perspectives of various actor groups at a perceived "hotspot" in a German city. Each fieldworker studied a particular group, for instance youths, police officers, private security guards, residents or local politicians. The empirical material has challenged us to broaden our understanding of policing and of practices of categorisation in policing. We aim at discussing our findings in academic and public formats, and five students plan writing their final theses on their respective topic.

In addition, team members continued conducting fieldwork in police departments, youth offices and an asylum centre, as well as giving academic talks, discussing preliminary findings in the media, and preparing publications (see relevant sections in this report). Project members worked on an edited volume on the policing of migrantized actors in Europe, to be published by Manchester University Press in 2022.

Young people celebrating at a "hotspot".
Photographed by Christine Becht.

Brokers under scrutiny: investigating practices of intermediation in a globalizing world

Project-related exchange Australia: University of Monash (Melbourne), JGU Mainz

Project directors:	**Ute Röschenthaler and Birgit Bräuchler**
Project researchers:	**Kathrin Knodel, Ricardo Marquez Garcia, Antje Missbach, Nadeeka Arambewela-Colley**
Duration:	**January 2019 – Dezember 2021**

Funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/brokers-under-scrutiny-investigating-practices-of-intermediation-in-a-globalising-world/

Brokers play important roles as intermediaries and facilitators in a wide range of settings. Their work of intermediation involves processes of translation, mediation and interpretation between distinct social worlds. This project, in a unique and innovative way, takes a comparative look at the work of brokers and at processes of intermediation in and between different socio-political and cultural settings and different world regions.

Brokers are highly mobile figures, in a physical and an ideational sense. Situated between different social worlds they channel scarce information in order to translate and negotiate between them. Brokers connect the local with the global – be it the transnational world of trade, development, peacebuilding, activism, unauthorized migration or other manifestations of the global. They dwell in intermediate settings where frictional relations evolve in predictable and unpredictable ways. Whereas the local is where anthropologists usually conduct their fieldwork, this project seeks to shed light on individuals that create connections and intersections between known and unknown spaces and parties. Why do brokers inhabit these in-between spaces? What factors/conditions/interests enabled them to occupy such a strategic position? What means and languages do they use? How are they perceived by others?

Most studies on brokers have been concerned with the figure of the broker as such and their mediating capacity, within structural relationships, proclaiming universal validity of their findings. They focus on a specific type of brokerage in one (regional) setting. By taking an in-depth ethnographic look at the actual work of brokers and their particular life stories in diverse settings and regions this project aims to go beyond existing typologies and idealized notions of brokers that often dis-embed them from their specific sociocultural contexts.

The transregional project brings together researchers focusing on different spheres of intermediation in different world regions, innovatively juxtaposing African and Asian-Pacific case studies. It not only questions existing typologies of brokerage but also cuts across established discourses of area studies that tend to focus on examples of one region only.

Brokers in the tea trade, Bamako.
Photographed by Ute Röschenthaler.

Afrikaner*innen im Rhein-Main-Gebiet: Ein afrikalinguistisches Forschungsprojekt zu sprachlicher Integration (Africans in the Rhine-Main netropolitan region: A research project on linguistic integration)

Project Directors:	**Nico Nassenstein (JGU Mainz), Axel Fanego Palat (Goethe University Frankfurt)**
Researchers:	**Sabine Littig (JGU Mainz), Klaudia Dombrowsky-Hahn (Goethe University Frankfurt)**
Duration:	**January 2019 – January 2021**

Funded by the RMU-Initiativfonds Forschung.

https://www.uni-frankfurt.de/75803132/Ein_afrikalinguistisches_Forschungsprojekt_zu_sprachlicher_Integration

"Afrikaner*innen im Rhein-Main-Gebiet: Ein afrikalinguistisches Forschungsprojekt zu sprachlicher Integration" is the first project in which two universities of the RMU alliance (JGU Mainz and Goethe University Frankfurt a. M.) collaborate and one of the few projects in the humanities funded by the "RMU-Initiativfonds Forschung."

The Rhine-Main area, which stretches over the cities of Frankfurt am Main, Mainz, Wiesbaden, Offenbach, Darmstadt and over parts of three federal states attracts many mobile people from all over the world, among others from West Africa and Central Africa. Since language skills are seen as a prerequisite for integration in Germany, the acquisition of German is one of the major tasks African migrants have to cope with. The language learning takes place in language courses and in the frame of uncontrolled language acquisition processes. The latter are similar to the language acquisition processes these multilingual people have experienced in their home countries and along their migration itineraries. The aim of the project is to highlight the migrants' language attitudes and their perspectives on their own language learning processes as well as on the expectations the German society has with regard to language proficiency and integration. Using anthropological and sociolinguistic methods, among others language portraits, language biographies, qualitative interviews and participant observation, the research uncovers language ideologies and focuses on the communicative practices of the interview partners.

A surprising result shows that next to German the members of the African diaspora learn also major African linguae francae. Once settled in the Rhine-Main area, they learn them in parishes, cultural associations and in professional contexts.

Links:

http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/3730.php

https://www.uni-mainz.de/presse/aktuell/7050_ENG_HTML.php

http://www.magazin.uni-mainz.de/10116_DEU_HTML.php

Fieldwork with bus driver in Offenbach am Main. Photographed by Joshua Hirschauer.

African trajectories across Central America: Displacements, transitory emplacements, and ambivalent migration nodes

Project Director: **Heike Drotbohm**

Researchers: **Yaatsil Guevara, Elena Reichl and Pablo Delgado Faust**

Duration: **October 2018 – September 2022**

Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG).

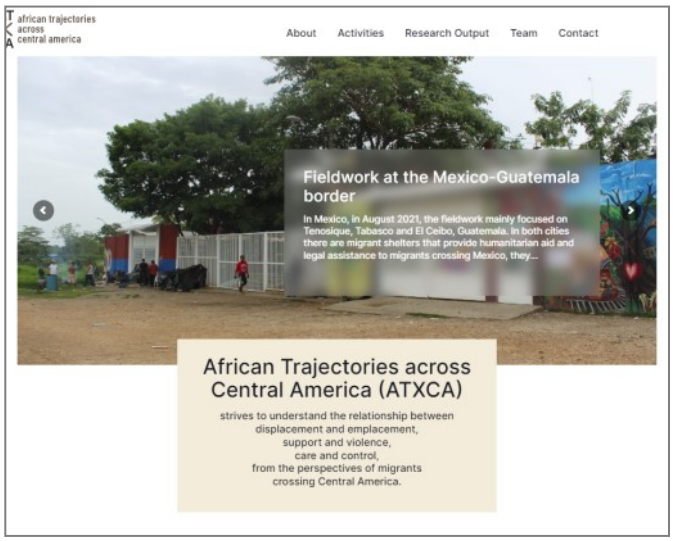
https://trajectories-central-america.de/

Through this research project we seek insight into emerging trajectories of people on the move in Central America. Although we respond to the recent diversification of migrants and refugees in the region, we situate their experiences in historically shaped, globe-spanning migration regimes. In this way, we elaborate critical understandings of the dynamics between migration, displacement/emplacement and im/mobilities. Our ethnographic focus lies on migrant journeys as well as on what will be referred to as "migration nodes" of smuggling, surveillance and solidarity throughout key Central American sites. Offering an in-depth understanding of migrant trajectories through these interconnected journeys and nodes, we counter simplistic, or all-too policy-oriented representations of migrants and refugees en route.

In 2021, Yaatsil Guevara conducted fieldwork in Tenosique, Mexico and El Ceibo, Guatemala. In both cities migrant shelters provide humanitarian aid and legal assistance to migrants who cross Mexico to reach the United States. Over the past 10 years, this border region has become an important route for mainly Central American migrants fleeing their countries of origin. In Tenosique, the freight train station that migrants used to travel to northern Mexico, constitutes a nodal point for this migratory route. As a response to the increase of new migrant arrivals, the "La 72" Migrant Shelter was founded in 2011. At the same time the operations of the freight train closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and new spatial and temporal migratory dynamics emerged in the city. The border-crossing point between Guatemala and Mexico has consolidated as a node-city for the migration industry. Recent massive deportations of mainly Guatemalan, Honduran, and Salvadoran migrants detained in Mexico or in the United States were carried out at this border-crossing point and have transformed the city considerably. Since the beginning of August 2021, the Migrant Shelter "El Ceibo" has provided support to dozens of deported migrants forced to return to their places of origin.

Besides joint publishing and the organizing of an international workshop (see "Workshops"), Elena Reichl finished her M.A. thesis that was based on her empirical research conducted in Costa Rica and Pablo Delgado Faust joined the project as a B.A. student, who will also conduct empirical research in the near future, when he begins his M.A. studies.

In spring and summer, we concentrated our joint work on the development of a new project website, which has been online since summer 2021 (https://trajectories-central-america.de/). Here, not only the team, the research aims and methodologies, but also current activities, research output and short summaries of fieldwork results are presented.



Screenshot of the new website https://trajectories-central-america.de/ ("ATXCA Website 2") .

Jihadism on the internet: Images and videos, their appropriation, and dissemination

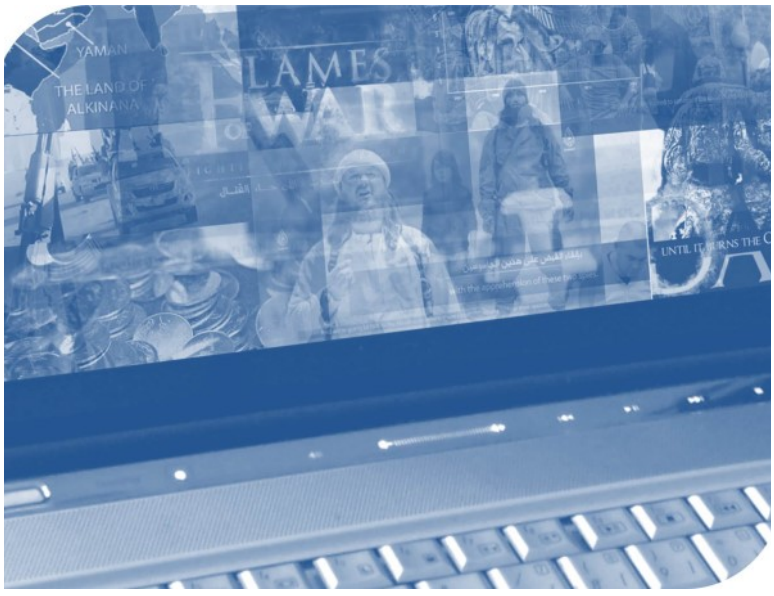
Project director:	**Christoph Günther**
Researchers:	**Yorck Beese, Alexandra Dick, Robert Dörre, Larissa-Diana Fuhrmann, Simone Pfeifer**
Cooperation partners:	**jugendschutz.net, Landeszentrale für politische Bildung Rheinland-Pfalz, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt a. M. (PRIF/HSFK)**
Duration:	**2017 – 2022**

Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

http://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/eng/2899.php

Contemporary political communication is widely conveyed through visual media. Images such as photographs, digitally generated collages, and films play a crucial role in the mediation of political messages. Like other social, religious, and political actors, Jihadi groups and movements also make use of images and videos. In doing so, they seek to reach out to diverse audiences and disseminate their ideology-based interpretations of the world as well as their understanding of religion, authority, and society.

The interdisciplinary junior research group "Jihadism on the Internet" focusses on the communicative propositions of Jihadi movements and explores the extent to which media users interact with those proposals. Researchers from the fields of social and cultural anthropology, media and film studies, and Islamic studies work together to examine what and how Jihadists communicate and to what extent their audiences respond to these media. Ethnographic and new digital methods from the humanities and cultural studies will be combined through a tripartite working process. Initially, the participating researchers analyze Jihadi images and videos according to their political-religious messages, their dramaturgy, and composition. The qualitative research methodology allows them to explore the potential resonance of these media and the intentions of the producers. At the same time, the researchers focus on the incorporation, appropriation, processing, and circulation of the media texts in the form of affirmative or critical comments, images, and videos in social networks. Such user-generated content sheds light on the attractiveness and acceptance of Jihadist media as well as on their rejection within (net-)subcultural communities. The media ethnographies look into uses and interpretations of Jihadist visual media "online" but also "offline." They ask how these visual media are situated in the everyday lives of various recipients, relating media uses in online and offline contexts. Findings of the research project will complement research on media and radicalization. First of all, they will allow insights into the meanings that Jihadist messages unfold in the life worlds of users. Based on this, outcomes of the project will serve to develop communication strategies for countermeasures. In the medium term the observations will feed into a demand-oriented online-platform that caters information for political education, awareness, and prevention work or press offices and political decision makers.



