

SHIFTING DYNAMICS OF AMERICAN STUDIES

A WORKSHOP FOR
EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

OCT 12-13, 2018
UNIVERSITY OF SALZBURG
UNIPARK NONNTAL

KEYNOTE

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INFO & REGISTRATION

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Shifting Dynamics of American Studies

A Workshop for Early Career Researchers by Austria's Young Americanists
Salzburg University, October 12-13, 2018

Recent academic trends point to the increasing importance of interdisciplinary approaches and multi-faceted perspectives. The focus on intersectionality in gender studies, the shift in cultural studies towards transnational approaches and decolonizing methodologies, or the transmedial expansion of narratology, to name just a few, all engender an expansive critical perspective that transgresses the boundaries of individual disciplines and theoretical discourses. These trends exemplify a desire to bridge the gaps between academic fields and promote a self-reflexive engagement with their respective limitations.

This workshop seeks to explore the dynamic interrelations connecting the variety of theoretical discourses that currently dominate the field of American Studies. As last year's AYA conference illustrated, the diversified and multi-disciplinary "Future(s) of American Studies" include cultural studies and (trans)national perspectives to body and gender politics as well as innovative approaches to film/comic/literary studies. This year's AYA workshop provides the opportunity for in-depth investigations of current trends in contemporary American studies by placing a focus on shifting dynamics in the field. It encourages participants to engage with critical interdisciplinary perspectives that re-negotiate established cultural categories while directing attention to transgressions and fluid boundaries. This enables broader and more inclusive perspectives on topical research issues. Against the backdrop of their own research focus, we invite participants to discuss the gaps that separate disciplines, media, and cultures and approach them as subversive spaces to negotiate meaning.

While this workshop is primarily designed to provide a forum for PhD students, advanced MA students as well as interested Post-Doc scholars in American Studies are welcome to discuss their research and receive input from their peers as well as established scholars in the field. We encourage submissions of presentation topics that originate from, but are not limited to, the following research areas:

- Media Studies
- Literary Studies
- Gender Studies
- Diaspora Studies
- Genre Studies
- Indigenous Studies
- Transnational American Studies
- Postcolonial Studies
- Ecocriticism
- Inter- and Transmediality
- Film Studies
- etc.

We invite paper proposals of up to 250 words from interested MA, PhD, and Post-Doc scholars at any stage of their research with an additional scholarly biography of up to 100 words.

Please send your abstracts to austriasyoungamericanists@gmail.com by **August 17, 2018**. Notifications of acceptance will be sent out by August 31, 2018. For more information visit our website: www.shifting-dynamics.com.

We look forward to your proposals!