Propaganda film screenshot taken by Bernd Zywietz.

PH.D. RESEARCH

Current Ph.D. research projects

Anthropology

Baumann, Bianca

(Post-)koloniale Aneignungen. Grenzen und Möglichkeiten einer Provenienzforschung zu Objekten aus kolonialen Kontexten anhand ausgewählter Beispiele des Landesmuseums Hannover (Krings).

Fricke, Christine:

Politische Kultur in Gabun. (Bierschenk)

Fuhrmann, Larissa-Diana:

The Art of Contesting Political Violence – Encountering resistive practices to the so-called Islamic State and the "War on Terror." (Krings)

Gabriel, Marie-Christin:

The making of the nation/state: organising national-day celebrations in Burkina Faso. (Lentz) [thesis handed in]

Geschke, Janis:

On the permeability and cementation of national borders in German deportation bureaucracies. (Drotbohm)

Grimberg, Marion:

Light(er) skin: The meaning of light skin and skin brightening in Nigeria and beyond. (Krings)

Hernández, Elena

Helfende und Hilfe-Empfänger. Humandifferenzierung zwischen Solidarität und Sortierung in Portugal. (Drotbohm)

Hohl, Christopher:

The Other White Body in Past and Present: Shifting Representations of Albinism, 1520–2020. (Krings)

Jákli, Daniel:

Der Klang der Freiheit: Natur und Konservatismus in den USA. (Verne)

Kluge-Wirz, Jana:

Pflege in russlanddeutschen Familien. Eine ethnografische Studie. (Drotbohm)

Kornes, Godwin:

Heroes, martyrs, comrades: the aesthetics and politics of liberation memory in Namibia. (Lentz) [thesis concluded]

Mentrup, Theresa:

Quem cuida? Über- und Umsetzung staatlicher Fürsorge im Nachgang des Dammbruchs von Brumadinho, Minas Gerais / Brasilien. (Drotbohm)

Meurer, Maike:

Dichtkunst in Madagaskar. Zur Bedeutung sprachästhetischer Praxis im Kontext sozio-politischer Umbrüche. (Verne)

Molter, Céline:

Religious Entrepreneurship in Theme Parks and Passion Plays. (Bierschenk)

Müller, Marcel:

Polizei in Hessen: Eine Autoethnographie. (Bierschenk)

Neubauer, Inès:

Kommodifizierung von Elektroschrott in Agbogbloshie, Ghana – Informelle Akteure im Transit. (Röschenthaler)

Pater, Birthe:

Cultural heritage for development. (Röschenthaler)

Petersen, Lara:

Unternehmertum in Ostafrika – interdisziplinäre Betrachtung von Unternehmeridentitäten, -netzwerken und Strategien. (Asche)

Pieck, Bettina:

Krankenversicherung, Armut und Staat in Ruanda. (Asche) [thesis concluded]

Radermacher, Theresa:

Das gelebte Asylverfahren in einer Aufnahmeeinrichtung für Asylsuchende. Interaktionen zwischen den beteiligten Akteuren. (Drotbohm)

Reichl, Elena Maria:

Helfende und Hilfe-Empfänger. Humandifferenzierung zwischen Solidarität und Sortierung in Brasilien. (Drotbohm)

Reiffen, Franziska:

The social life of the mall. Working and dwelling in urban Argentina. (Drotbohm)

Schmitz, Afra:

Between politicking and politricking: election communication in Northern Ghana. (Lentz) [thesis concluded]

Simmert, Tom:

Afrobeats – Nigerian popular music in the digital age. (Krings)

Thomas, Silja:

Frauenheiraten in Afrika in historischer Perspektive. (Lentz)

Wessling, Yamara:

Frauen des Wandels. Die Aushandlung von Mittelklasse und Geschlecht in Ruanda. (Lentz) [thesis concluded]

Wolter, Nele:

Transient Ageing: Making a Living Among Older Cameroonians in Times of Crisis. (Drotbohm)

African Languages and Linguistics

Knipping, Jan:

Eine diskurslinguistische Untersuchung von Hospitality und Hostility am Beispiel der westnilotischen Sprachen Acholi und Adhola. (Nassenstein)

Vigeland, Friederike:

A grammar of the Longuda noun (Adamawa, North-eastern Nigeria). (Kastenholz)

Wockelmann, Deborah:

Sociolinguistics of Migration: Creative Language Practices in Kinyarwanda. (Nassenstein)

PH.D. RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Abru, Silvia Enow (preparatory research grant, Gutenberg Graduate School)

Geschke, Janis (Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, doctoral scholarship)

Knipping, Jan (Sulzmann-Stiftung, scholarship for an Acholi language course in Uganda, May–August).

Radermacher, Theresa (Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes, doctoral scholarship)

Reiffen, Franziska (Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes, doctoral scholarship)

ACTIVITIES

Conferences organized by faculty members

19 January, digital

"Decolonizing African heritage inside and outside the African continent"

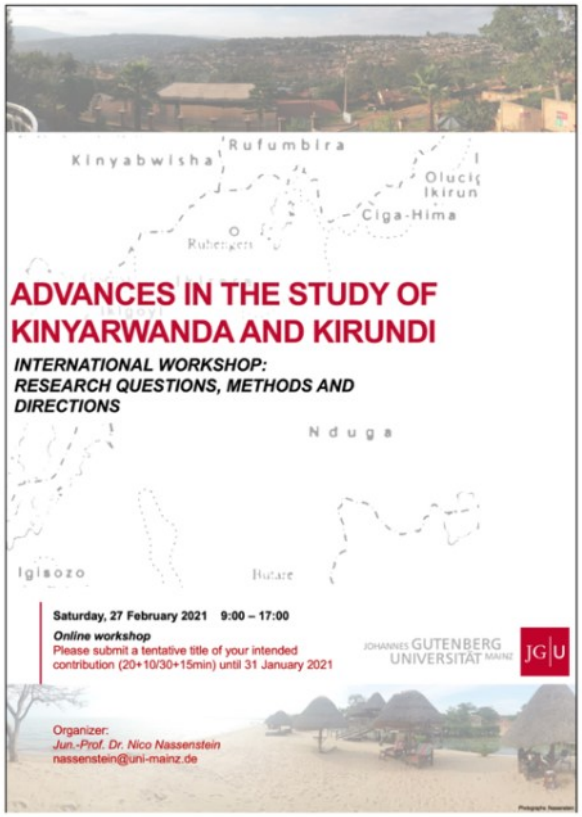
Panel convened by **Anna-Maria Brandstetter**, Peter Pels (Leiden University) and Ciraj Rassool (University of the Western Cape) at the digital conference "Africa Knows! It is time to decolonize minds" which took place from 2 December 2020 until 28 February 2021. https://www.africaknows.eu/panB09.htm

The 13 presentations asked what knowledge can be and is culled from the longue durée of the history of heritage care in Africa, and how its precolonial and colonial relationships affect and should affect postcolonial relationships in both Africa, Europe and beyond. The presentations discussed such diverse issues as how the ethnographic projects do reflect society and how do museums and collections deal with inherited hierarchies of knowledge production. We discussed the implications of going beyond the mere return of objects and the possibilities of models of museums and heritage used by Africans (on the continent as well as in the diaspora). Who needs museums of Africa, and why? A video recording (www.youtube.com/embed/1P4O49nB9vg) and a short panel report (www.africaknows.eu/pdfs/mag-p35.pdf) are available online.

27 February 2021, Mainz

"Advances in the study of Kinyarwanda and Kirundi"

In February, **Nico Nassenstein** organized a one-day online workshop with more than 20 linguistic contributions by researchers from Africa, North America and Europe. Scholars working on the two closely related Bantu languages Kinyarwanda and Kirundi presented their current research, shared ideas and discussed future cooperation. The event was opened by Dr. Anna-Maria Brandstetter as head of the academic cooperation with Rwanda.



14 April, digital

"3rd Day of Provenance Research: Vier Projekte aus Mainz" #TagderProvenienzforschung

The Day of Provenance Research was initiated by the Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e.V., the world's largest association of provenance researchers with over 330 members. The aim is to draw attention to the complexity and diversity of this discipline. On the occasion of this day, three Mainz institutions presented their research projects in four video presentations: the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum – Leibniz-Forschungsinstitut für Archäologie, the Landesmuseum Mainz, the Ethnographic Collection (Department of Anthropology and African Studies) and the Department of Art History and Musicology, both at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz: https://mein-weg-ins-museum.de/tag-der-provenienzforschung-2021/.

In her video, Anna-Maria Brandstetter introduces Adolf Diehl as a collector in Cameroon. Oppenheim-born Adolf Diehl (1870–1943) was in Cameroon from about 1901 to 1911 where he was, among other things, representative of the Gesellschaft Nordwest Kamerun. He had cultural artifacts made on a large scale by artisans, which he sold to museums in Germany. The Linden Museum in Stuttgart alone acquired 2,268 objects from Diehl between 1907 and 1912. Of this Cameroon collection, 48 objects came to the Ethnographic Studies Collection through an extensive exchange between the Stuttgart Museum and Mainz, where they have been inventoried since 1971. The project by Anna-Maria Brandstetter and Christraud Geary, Teel Senior Curator Emerita of African and Oceanic Art at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, investigates the activities and networks of one of the most successful independent collectors in the colonial period. https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/adolf-diehl/

7 June, Frankfurt a. M.

"P 50: Writing a novel, or writing Africa? Recent fiction by writers from Africa"

Panel convened by **Anja Oed** at the digital International Conference of the African Studies Association in Germany (VAD e.V.) at Goethe University, Frankfurt a. M., 7–11 June 2021.

The panel took up the VAD conference's overall topic, "Africa Challenges." From different perspectives, the contributions explored the ways in which recent fiction by writers from Africa responds to and negotiates the challenge of addressing problems in African societies without necessarily, or uncritically, "writing Africa" and/or reproducing negative, pessimistic, and stereotypical images of the continent.

21 – 23 June, Hanover and online

Bianca Baumann organized three conferences panels at the international conference: **"Provenance Research on Collections from Colonial Contexts. Principles, Approaches, Challenges"**:

"Dialogues between Theory and Practice. Theoretical Approaches and Case Studies of Postcolonial Provenance Research," organized with Isabella Bozsa and Sara Müller, PAESE, with the following talks: "The Question of the Emic and Etic Categorisation of Fang Objects" by Drossilia Dikegue Igouwa, "Finding Shards and Pieces – Traces of the Sepik-Expedition in Institutions of the Global North" by Sara Müller, "What is it all about? Attempts to Interpret the Biography of a Portrait Figure from the West Region of Cameroon." by Bianca Baumann, comments by Alexis von Poser and Oswald Masebo. Chair: Brigitte Reinwald.

"Cases of Restitution," organized with Isabella Bozsa, with the following talks: "Recent Cases of Restitution to Namibia – from two Perspectives" by Nzila Marina Libanda-Mubusisi and Claudia Andratschke, "Towards Restitution and Beyond – Reflections on a Multi-layered Dialogue Regarding the Cartridge Belt of Kahimemua at the Brunswick Municipal Museum" by Rainer Hatoum, "Kahimemua Nguvauva, his Belt and the Colonial War of 1896" by Werner Hillebrecht and Rederick Nugauva, "A People's Identity in Captive – The Continuous Ruins of German Colonial Rule in Present Day on the Nso People" by Sylvie Njobati. Chair: Larissa Förster.

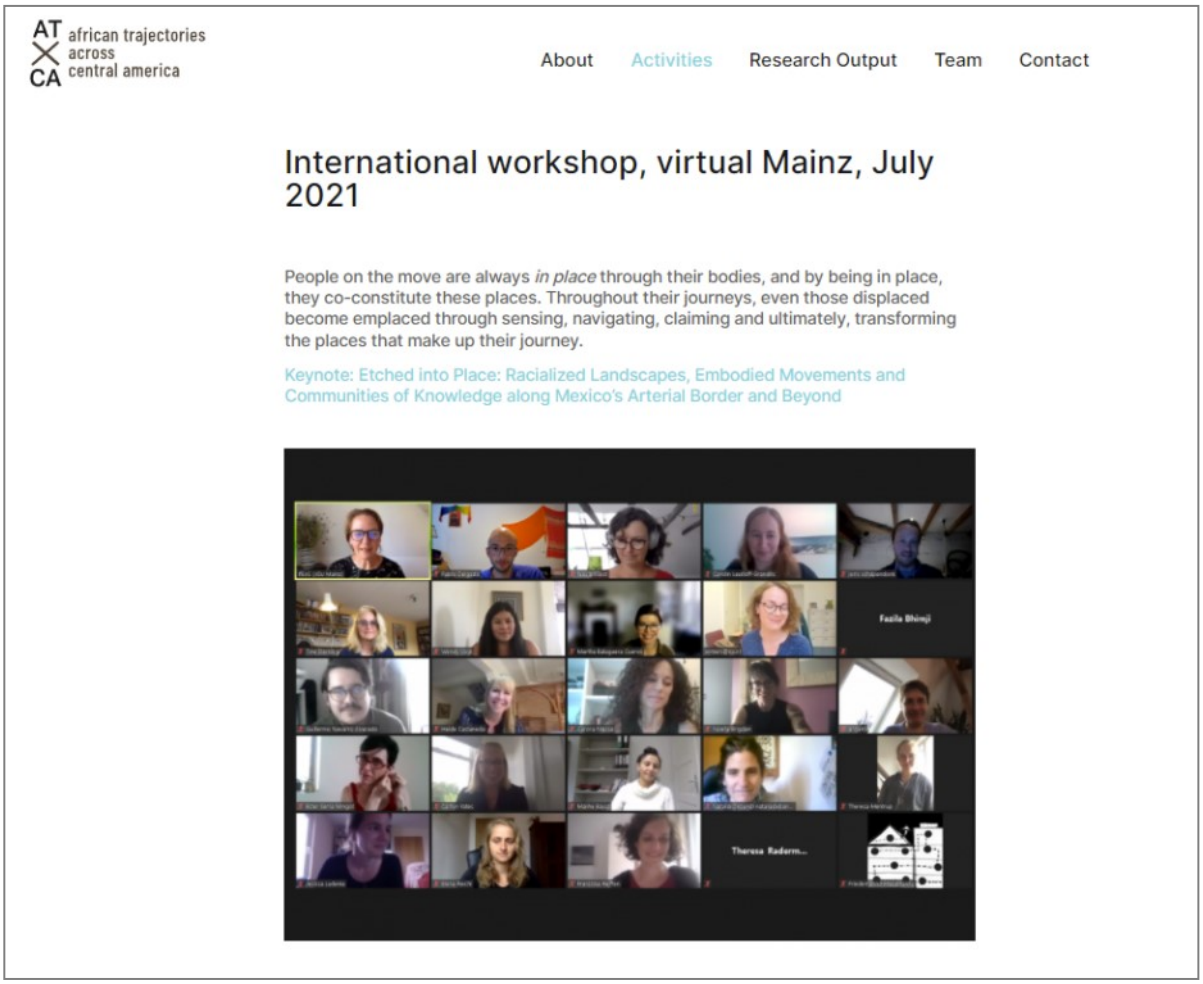
Cooperation "Projects on Cameroonian Collections. Experiences and Perspectives," organized with Isabella Bozsa, with the following talks: "Entangled Objects, Entangled Histories. A Collaborative Provenance Research on a Heterogeneous Colonial-Era Collection" by Joseph B. Ebune, Karin Guggeis and Ngome Elvis Nkome, "Re-engaging with an Ethnographic Collection from Colonial Cameroon through Collaborative Provenance Research" by Rachel Mariembe and Isabella Bozsa, "Serendipitous Intersections and Long Term-Dialogue. Art Making and Research as Collaborative Exchanges" by Silvia Forni and Hervé Youmbi. Chair: Thomas Laely.

1 – 2 July, Mainz, online

"Along and out of the way. Place-making amidst migrant trajectories"

Convenors: Heike Drotbohm, Nanneke Winters, Yaatsil Guevara

People considered to be "in transit" do not traverse this often-extended transit space in a void. They encounter, dwell in, and engage with particular places along the routes of their journey towards a desired destination. In the literature on borders, migration and humanitarianism, many of these places remain invisible, especially if they are not located in major cities or near a heavily monitored nation-state border. They may be constructed as "remote", "peripheral", or "marginal" from a scholarly and policy point of view. However, we wish to emphasize and interrogate the centrality of these places as key sites in the shaping of migrant trajectories, from the surveillance and care they experience, to the re-creation of social ties and the struggles over communication, documentation, and onward travel. Moreover, the histories of these places, their (geo)political positioning, ethnic and religious diversity, socioeconomic dynamics and local actors – who may be mobile themselves – interact with passing and dwelling migrants. But how, exactly, do these interactions, these entanglements of what moves and what stays, shape these places? For this international workshop, we asked anthropologists, geographers and migration scholars to think about migrant involvement in place-making in two ways: through re-considering the open and dynamic character of places; and through re-conceptualizing the places and place-making practices that often remain invisible in migration research.



Screenshot of the online workshop "Along and out of the way."

8 – 9 July 2021, Mainz, online

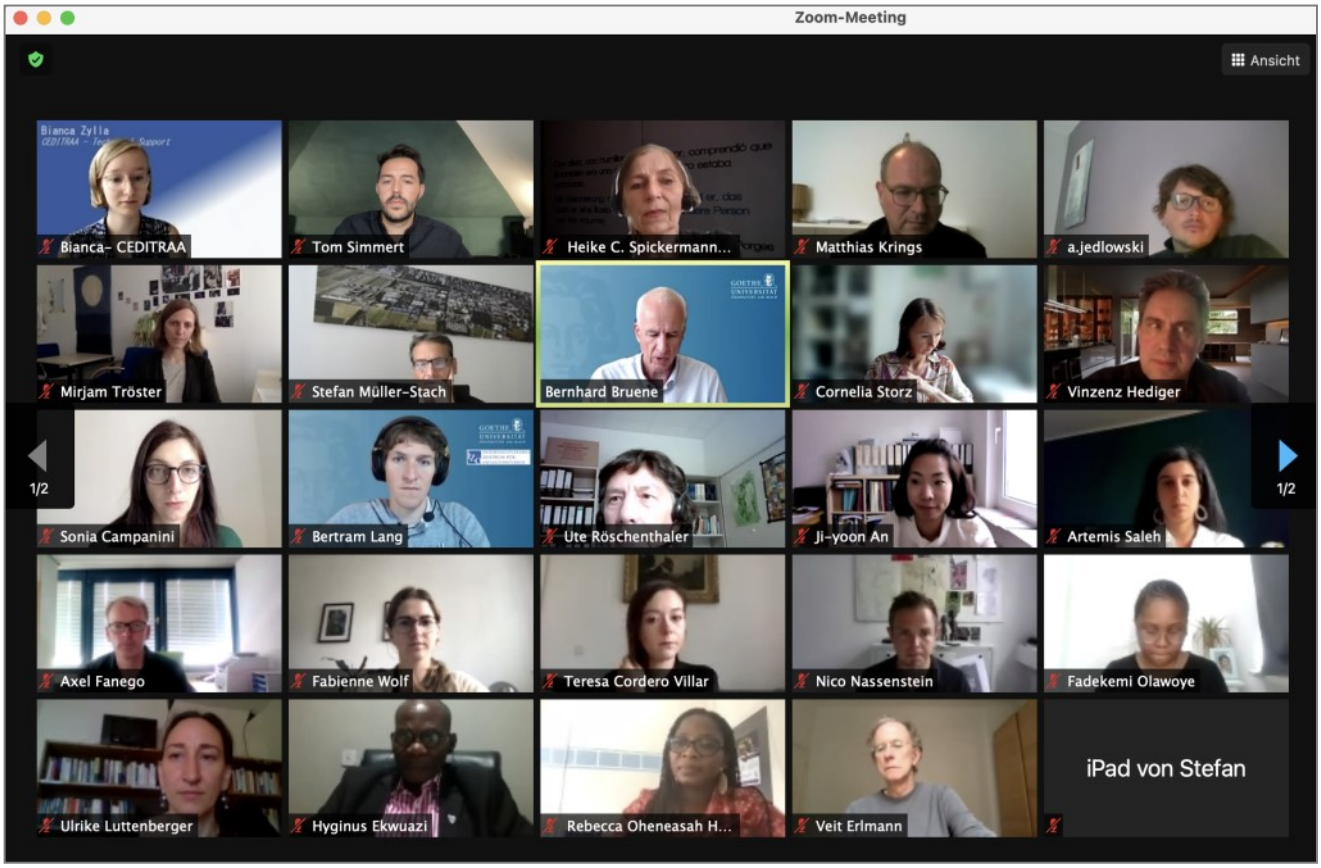
Opening Conference "Cultural Entrepreneurship and Digital Transformation in Africa and Asia"

Convenors: Matthias Krings, Tom Simmert, Heike Spickermann

Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

The international opening conference of CEDITRAA brought together 16 presenters from 11 countries and from diverse fields like anthropology, film- and media studies, management, law and area studies. The conference was officially opened by Stefan Müller-Stach, Vice President for Research at JGU, Bernhard Brüne Vice President for Research at Goethe University Frankfurt and the CEDITRAA Speakers Vinzenz Hediger, Matthias Krings and Cornelia Storz. Keynotes were held by Michael Hutter (Leipzig), Michael Lounsbury (Alberta) and Steve Casper (Claremont).

In four panels (convened by Tom Simmert, Ute Röschenthaler, Sonia Campanini and Mirjiam Tröster), participants discussed the roles of cultural entrepreneurs in the innovation of forms, formats and contents of their products, the legal implications and frameworks of digital transformation, the corresponding dynamics of archiving and heritage and the regional and transnational consumption of digital cultural goods from West Africa and East Asia.



30 September – 1 October, Bremen

"Atmospheres of Unruliness, Resistance and Desolation: Music Videos in the Anthropocene"

Convenors: Hauke Dorsch and **Markus Schleiter,** Institut für Ethnologie, WWU Münster

Online Panel at the GAA bi-annual conference with the following talks: "The agri-food system in the Anthropocene - A six-step recipe to connect global processes to our daily life" by Maria Ines Carabajal, Hugo B. Partucci, Mario Grasso Tuni; "Tumpa, and music videos across Bengals" by Madhuja Mukherjee; "Longing and exclusion in the comment section of Coke Studio Pakistan's 'Afreen, Afreen'" by Yasmeen Arif; "Detecting ground motions during a global catastrophe: An analysis of East African music videos about COVID-19" by Gerda Kuiper.

4 – 5 October, online
CEDITRAA Methods Workshop

Funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

Convenors: Cornelia Storz, Egbert Amoncio, Betram Lang, Matthias Krings, Tom Simmert, Heike Spickermann

In the first CEDITRAA Methods Workshop, 8 speakers shared their insights into quantitative and qualitative methodological approaches for research on cultural entrepreneurship and digital transformation. On the first workshop day, hosted by CEDITRAA Speakers Cornelia Storz and Vinzenz Hediger, presenters and participants discussed contributions about text and visual analysis, machine learning and big data techniques. Day two was dedicated to different approaches towards digital and hybrid ethnography, with sessions hosted by Matthias Krings and Nico Nassenstein and presentations by Simone Pfeifer and Tom Simmert.

6 – 8 October, Mainz, online
"Notions of Jihad Reconsidered: Perspectives on Media, Materiality, and Political Violence"

Convenor: Christoph Günther

Despite the omnipresence of the word jihad in global terminologies and its continued prevalence in discourses of securitization of Muslim life and religious practices, it remains largely unstudied who ascribes which meaning to jihad in which context and associates it with specific traits of ideas, actions, values and norms of individuals or social groups.

The international symposium "Notions of Jihad Reconsidered: Perspectives on Media, Materiality, and Political Violence" addressed precisely this question. The participants commenced with a joint visit to the special exhibition "Mindbombs! Visual Cultures of Political Violence" at the Kunsthalle Mannheim as well as a public talk with four artists whose works are on display at this show. On the two following days, four further panels and a keynote lecture addressed archival practices emerging around the media of militant groups, the epistemological similarities in the image practices of the German AfD and ISIS, the aesthetic dimensions in the mediation of Jihad, ethnographic perspectives on those attributed with the term as well as processes of knowledge production in the academe as well as in legal and political institutions.

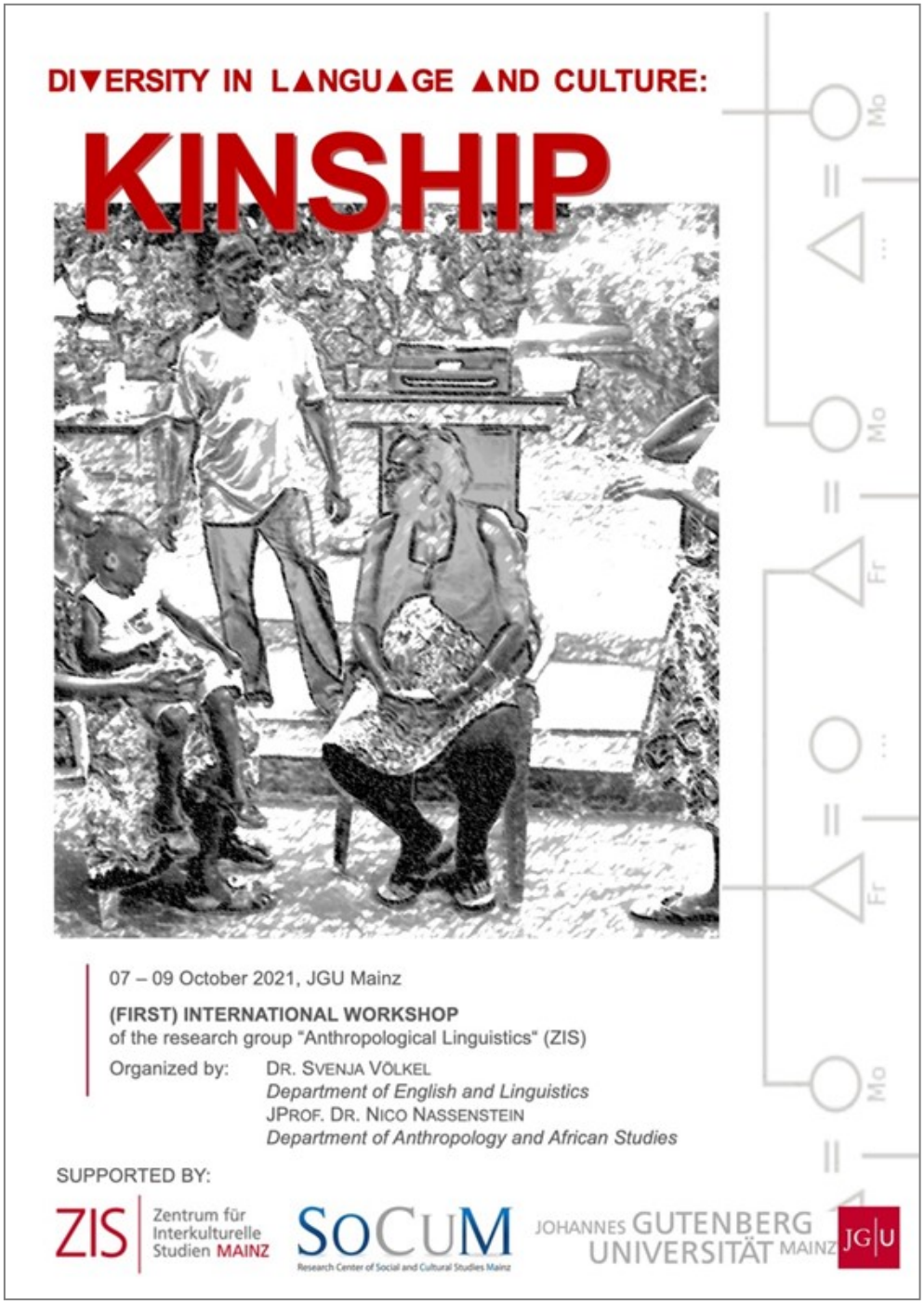
Yorck Beese held the chair of the Aesthetics Panel which investigated the third and post-cinema aesthetics of jihadi media.

Symposium participants. Photographed by Christoph Günther.

7 – 9 October 2021, Mainz

"Diversity in Language and Culture: Kinship"

Together with linguist **Svenja Völkel, Nico Nassenstein** organized an international workshop on kinship in October 2021 – as the first workshop initiated in the context of a newly founded working group "Anthropological Linguistics" of the ZIS (Center for Intercultural Studies), led together with Franziska Fay. The workshop, bringing together colleagues from different disciplines (Linguistics, Anthropology, African Studies/Linguistics), intended to provide a forum for discussion of new directions in the field of kinship studies, bridging and assessing different approaches in linguistic studies and anthropological studies. Apart from 16 colleagues who participated on-site, numerous other scholars joined the hybrid event online. The workshop was generously funded both by ZIS and SOCUM.



19 – 20 November, Mainz and online
"TAFSIRI: Siasa ya Kutafsiri na Kujikwamua kutoka kwenye Ukoloni katika Taaluma ya Kiswahili / Politics of Translation and Decolonisation in Swahili Studies "

Convenors: Franziska Fay (Mainz), Irene Brunotti (Leipzig) and Nathalie Arnold Koenings (Hampshire College)

Franziska Fay hosted the first international TAFSIRI workshop (TAFSIRI: Siasa ya Kutafsiri na Kujikwamua kutoka kwenye Ukoloni katika Taaluma ya Kiswahili / Politics of Translation and Decolonisation in Swahili Studies) at ifeas, Mainz. The hybrid workshop, for which more than 100 people registered to attend and participate, was co-organized with Irene Brunotti (Leipzig) and Nathalie Arnold Koenings (Hampshire College) and funded by the JGU's Zentrum für Interkulturelle Studien (ZIS), and was held in Swahili and English. The workshop was the first of a planned series of workshops on matters of TAFSIRI. It opened with a welcome note by Matthias Krings on behalf of ZIS and a keynote lecture by Nanjala Nyabola. The invited speakers included Ida Hadjivayanis, M. Yunus Rafiq, Meg Arenberg, Serena Talento, Mohammed Ghassani, Zainab Alwi Baharoon and Clarissa Vierke.

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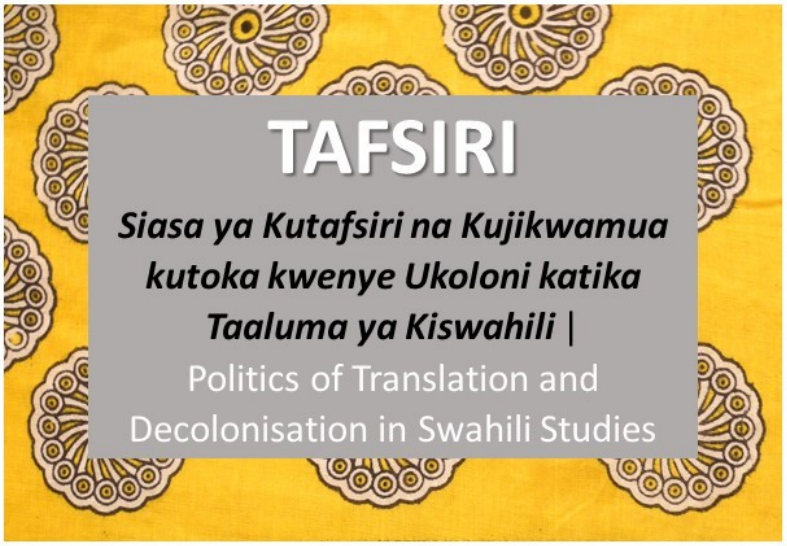

International Workshop

19/20 November 2021
Johannes Gutenberg-University Mainz
hybrid (time zone: CET)
Organisers: Franziska Fay, Irene Brunotti, Nathalie Koenings

Warsha itafanyika kwa Kiingereza na Kiswahili.
The workshop will take place in English and Swahili.

ZIS Zentrum für Interkulturelle Studien MAINZ
JOHANNES GUTENBERG UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ JG|U

Other events organized by faculty members

On 14 April, the **"3rd Day of Provenance Research"** was organized by the Arbeitskreis Provenienzforschung e.V. with a major commitment by **Anna-Maria Brandstetter**.

On 30 September, **Hauke Dorsch** and **Tom Simmert** served as DJs for the online party at the end of the **GAA bi-annual conference**.

In December, **Katrin Langewiesche** organized together with Adrien Bitibaly and Mahamadi Ouédraogo the **Rencontres des buguba**, which involved inviting 70 buguba sons and two buguba to the chief town Ouahigouya (Burkina Faso) to discuss the transformation of their customs. After the discussion, dances of the buguba were performed in the courtyard of an elementary school in Ouahigouya, and an exhibition of contemporary and historic photographs was put on. The exhibition was also shown in the village of Rampougnou.

Exhibition in the city of Ouahigouya,
1 December.
Photographed by Katrin Langewiesche

Exhibition in the village of Rampougnou,
4 December.
Photographed by Katrin Langewiesche.

Lectures, media appearances and other activities by individual faculty members

Helmut Asche

06/2021 Round Table at the VAD Conference "African Challenges" on the topic "The governmental crisis in Burkina Faso and in Mali," organized by the VAD Standing Commission "Sahel" (10 June).

09/2021 Lecture at Deutsche Afrika Stiftung (DAS), Symposium in the honour of Prof. Franz Ansprenger, on the topic: "Sahelistan? Was wird aus den Sahel-Ländern?" (7 September).

09/2021 Book presentation "Regional Integration, Trade and Industry in Africa," MIASA Conference at Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) (13 – 15 September).

Bianca Baumann

04/21 "Multi-lokale Provenienzforschung in der Schweiz, in Deutschland und in Kamerun," Webinar "Provenienzforschung und Kooperationen mit Kamerun," Museum Rietberg (14 April).

05/21 "La recherche post-coloniale au musée national de Hanovre," colloquium organized by Kamerunhaus: "Dialogue international sur la provenance et la restitution des biens culturels Camerounais en Allemagne."

06/21 "Cooperation as Method," VAD-Tagung "Africa Challenges," online.

06/21 "What is it all about," PAESE-symposium: "Provenance Research on Collections from Colonial Contexts Principles, Approaches, Challenges," Hanover (21 June).

Jan Beek

03/21 "Studie zum Polizeialltag: Umgang mit sprachlichen und kulturellen Differenzen," Deutschlandfunk, "Aus Kultur und Sozialwissenschaften" with Michael Stang (11 March).

Yorck Beese

03/21 Presentation on Ph.D. Research "The Film of the Islamic State – The Cinefication of Jihadi Video" at the Film- und Fernsehwissenschaftliches Kolloquium (FFK) 2021, Weimar (24 March).

Thomas Bierschenk

03/2021 Presentation "Working conceptually and empirically with 'the state'," Kick-off meeting of the CERTIZENS (Certifications of Citizenship in Africa) project of the University of Copenhagen, online (1 March).

07/2021 Discussant at the Conference on "Local Self-Governance and Weak Statehood: Theoretical and Empirical Insights from an Interdisciplinary Perspective," University of Würzburg, online (6 July).

09/2021 Presentation on "Multilingualism and the everyday production of cultural difference in everyday police work in Germany," Department of Anthropology, University of Lund, Sweden (13 September).

09/2021 Participation in the European Summer School for the Anthropology of Development and Social Dynamics, Uppsala University (15 – 17 September).

09/2021 Presentation "Introduction to the study of the State in Africa," Centre of African Studies, University of Copenhagen (21 September).

09/2021 Participation in the roundtable "On David Graeber's Work: Potentialities for a Radical Leftist Anthropology" at the DGSKA conference in Bremen, online (28 September).

10/2021 Paper presentation on "African rentier capitalism and Benin's business associations," at the 3rd study day of the project "Morocco of emergences II," Fondation de l'Ecole Centrale de Casablanca, Morocco, online (28 October).

Anne Brandstetter

01/2021 Podcast "Global gedacht": "# Postkolonialismus – mit Frau Dr. Brandstetter," Masifunde Bildungsförderung e.V. (4 January) (https://www.masifunde.de/podcasts/page/1/).

01/2021 Podcast (with Andreas Frings and Matthias Gemählich): "Who cares? HIV/AIDS als globale Pandemie," Podcast series "Clio auf die Ohren: Pandemien und Epidemien in der Weltgeschichte)" (6 January) (https://cliozweipunktnull.uni-mainz.de/2021/01/06/clio-auf-die-ohren-pandemien-und-epidemien-in-der-weltgeschichte-aids/)

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Alexandra Dick

02/2021 (with Simone Pfeifer) "Herausforderungen der digitalen Ethnografie in militanten religiös politischen Feldern am Beispiel von Anāshīd des Islamischen Staates." Talk at the colloquium of the Music Department, Goethe University Frankfurt, online (2 February).

10/2021 (with Nava Zarabian) "Naschids und Propaganda-Videos. Islamistische Antwort auf HipHop-Culture?" Workshop at the conference "Von Empowerment und Abwertung, Emanzipation und Kommerz," Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb), Leipzig (5 October).

Robert Dörre

09/2021 "Kriegsmetaphern. Epistemische Milieus am Beispiel 'dschihadistischer' Medien." Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Medienwissenschaft, University of Innsbruck, (23 September).

Hauke Dorsch

03/2021 (with Tom Simmert) Online Talk "From Afrobeat to Afrobeats – An inter-generational debate on African popular music and its reception in the Global North." CAS Seminar, Edinburgh (24 March).

04/2021 Online Talk "Singles, Soukous, Senerap – Zur Geschichte westafrikanischer Musik und zum Archiv für die Musik Afrikas." Seminar Köln-Ouagadougou, University of Cologne (29 April).

06/2021 Participation in "...und wir sind live! – Mainzer Jazzgespräch: Afrika! Back to the Roots?" Musikhochschule Mainz (16 June) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhKfHRuL8EQ

06/2021 Online Talk "L'AMA: la digitalisation d'une collection et la decolonisation d'une institution?" Workshop IHA-CREPOS "La bureaucratisation des Sociétés Africaines," Dakar (17 – 19 June).

06/2021 “Senghor, die Négritude und die Musik Senegals – Drei Beispiele.” ZFF Workshop “Ce que Senghor apporte au XXIe siècle : Dynamiques de réception, héritage et lectures actuelles,” Mainz (18 June).

11/2021 “Werkstatt: Afrikanische Musik in Deutschland und ein weißer, deutscher Archivar für ein afrikanisches Musikarchiv – Erfahrungen mit einem biographisch gefärbten Aufsatz, der an Identitätsdiskursen zu scheitern droht”. Institutskolloquium, ifeas, Mainz (2. November).

11/2021 “Griots of the Black Atlantic – African Music in Concert Halls, on Festivals and in the Archives Cultural Differences and Transnational Processes.” UFR Anthropologie, Sociologie, Science Politique, Université Lumière 2, Lyon (24 November).

Heike Drotbohm

12/2021 (with members of Heike Drotbohm’s research section) “Das ifeas stellt sich vor: Care beyond Repair.” Paper presented at the Departmental Seminar Series of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies, JGU Mainz (23 November).

Franziska Fay

01/2021 “Young Swahili-speakers in Oman and the ‘Zanzibar Diaspora’,” Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient (ZMO), Berlin, online (14 January).

02/2021 “Young Omani Swahili-speakers and the Zanzibar Diaspora,” Podcast Episode with the Anglo -Omani Society (in conversation with Dina Macki), London (15 February).

09/2021 “Rest-less Breathing, Sovereignty and Collective Decolonisation in Tanzania,” presentation (Panel: “Decolonize Collective Breathing: Intersectional Public Anthropology in the Racial Capitalocene”), DGSKA/GAA Conference 2021, online (30 September).

10/2021 “On Refusal and Discontinuities: Politicising Reflections on Child Protection (in Zanzibar).” ANSO Tuesday Seminar, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva (12 October).

10/2021 Book Launch: “Disputing Discipline: Child Protection, Punishment, and Piety in Zanzibar Schools,” RUP 2021. Research Center Normative Orders, Goethe University Frankfurt, online (22 October)

10/2021 “Disputing Discipline: Politics of Protection and Punishment in Zanzibar Schools.” The Critical Childhoods and Youth Studies Collective – CCYSC Dialogues: Schooling in African Contexts, online (26 October).

10/2021 “Ufeminia? Translating Feminist Politics in Tanzania,” BARAZA: Swahili Studies Conference, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, online (29 October).

11/2021 “Thinking Politics with Childhood: An Ethnographic Reflection on Researching Child Protection,” Anthropology Lecture Series 2021/22, University of Bayreuth (9 November).

11/2021 (with Irene Brunotti and Nathalie Koenings) Introduction to “Politics of Translation and Decolonisation in Swahili Studies,” International Workshop JGU Mainz and online (19 November).

11/2021 “Reflections on Doing Ethnographic Research with Children on Protection and Punishment in Zanzibar Schools,” CHASE Encounters Conference, University of London, online (22 November).

12/2021 “Disputing Discipline: Politics of Protection and Punishment in Zanzibar Schools.” Presentation, Child Protection Research Group, Gender Violence and Health Centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), London, online (10 December).

Larissa Fuhrmann

02/2021 Moderation of round table at the launch of the digital exhibition platform reclaim. Rautenstrauch Joest Museum, Cologne (27 February).

04/2021 "Internationale Kulturpolitik trifft Digitalität, Eine Irritation zum Fragenstellen." Auswärtiges Amt (28 April).

09/2021 Panelist at "Anziehungskraft extremistischer Online-Propaganda - Was tun? (I): Kunst und praktische Medienbildung für Jugendliche." Online conference "Hass attraktiv: Formen und Formate extremistischer Online-Propaganda," jugendschutz.net (30 September).

09/2021 Panelist at "Presenting Online. Anthropological Approaches to Digital Curating." DGSKA (30 September).

10/2021 Moderation of artists' round table "Art and Political Violence" with Morehshin Allahyari, Khalid Wad Albaih, Johan Grimonprez, Henrike Naumann und Wendy Shaw. Symposium "Notions of Jihad Reconsidered," ifeas (6 October).

10/2021 Co-curator of the exhibition "Mindbombs – Visual Cultures of Political Violence." Kunsthalle Mannheim (9 October 2021 – 24 April 2022).

Christoph Günther

03/2021 "Creating and Challenging Identities through Audiovisuality." Keynote, international online conference "Religious Identity and the Media: Methods, Concepts, Theories, and New Research Avenues," University of Bremen in collaboration with the Polish Academy of Sciences at Warsaw (26 March).

07/2021 "Iconic Socioclasm. Smashing Idols to Obliterate Identities." Paper presented at online workshop "Reemerging Iconoclasms. On the contemporariness of image controversies," Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI), Essen (2 July).

Cassis Kilian

03/2021 (with Melanie Brand and Mirco Göpfert) "The power of ridicule: Laughter, knowledge and politics in Tehran, Johannesburg and Berlin." Paper presented at the ASA Conference, University of St Andrews, online (29 March).

Annalena Kolloch

01/2021 "Being role models, raising their voices and fighting for judicial independence – How Beninese judges and prosecutors make and debate legality and democracy." Workshop "Dissenting Voices: The Making, Debating, and Shaping of Law," Liège, online (21 January).

Jan Knipping

06/2021 "Coloniality and the semiotics of 'authentic culture' in tourism – an example from Northern Uganda." Conference of the International Association of Colonial and Postcolonial Linguistics, Cape Town, online (28 – 30 June).

07/2021 (with Nico Nassenstein and Maren Rüsch) "On verbal taboo in Acholi: Lexical and interactional strategies around conflict terminology in Northern Uganda," 24. Afrikanist*innentag, Goethe Universität Frankfurt, online (1 – 3 July).

07/2021 "Muchope, Mucholi, Musheshe: Othering und Essentialisierungen in Uganda." Institutskolloquium, ifeas, Mainz, online (13 July).

Katrin Langewiesche

06/2021 (with Alice Degorce and Ludovic Kibora) Book presentation *Rencontres religieuses et dynamiques sociales au Burkina Faso*, Mansa, online conference (17 June).

09/2021 "L'enquête ethnographique comme performance." Workshop "L'engagement ethnographique – observer, décrire et comprendre l'expérience humaine," University of Geneva (28 September).

11/2021 (with Alice Degorce) Introduction to the workshop "Réflexions actuelles autour des traditions: Art, recherche et médiations," Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (2 – 3 November).

Workshop "Réflexions actuelles autour des traditions : Art, recherche et mediations." Photographed by Harouna Marané

12/2021 (with Mahamadi Ouédraogo) Introduction to "Rencontres des buguba," Ouahigouya, Burkina Faso (1 December). The exhibition also was presented in the village of Rampougnou (4 December)

12/2021 (with Alice Degorce) Book presentation *Rencontres religieuses et dynamiques sociales au Burkina Faso*, Université de Paris/CESSMA (16 December).

Carola Lentz

06/2021 "Vom Kulturexport zum globalen Netzwerk. Eine Geschichte des Goethe-Instituts von 1951 bis heute." Paper presented as part of the university lecture series "Mensch. Macht. Moderne," Bauhaus University Weimar (2 June).

08/2021 "Zeiten des Umbruchs: Systemwechsel in internationaler Perspektive." Roundtable at the conference "Dealing with the past: Erinnerung und Aufarbeitung nach Systemumbrüchen im späten 20. Jahrhundert," Bundesstiftung Aufarbeitung (18 August).

10/2021 "Studying colonialism: a research biography." Keynote delivered at the conference "Colonialism and difficult histories," British-German Democracy Forum, Cumberland Lodge, London (25 October).

11/2021 "Laudation for James C. Scott." Presentation of the A. SK Social Science Award, WZB Berlin Social Science Center (2 November).

11/2021 "Identität, Migration, Globalisierung: große Zukunftsfragen gestern und heute." Roundtable at the Academy Day 2021, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin (8 November).

Numerous public speeches and media appearances; for a selection, see https://www.goethe.de/de/uun/prs/int/len.html

Theresa Mentrup

02/2021 "Framing catastrophe: media representations of recent dam disasters in Brazil." Paper presented at the IV. Forum of the International Association of Sociology (ISA), Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS), Porto Alegre (Brazil), online (24 February).

03/2021 "#NãoFoiAcidente: The political meaning of the nature|culture dualism in the context of recent dam collapses in Minas Gerais / Brazil." Paper presented at the congress of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES), Institute for Anthropological Research Zagreb (Croatia), online (12 March).

06/2021 "Political issue or domestic matter? Politics of life and death in Minas Gerais / Brazil." Paper presented at the online symposium of the Anthropology of Humanitarianism Network (AHN) of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) (10 June).

Nico Nassenstein

05/2021 "Studying language at the beach: Perspectives on contact and change in the context of tourism." Invited online talk at ABRALIN (Brazil) (1 May). Available at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xlPEfR1h-c].

07/2021 (with Laura Seel) "Expressing sympathy in Luganda and Swahili: Interjections and communicative practice." IPrA 2021, online (27 June – 2 July).

07/2021 (with Jan Knipping and Maren Rüsch) "On verbal taboo in Acholi: Lexical and interactional strategies around conflict terminology in Northern Uganda." 24. Afrikanist*innentag (Frankfurt), online (1 – 3 July).

08/2021 (in collaboration with Axel Fanego Palat) "Beach learners and beach teachers: Learning (host/tourist) languages in informal contexts of inequality along the Kenyan coast." Keynote speaker at AILA 2021 (Groningen), online (15 – 21 August).

10/2021 (with Anne Storch) "Der Wert der Pommes: Migration, Mallorca und der falsche Ort im richtigen Leben." Panel " AG Kulinarische Ethnologie," DGSKA 2021, online (27 September – 1 October).

Andrea Noll.

06/2011 "Challenges for African early career researchers in international academic cooperation." Paper presented at the conference "Africa Challenges" of the African Studies Association in Germany (VAD), Frankfurt, online (11 June).

Anja Oed

02/2021 "Writing a novel, or writing 'Africa'? Writers from Africa and stereotypical images of the continent." Lecture presented as part of the lecture series "Narrating Africa," Helsinki University (16 February).

06/2021 "L.S. Senghor, Janheinz Jahn und das Erbe des Schwarzen Orpheus in Mainz / L.S. Senghor, Janheinz Jahn et le legs du Orphée Noir à Mayence." Paper presented at the International Online Colloquium "Senghor im 21. Jahrhundert: Rezeptionsdynamiken, kulturelles Erbe und aktuelle Lektüren / Ce que Senghor apporte au XXIe siècle Dynamiques de réception, héritage et lectures actuelles," organized by the Zentrum für Frankreich- und Frankophonieforschung (ZFF, JGU Mainz), 17‑18 June).

Elena Reichl

04/2021 (with Nanneke Winters) "The governance of migrant reception and more-than-local stories in southern Costa Rica." Paper presented at REFUGOV conference "Camps across the world: global and local perspectives," Luxembourg, online (26 – 28 April).

10/2021 "¿Controlar el flujo? Prácticas de gestión migratoria en un Centro de atención temporal para personas migrantes (CATEM) en el sur de Costa Rica." Paper presented at "Coloquio Migraciones Africanas Contempóraneas en América Latina (IIS-USR)," San José, online (13 – 15 October).

Franziska Reiffen

12/2021 "Begegnungen im Einkaufszentrum: Be-ziehungen, Ent-ziehungen und flüchtige Verortungen in Buenos Aires." Paper presented at "The Americas Colloquium," Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology, LMU Munich (2 December).

Ute Röschenthaler

06/2021 "La transformation des expressions culturelles immatérielles par le droit de la propriété intellectuelle." Paper presented at the conference: "Art, culture, creation: des pratiques (anti) bureaucratiques?" organized by IHA-CREPOS project "La bureaucratisation des sociétés africaines," Dakar, online (17 June).

11/2021 "Shared Ownership oder Exklusives Eigentum? Sinoafrikanische Koproduktion am Beispiel von Teemarken in Mali." Lecture at Afrika-Kolloquium Frankfurt (4 November).

11/2021 "Intellectual property and the judicialisation of cultural production: an anthropological perspective." Paper presented at Fridays' Meeting of the CEDITRAA project (Frankfurt/Mainz), online (12 November).

Anjuli Rotter

10/2021 "Fighting the Devil: Samba-Reggae-Gospel in the Carnival of Salvador da Bahia." Presentation at the "Conference on the Music of Carnival," Instituto de Etnomusicologia at Universidade Nova de Lisboa, online (3 October).

Tom Simmert

03/2021 (with Hauke Dorsch) "From Afrobeat to Afrobeats: An inter-generational debate on African popular music and its reception in the Global North." Presentation at the Centre of African Studies Seminar, University of Edinburgh (24 March).

11/2021 "TikTok as an ethnographic field site." Presentation at the XXVIII International Film and Media Studies Conference "And Yet It Moves! On Cinema, Media, and Mobility," Udine-Gorizia, Italy (2 – 5 November).

Holger Tröbs

07/2021 "Betrachtungen zu thematischen Restriktionen bei lokaler Inversion im Swahili aus sprachvergleichender Bantu-Perspektive." Paper presented at the "24. Afrikanist*innentag," Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main (2 July).

Excursions and student field research

In July and April Franziska Fay conducted 6 weeks of field research in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar. The purpose of the field stay way twofold. On the one hand it served as a follow up to Fay's long-term research on child protection, which included her returning with her book *Disputing Discipline: Child Protection, Punishment and Piety in Zanzibar Schools* (Rutgers UP 2021), which came out of this research. There was a book launch at Save the Children Zanzibar's field office in Stone Town, which had been a key research collaborator while Fay conducted fieldwork for this book between 2014–15. The other purpose of Fay's travel to and through Tanzania was the preparation of her new research project on contemporary feminist political practices, which included the mapping and linking up with potential research collaborators and conversation partners across the country.

Congratulation poster for the election of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, Zanzibar City, Tanzania.
Photographed by Franziska Fay.

Display of *Disputing Discipline: Child Protection, Punishment and Piety in Zanzibar Schools* at Masomo Bookshop, Zanzibar City.
Photographed by Franziska Fay.

PUBLICATIONS AND EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY MEMBERS

Monographs, edited books and special issues of journals

Asche, Helmut

Regional Integration, Trade and Industry in Africa. Heidelberg: Springer.

Bierschenk, Thomas

(with José Munoz) (eds.): *Entrepreneurs and business associations: Ethnographies of the private sector in Africa/Les entrepreneurs et leurs associations :Ethnographies du secteur privé en Afrique, Anthropologie & Développement* 52 (dossier thématique). Louvain-La-Neuve: Presses universitaires de Louvain.

Fay, Franziska

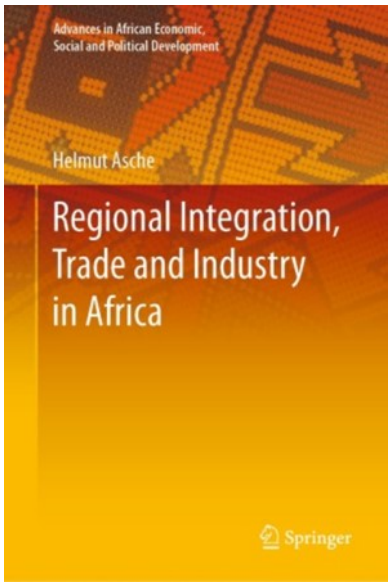
Disputing Discipline. Child Protection, Punishment and Piety in Zanzibar Schools. Rutgers Series in Childhood Studies. New Brunswick/New Jersey/London: Rutgers University Press.

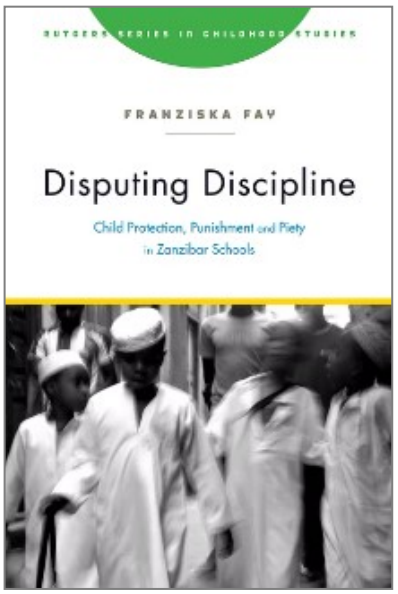
Fuhrmann, Larissa Diana

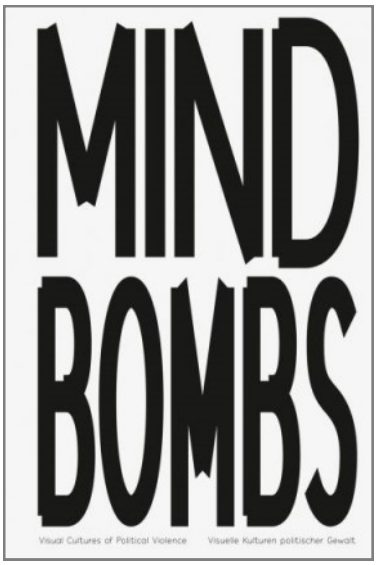
(with Sebastian Baden and Johann Holten) *Mindbombs. Visuelle Kulturen politischer Gewalt. Visual Cultures of Political Violence.* Bielefeld: Kerber.

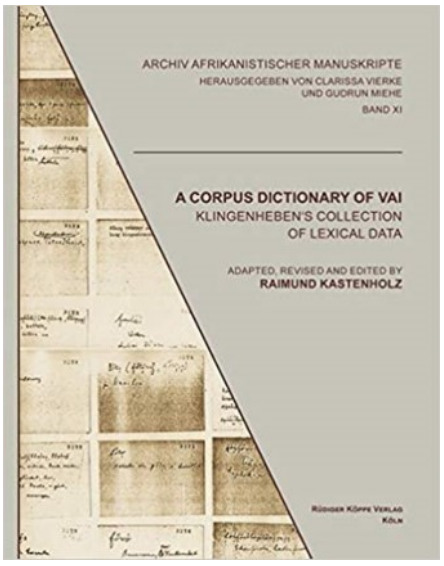
Kastenholz, Raimund

A corpus dictionary of Vai. Klingenheben's collection of lexical data. Adapted, revised, and edited by Raimund Kastenholz. (Archiv Afrikanistischer Manuskripte, 21). Köln: Köppe.









Kilian, Cassis

Attention in Performance: Acting Lessons in Sensory Anthropology. Anthropological Studies of Creativity and Perception. London: Routledge.

Lentz, Carola

(with Marie-Christin Gabriel) *Das Goethe-Institut. Eine Geschichte von 1951 bis heute*. Stuttgart: Klett-Cotta.

Nassenstein, Nico

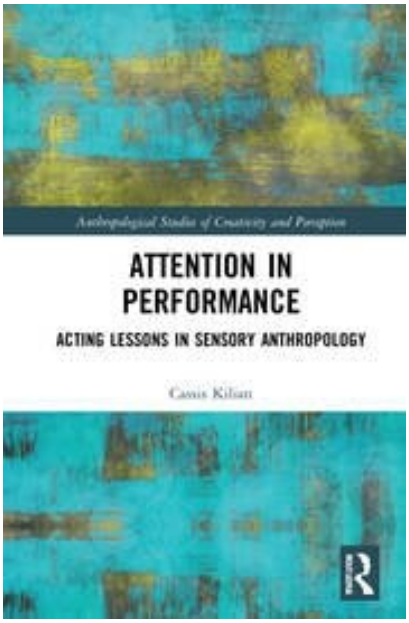
(with Andrea Hollington, Angelika Mietzner, Anne Storch and Sara Zavaree) (eds.): *The Other's Other*. *Journal of Postcolonial Linguistics* 4 (Guest-edited Special issue).

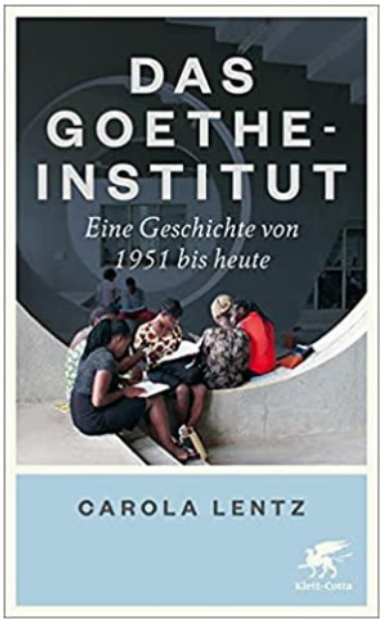
Röschenthaler, Ute

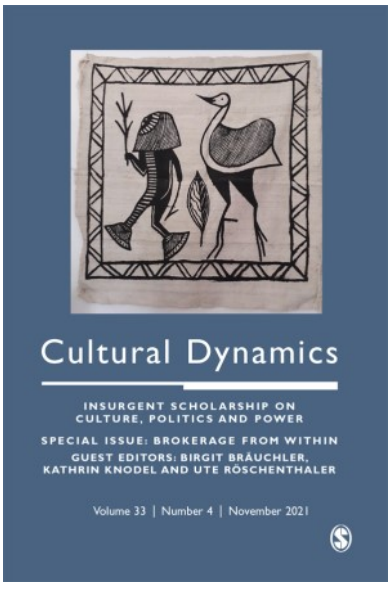
(with Birgit Bräuchler and Kathrin Knodel) (eds.): *Brokerage from within*. Special Issue of *Cultural Dynamics* 33, 4.

Verne, Markus

(with Annika Schlitte and Gregor Wedekind) (eds.): *Die Handlungsmacht ästhetischer Objekte*. Berlin: De Gruyter.







Articles, book chapters, working papers, etc.

Beese, Yorck

(witth Bernd Zywietz) Appropriation in Islamic State propaganda: A theoretical and analytical framework of types and dimensions. In: Christoph Günther and Simone Pfeifer (eds.): *Jihadi Audiovisuality and its Entanglements. Meanings, Aesthetics, Appropriations*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 99–122.

(with Till Baaken) Das illustrierende epische Erzähler-Video: Produktion und filmische Ausdrucksformen im Vergleich (I). Online: *Modus ZAD* (https://modus-zad.de/blog/das-illustrierende-epische-erzaehler-video-produktion-und-filmische-ausdrucksformen-im-vergleich-i/).

(with Till Baaken) Das illustrierende epische Erzähler-Video: Produktion und filmische Ausdrucksformen im Vergleich (II). Online: Modus ZAD (https://modus-zad.de/blog/das-epische-erzaehler-video-produktion-und-filmische-ausdrucksformen-im-vergleich-ii/).

Easily reproducible – the structure of Islamic State videos. In: *Global Network on Extremism & Technology (GNET)* (https://gnet-research.org/2021/01/04/easily-reproducible-the-structure-of-islamic-state-videos/).

Bierschenk, Thomas

(with Agnès Badou) Business associations in Benin "at work": The paradoxes of private sector development. *Anthropologie & Développement* 52, 87–106.

Anthropology and development in Germany. A history of the present. *Anthropologie & Développement* (special issue on *30 years of APAD*) (https://apad-association.org/anthropologie-developpement/).

Postface: Brokerage as social practice. *Cultural Dynamics* 33 (3) (https://doi.org/10.1177%2F09213740211034060).

(with José-Maria Munoz) Ethnographies of entrepreneurs, business associations and rentier capitalism in Africa. In: Thomas Bierschenk and José Munoz (eds.): *Entrepreneurs and business associations: Ethnographies of the private sector in Africa/Les entrepreneurs et leurs associations :Ethnographies du secteur privé en Afrique* (*Anthropologie et Développement* 52, dossier thématique). Louvain-La-Neuve: Presses Universitaires de Louvain, 9–29.

(with Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan) The anthropology of bureaucracy and public administration. In: *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.2005).

On Graeber on bureaucracy. *FocaalBlog* (https://www.focaalblog.com/2021/10/19/thomas-bierschenk-on-graeber-on-bureaucracy/).

Dick, Alexandra

(with Larissa-Diana Fuhrmann) Bilder der Gewalt: Künstlerische Auseinandersetzungen als pädagogischer Zugang (https://www.ufuq.de/bilder-der-gewalt-kuenstlerische-auseinandersetzungen-als-paedagogischer-zugang/).

Dörre, Robert

(with Christoph Günther and Simone Pfeifer) Journalism and Images of Violence – Ethical Perspectives. In: Sebastian Baden, Larissa Diana Fuhrmann, Johan Holten (eds.): *Mindbombs. Visuelle Kulturen politischer Gewalt.* Berlin: Kerber, 127–136.

Aus dem Netz in den Kinosaal. Anmerkungen zur Diskussion um den Dokumentarfilm Lord of the Toys. In: Ingo Bednarek, Tim Glaser, Jasmin Kathöfer and Franziska Wagner (eds.): *ffk Journal* 6, 120–136. (Aus dem Netz in den Kinosaal. Anmerkungen zur Diskussion um den Dokumentarfilm Lord of the Toys | ffk Journal (ffk-journal.de).

Dorsch, Hauke

Diasporizando a Tradição. Griots e Estudiosos no Atlântico Negro. *Contemporânea* 86, 203–206. https://www.contemporanea.ufscar.br/index.php/contemporanea/article/view/1013.

Drotbohm, Heike

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Günther, Christoph

(with Simone Pfeifer and Robert Dörre) Journalism and images of violence – Ethical perspectives. In: Sebastian Baaden et al. (eds.): *Mindbombs. Visuelle Kulturen politischer Gewalt.* Berlin: Kerber, 127–136.

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(with Hanna Pfeifer) Reducing artefacts and shrines to ruins: The staging of cultural heritage destruction as a mediatised conflict strategy. In: Enass Khansa et al. (eds.): *Thinking through Ruins*. Berlin: Kadmos, 3–21.

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(with Pascal Boyeldieu, Ulrich Kleinewillinghöfer and Florian Lionnet) The Bua Group noun class system: looking for a historical interpretation. *Language in Africa* 1 (3) (Special issue on the Proceedings of the first Adamawa Conference, Mainz, Sept. 9–11, 2019, ed. by Sabine Littig, Friederike Vigeland and Alexander Zheltov), 181–215.

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(with Mita Banerjee) Grenzverwischung. Kategoriale Transgressionen der Schwarz/Weiß- und der Alt/Jung-Unterscheidung im Vergleich. In: Dilek Dizdar, Stefan Hirschauer, Johannes Paulmann and Gabriele Schabacher (eds.): *Humandifferenzierung*. Weilerswist: Velbrück; 201–229.

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(with Aude Nikiema and Aïssa Diallo) La mobilité thérapeutique vers le Centre Médical Ahmadiyya à Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). Déterminants religieux ou sanitaires? In : Alice Degorce and Ludovic Kibora (eds.): *Migrations, mobilités et réseaux religieux au Burkina Faso*. Dakar: Editions Amalion, 177–202.

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Lentz, Carola

(with Andrea Noll) Across regional disparities and beyond family ties: a Ghanaian middle class in the making. *History and Anthropology* (https://doi.org/10.1080/02757206.2021.1885400)

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(with Sara Zavaree, Anne Storch, Angelika Mietzner and Andrea Hollington) Phantasy, resistance and alienation in language and discourse: An introduction. *Journal of Postcolonial Linguistics* 4, 1–12.

(with Axel Fanego Palat) Linguistic road works ahead: A commentary on language, integration and unfulfilled obligations. *The Mouth* 8, 202–216.

Translinguale Praktiken als Strategien der Entdifferenzierung: Afrikanistische Perspektiven auf sprachliche Hybridität. In: Dilek Dizdar, Stefan Hirschauer, Johannes Paulmann and Gabriele Schabacher (eds.): *Humandifferenzierung: Disziplinäre Perspektiven und empirische Sondierungen*. Weilerswist: Velbrück, 160–182.

(with Helma Pasch) Phasal polarity in Lingala and Sango. In: Raija L. Kramer (ed.): *The Expression of Phasal Polarity in African Languages*. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton, 93–127.

(with Anne Storch) Balamane: Variations on a noisy ground. In Ingo H. Warnke, Anna-Katherina Hornidge and Susanne Schattenberg (eds.): *Kontradiktorische Diskurse und die Macht im Widerspruch*. Berlin: Springer, 23–51.

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(with Klaudia Dombrowsky-Hahn, Axel Fanego Palat and Sabine Littig) Jenseits des Referenzrahmens: Erfahrungen afrikanischer Migrant*innen mit sprachlicher Integration im Rhein-Main-Gebiet. In: Jürgen Erfurt and Peter Reimer (eds.): *Afrikanische Sprachen in Europa* (special issue). Osnabrücker Beiträge zur Sprachtheorie 98, 157–188.

N'Guessan, Konstanze

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Nostalgie de l'avenir? Mémoire prospective des célébrations de la fête nationale en Côte d'Ivoire. *Afrique Contemporaine* 271/272, 189–208.

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Noll, Andrea

(with Carola Lentz) Across regional disparities and beyond family ties: a Ghanaian middle class in the making. *History and Anthropology* (https://doi.org/10.1080/02757206.2021.1885400).

(with Jan Budniok). Social protest and the middle class in Ghana: a social movement approach of three cases. *Journal of Contemporary African Studies* (https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02589001.2021.1931056).

Reichl, Elena

Einen Fluss steuern? Hilfs- und Kontrollpraktiken in einer staatlichen Unterkunft für Transitmigrant*innen in Costa Rica. *Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz* 198 (https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/files/2021/12/AP-198.pdf).

Röschenthaler, Ute

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(with Birgit Bräuchler and Kathrin Knodel) Brokerage from within: a conceptual framework. *Cultural Dynamics* 33 (4), 281–297.

Hierarchies of value and Asian consumer goods in Cameroon. In: Mayke Kaag, Guive Khan-Mohammad and Stefan Schmid (eds): *Destination Africa: Contemporary Africa as a Global Meeting Point*. Leiden: Brill, 127–147.

(with Getachew Senishaw) Breweries in Ethiopia and the politicisation of beer. *Brewery History* 185, 19–40.

Review of: Miller, Ivor und Gonzáles Gómez-Cásseres (eds. and translators). *Lydia Cabrera: The Sacred Language of the Abakua*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi. H-Net Africa, H-Net Reviews (https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=55068).

Editorial responsibilities

Bierschenk, Thomas

Member of the editorial committee of the journal *Anthropologie et Développement* (https://journals.openedition.org/anthropodev/).

Drotbohm, Heike

Member of the editorial board of the *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie* (ZFE), *Journal of Social and Cultural Anthropology* (JSCA), Berlin (https://www.dgska.de/zeitschrift-fuer-ethnologie/).

Member of the editorial board of the *Nordic Journal of Migration Research*, Helsinki (https://journal-njmr.org/).

Member of the editorial board of the book series *Women on the Move. Past and Present Perspectives*, Manchester University Press.

Member of the scientific council of the journal *Freiburger Zeitschrift für GeschlechterStudien* (fzg), Freiburg (https://www.budrich-journals.de/index.php/fgs/index).

Langewiesche, Katrin

Member of the editorial board of *Social Sciences and Mission* (Brill).

Lentz, Carola

Member of the editorial board of *Africa* (http://www.internationalafricaninstitute.org/journal.html).

Member of the advisory board of *Paideuma* (http://www.frobenius-institut.de/index.php?option= com_content&task=blogcategory&id=57&Itemid=118).

Mentrup, Theresa

Managing editor of *Arbeitspapiere des Instituts für Ethnologie und Afrikastudien der Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz / Working Papers of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz* (https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/publikationen-2/arbeitspapiere/).

Nassenstein, Nico

Co-editor of the peer-reviewed journal *The Mouth* (https://themouthjournal.com).

Co-editor of the peer-reviewed journal *Afrikanistik & Ägyptologie Online* (AAeO) (https://www.afrikanistik-aegyptologie-online.de).

Series editor of *Anthropological Linguistics*, De Gruyter Mouton.

N'Guessan, Konstanze

Member of the editorial board of the *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie | Journal of Social and Cultural Anthropology* (ZFE|JSCA) (https://www.jstor.org/journal/zeitethn).

Oed, Anja

Managing editor of the department's book series *Mainzer Beiträge zur Afrikaforschung* (https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/publikationen-2/mainzer-beitraege-zur-afrikaforschung/).

TEACHING AND RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

The department cooperates with the **Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA)** at the **Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (TUFS).** In 2020, the existing research cooperation with colleagues from different Japanese universities in the project "An Inter-Disciplinary Approach to the Diversity and Dynamics of Swahili Varieties" (http://www.aa.tufs.ac.jp/en/projects/jrp/jrp240, until 03/2021) were formalized and strengthened through a mutual memorandum of understanding between JGU Mainz and the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. Prof. Daisuke Shinagawa, ILCAA, who visited the Department of Anthropology and African Studies twice over the past years, and Nico Nassenstein worked on a joint agreement in students' and lecturers' mobility, intending to facilitate further exchanges and research projects in the future. JGU staff will be involved in a newly granted cooperative research project "A new perspective on descriptive linguistics in Africa based on the translingual ecology," funded by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Other joint activities are in preparation.

The department maintains close contacts with anthropologists and sociologists at the **Laboratoire d'Études et de Recherches sur les Dynamiques Sociales et le Développement Local (LASDEL,** Niamey/Niger and Parakou/Benin, see http://www.lasdel.net), the **Université Nationale de Bénin (UNB)** in **Cotonou** and the **Université de Parakou (Benin)**, with whom researchers from our own department have been collaborating on a number of research projects. Many of these joint research projects also involve students from Benin. Coordination: Thomas Bierschenk.

The department and the School of Social Sciences and Humanities, **Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa** are linked by a cooperation agreement facilitating the exchange of students and faculty members as well as the planning and execution of joint research projects.

The **University of Rwanda (UR)** in Huye and the JGU Mainz have been cooperating closely since 1985. In June 2011, Anna-Maria Brandstetter was appointed the coordinator of the university partnership. In June 2014, the agreement of scientific cooperation between the University of Rwanda and the JGU Mainz was renewed. Ever since, the partnerships have facilitated exchange in research and teaching. Since April 2020, Gisèle Oldorff has been assisting Anna-Maria Brandstetter with the coordination of the partnership. Gisèle Oldorff studied Political Science, Psychology, English and Romance languages at the Justus Liebig University in Giessen and completed her studies with a Master thesis on transitional justice and reconciliation in Rwanda. Deborah Wockelmann supported Anna-Maria Brandstetter in the university cooperation until July 2021, thereby replacing Gisèle Oldorff during her maternity leave. In October 2021, Yamara Wessling, who assisted Anna-Maria Brandstetter in coordinating the partnership from 2013 to 2019, successfully defended her dissertation entitled "Frauen des Wandels. Die Aushandlung von Mittelklasse und Geschlecht in Ruanda."

Since 2017, an agreement of scientific cooperation between the **University of the Western Cape (UWC)** and the JGU Mainz has been in effect. The cooperation involves the Department of Anthropology and African Studies and the Faculty of History and Cultural Studies (JGU Mainz) and the Department of Anthropology and Sociology and the Faculty of Arts (UWC).

Members of the ifeas, Nico Nassenstein and Humboldt fellow Sambulo Ndlovu, traveled together to Masvingo (Zimbabwe) in November 2021 in order to initiate a new cooperation between JGU Mainz and **Great Zimbabwe University**. The trip, which served as a first "fact-finding" mission, was financed by ZIS and helped to discuss a potential roadmap toward a MoU (memorandum of understanding) with representatives of the Zimbabwean university.

Furthermore, the department continues its cooperation with the **University of Namibia (UNAM)**.

The ifeas is a member of the **Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies** (**AEGIS**, http://www.aegis-eu.org).

Members of the department maintain close links with the **Euro-African Association for the Anthropology of Social Change and Development** (**APAD**, http://www.association-apad.org). APAD is a network promoting dialogue between African and European researchers in the social sciences as well as with development agents. APAD's approach has evolved towards research regarding social change and social engineering on the African continent in comparative perspective. Coordination: Thomas Bierschenk.

The department also participates in the European exchange programme ERASMUS and has established bilateral agreements with the following universities throughout Europe (https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/studium/studieren-im-ausland-erasmus/):

African Languages and Linguistics (Coordinator: Friederike Vigeland)

- Austria: University of Vienna
- Italy: Università degli Studi di Napoli

Anthropology (Coordinator: Cassis Kilian; Learning Agreement: Elke Rössler)

- Denmark: University of Aarhus
- France: Université de Provence, Aix-Marseille; Université Lumière Lyon; Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier; Université Paris X, Nanterre; École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales EHESS, Marseille
- Greece: Democritus University of Thrace, Komotini
- Italy: Università degli Studi di Siena
- Portugal: Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon; Centro de Estudos Africanos CEA/ISCTE, Lisbon
- Spain: Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Universidad de Granada
- Turkey: Isik Üniversitesi, Istanbul
- United Kingdom: University of Kent at Canterbury

The department cooperated with the University of Zurich through the Swiss-European Mobility Programme.

For the exchange term in 2021/2022, five students of the department were nominated to study at the following partner universities: University of Dalarna, University Aix-Marseille, University of Montpellier and University of Lyon.

RMU – Rhine-Main-Universities

Within the framework of the **Rhine-Main-Universities** alliance (RMU) of the Goethe University Frankfurt, the JGU Mainz, and Technical University Darmstadt the network "Afrikaforschung Rhein-Main" (Africa Research Rhine-Main) continued its work. It exchanges information on ongoing activities and encourages the development of new collaborative research initiatives with regard to Africa. Two departments of the Technical University Darmstadt, nine departments and institutions of the JGU Mainz, and thirteen departments and institutions of the Goethe University Frankfurt form part of this network. At ifeas, Tom Simmert represents the department in this initiative and coordinates the flow of information.

The first conjunct research project of the JGU and GU in the field of African linguistics "Afrikaner*innen im Rhein-Main-Gebiet" was funded by the "RMU-Initiativfonds Forschung."

Within the framework of **RMU**, the new **B.A. program "African Languages, Media and Communication"** (www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/afrikanische-sprachen-medien-und-kommunikation-ba/ started in the winter semester 2021/22 with almost 50 students. The new cooperative program is a joint initiative of the Department of Anthropology and African Studies with the Institut für Afrikanistik (Department of African Linguistics) at Goethe University Frankfurt. In order to improve and facilitate students' mobility between the two locations, two courses in the program were further developed as part of digitization projects. The preparation of a blended learning course "Youth Language and Mobile Communication" was completed and tested in the summer semester of 2021. For a Fula language course offered in Frankfurt, a platform with exercises, videos on various (grammatical) topics, a vocabulary trainer and other elements was developed during 2021. The projects were funded by the Goethe University Frankfurt eLearning-Förderfonds and the RMU Initiativfonds Lehre, respectively, and were designed by Nico Nassenstein and Friederike Vigeland together with members of the department in Frankfurt.

For further information see also http://afrikaforschung-rheinmain.de/, https://www.facebook.com/AfrikanistikKoop or subscribe to the mailing list https://lists.uni-mainz.de/sympa/info/afrikaforschung_rmu.

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Incoming fellowships: visiting scholars at the department

Visiting scholar (funded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)

July 2019 – June 2022

Izuu Nwankwọ

Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam, Nigeria

Izuu Nwankwọ is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Theatre Arts, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam, Nigeria. He is being hosted by Matthias Krings, and his project is titled, "Taboo, Censorship and the Limits of Humour in African (Diaspora) Stand-up Comedy." The project is aimed at critically engaging with stand-up practice in Africa and its diaspora, with a view to catalyzing interest in this art form which has become one of the most popular entertainment genres on the continent. The project's point of emphasis is to examine how location, audience constitution and the dynamics of their responses, as well as other social-cultural attributes of the performance milieu constrain comedians to remain within the bounds of allowed humour through self-censorship. The project thus examines specifically how individual comedians strike their balance between amusement and abuse.

Visiting scholar (funded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation)

May 2020 – April 2022

Sambulo Ndlovu

Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe

Sambulo Ndlovu is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of African Languages and Culture at the Great Zimbabwe University. He received his Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Cape Town, focusing on the sociolinguistics of youth language along the age, sex, urbanity and class variables, using S'ncamtho – the Zimbabwean Ndebele-based youth variety – as a case study. He is an Alexander von Humboldt post-doctoral research fellow from 1 May 2020 to 30 April 2022 at ifeas and is hosted by Nico Nassenstein. His research project is titled "Formation patterns, social impact and pragmatics of address terms and hypocorisms in African urban youth languages: The case of S'ncamtho in Bulawayo." The study focuses on lexicalization and usage of lexis in youth varieties it is a combination of onomastics and pragmatics in youth language analysis. He seeks to locate youth varieties at the point of interlocution with other age groups and in contexts outside the urban youth culture. The interlocutions are bound to affect both youth and standard languages as different situations may require accommodation and compromise. The study aims at characterizing address terms and hypocorism in S'ncamtho and applying a linguistic analysis to determine the derivational formation patterns, after the linguistic analysis, the study seeks to test the influence of S'ncamtho address terms and hypocorisms along the dimensions of age, sex and setting from the points of knowledge and pragmatic usage. The pragmatics of usage is evaluated within kinship, friendship, formal and work environments. The research is framed on the theories of Social Impact and Social Practice whereby S'ncamtho address terms and hypocorisms are analyzed and evaluated along the dimensions of spread and pragmatic use. Since his arrival in Mainz, he has researched youth culture, coloniality, Ndebele culture, and Othering on his research on the nexus between names, naming, address, and culture.

M.A. AND B.A. THESES

M.A. theses submitted in 2021

Reichl, Elena Maria

*Einen Fluss steuern? – Hilfs- und Kontrollpraktiken in einer staatlichen Unterkunft für Transitmigrant*innen im südlichen Costa Rica.* (Drotbohm)

Wessling, Antonia

*Alte Debatten in neuem Gewand: Staatliche Regulation des Handels mit Wachsdruckstoffen in Ghana aus der Perspektive von Händler*innen.* (Röschenthaler)

B.A. theses submitted in 2021

Armbrust, Lukas

Zwischen Lehnstuhl und Völkerschau. Verflechtungen der ethnologischen Fachgeschichte mit der Zurschaustellung "exotischer" Menschen in Deutschland. (Kilian)

Bindges, Sarah Rosa

Postkoloniale Perspektiven auf Freiwilligenarbeit und Umweltschtuz bei den Bribri Salitre (Nassenstein).

Bröske, Junis Charlisle

*Kinship jenseits des Ideals der US-amerikanischen Kernfamilie – Trans*Perspektiven auf Wahlverwandtschaften.* (Dorsch)

Delgado Faust, Pablo Matthias

Die Konzeptualisierung von Agency in der ethnologischen Migrationsforschung. (Drotbohm)

Henn, Magdalena

Die Praxis des Homecoming von Afroamerikanern in Ghana. (Drotbohm)

Kaltofen, Melanie Marie

Schamanismus im kontemporären Südkorea: Mudang im Diskurs um Tradition und Moderne innerhalb einer symmetrischen Anthropologie. (Dorsch)

Khan, Alina

Multiperspektivität: Rücksendungen in interkulturellen Partnerschaften aus der Perspektive von Sendern und Empfängern. (N'Guessan)

Knörzer, Isabelle

Aktivistische Perspektiven auf koloniales Erbe in Frankfurt am Main. (N'Guessan)

Köhn, Thibaut

Risikobestimmung oder Diskriminierung? Zur Kategorisierung von Menschen während der Covid-19-Pandemie. (Kilian)

Maderstein, Alexandra

Afrikarepräsentationen auf ausgewählten Produkten in einem Hamburger Supermarkt. (Dorsch)

Maramba, Martina

Thomas Mapfumos musikalische Entwicklung während des Unabhängigkeitskrieges in Simbabwe in den 1970er Jahren. (Dorsch)

Merbitz-Zahradnik, Matthias Christian David

Yinka Shonibare – The Scramble for Africa. Eine Installation der Berliner Konferenz im postkolonialen Kontext. (Kilian)

Neff, Ann-Kathrin

"It's not revenge... It's redemption": Roye Okupes afrofuturistische Graphic Novel E.X.O. – The Legend of Wale Williams *als Gegenentwurf zu negativ-stereotypen Vorstellungen von Afrika*. (Oed)

Roggendorff, Nils

Die Debatte um Nachhaltigkeit in der Textilindustrie – Eine Analyse aus ethnologischer Sicht am Beispiel Afrikas. (Verne)

Rother, Sarah Constanze

Imbolo Mbues Problematisierung des amerikanischen Traums in Behold the Dreamers. (Oed)

Trần, Daniela Khánh Duyên

Fernbeziehung mit den Toten. Ahnen- und Geisterverehrung in und jenseits von Vietnam. (Brandstetter)

Valdés Stauber, Anna Laura

Kulturelle Aneignung als Vorwurf – Eine identitätspolitische Debatte. (Dorsch)

Vandergrift, Maraike

Katyń und die polnische Erinnerungskultur – Welche Opfer zählen mehr? (Brandstetter)

Walter, Sophie-Marie

Welche Symbole erschaffen im Film "Black is King" ein ästhetisches diasporisches Zusammengehörigkeitsgefühl? (Dorsch)

STUDENT STATISTICS

In the winter semester of 2021/2022, the Department of Anthropology and African Studies had 355 students in total, including students enrolled in one of the B.A. or M.A. programmes as well as numerous Ph.D. students.

B.A. programs

In the winter semester of 2021/2021, 317 students were enrolled for the B.A. in Anthropology ("Ethnologie"). Of these, 122 were studying it as their major subject ("Kernfach") while 195 were studying it as their minor subject ("Beifach").

In the summer semester of 2021, 30 B.A. students were enrolled in their first semester (6 with Anthropology as their major and 24 with Anthropology as a minor).

In the winter semester of 2021/22, 45 B.A. students were enrolled in their first semester (11 with Anthropology as their major and 34 with Anthropology as a minor).

19 students finished their B.A. in 2021.

M.A. program

In the winter semester of 2021/22, 31 students were enrolled in the M.A. program in Anthropology ("Ethnologie").

2 students finished their M.A. in 2021.

Ph.D. program

In 2021, 27 Ph.D. students were studying for a Ph.D. at the department. For a full list of the Ph.D. projects completed in 2021 and students currently studying for a Ph.D. at the department, see pp. 29–31.

ERNST WILHELM MÜLLER FOUNDATION / ERNST-WILHELM-MÜLLER-STIFTUNG

Ernst Wilhelm Müller (1925–2013), professor at the department until 1986, established the foundation in his last will and testament in order to support projects of the African Music Archives, the Ethnographic Collection, and the Jahn Library for African Literatures.

Ernst Wilhelm Müller a.k.a. Ewe Müller was closely connected with the department for many years. In 1948 he enrolled at the JGU to study cultural and social anthropology (Ethnologie) as well as African linguistics (Afrikanistik). Afterwards, he became a doctoral student at the department and participated in one of the first German field research trips of the post-war period, the so-called "Mainzer Kongo-Expedition," which took him to the former Belgian Congo. Following his Ph.D., he took up posts as lecturer (1956–1958) and, eventually, as full professor at the department (1969–1986).

From his student days, throughout his academic career and, in fact, until the end of his life Ernst Wilhelm Müller felt a very strong attachment to the department and, most especially, the department's major three collections. This certainly has to do with the fact that he himself was either involved in their creation or played a central role in bringing them to the department, ensuring their curation and further development.

Last year, the foundation commenced work (https://www.ifeas.uni-mainz.de/ewms/). Two projects were approved by the foundation in 2021:

- Digitization of objects from the Ethnographic Collection originating from colonial contexts (June–December 2021);
- Original recordings of 20th-century African writers and musicians: digitization of historical tapes from the collection of German Africa journalist Gerd Meuer (1941–2017) (November 2021 – April 2022).

Ernst Wilhelm Müller with his research assistant Boóto during the Congo journey 1951–1954.
Photographed by Erika Sulzmann.