Activity Report 2013-2014

by

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1. The Project

European History in Global Context
– A joint research-project –

a. Aims and Objectives

This joint research project challenges two popular doctrines which have come up in cultural studies in the wake of two influential books: Edward Said’s *Orientalism* (1978) and Dipesh Chakrabarty’s *Provincializing Europe* (2000). Today, Said is seen as the founding-father of postcolonial studies, while Chakrabarty is considered to be one of its most eminent representatives. However, this project assumes that their approach to postcolonialism runs the risk of producing blurred results, especially with regard to the European impact on the design of the modern world. It argues that large sections of postcolonial studies so far have significantly overestimated the importance of the non-European factors and have almost dramatically ignored the complex process of Europe’s striving for the world, which has – since its first attempts in the 15th and 16th centuries – been marked by intense interaction between Europe and the non-European spheres. More suitable for a more reliable analysis of this process seems to be the agency approach as introduced by Homi Bhabha, Stephen Greenblatt, and others. Therefore this project understands Europe’s grip for the world and its consequences in modern history as “an activity of the contingent” with an inherent organizing principle, which has, in a complex and dynamic process, permanently transformed both Europe and large parts of the world. It is designed to carve out the basic patterns of this principle and will try to explain the process-mechanisms which have shaped today’s world. Therefore it is suitable to adjust our understanding of European global influence in modern history. The project is divided in five parts: (1) appropriate research in work-shops, (2) knowledge-transfer of the results in academic teaching, (3) dissemination of the results to a larger audience by (a) using relevant media and (b) the organization of a large travelling exhibition in cooperation with two major German museums, to be shown Europe-wide, (4) the writing of a monograph and (5) the execution of a project-related basic research project.

b. Methodology

The cultural studies variant of the agency-approach applied in this project seems particularly fruitful to generate new results on European history. It will use the European grip for overseas territories since the late 15th century as a mirror for the development of the European societies under the impact of contacts with non-Europeans. The agency-approach has deliberately been chosen as the primary methodological approach because “agency” stresses the self-determined activities of individuals, groups and societies. Agency rejects
deterministic images which tend to reduce human beings to servants of superior processes. Although Homi Bhabha, one of the postmodern founding fathers of the agency-approach, has stressed the danger of contingency related to human actions and reactions (activity of the contingent) and thus the implicit arbitrariness of findings, more recent studies in the natural and social sciences have shown that all systems, which might at first sight appear to be open, tend to develop self-organizing powers. If we understand European expansion and contacts with non-European civilizations as a basically open system, it is quite evident that the self-organization-powers of this open system have not only shaped Europe’s relations with the “other” but also transformed Europeans and European civilizations.

As the agency approach has not yet been applied to the investigation of European history this project will apply it to aspects of modern European history. For this purpose a three-part interdisciplinary team-taught lecture series has been set up. The first lecture series was held during the summer term 2014, the second one will take place in summer term 2015, and the third one during the summer term 2016 (cf. part 3 b of this report). Furthermore, a conference of agency-specialists not only from the historical disciplines (as the agency-approach is an interdisciplinary concept developed in a series of cultural studies) has been set up for November 2014 in Berlin (for the programme cf. part 3 c). The speakers and participants will apply the agency approach on a series of paradigmatic case studies with particular importance for European Modern history.

Their findings will not only be published in a book, but also be integrated into a web page and thus be accessible for an interested global public. Thus, the web page, which is currently under preparation, will frame a global discourse-community related to the application of the agency-approach on aspects of European history in global context. Furthermore, the PI of the project will write a monograph entitled *A maritime history of European civilization*. The book will be published in summer 2016.

In a third step, the findings have already been and will be tested in university courses, some of them in cooperation with interested school teachers (cf. part 3 a). In a joint venture between students, the PI, and school teachers, these courses will be designed to develop new teaching material for the usage in schools and other educational institutions.

A further action to disseminate the findings of this project is the organization of a travelling exhibition in cooperation with the Deutsches Historisches Museum (German Historical Museum) Berlin, in cooperation with a number of German and international scholars and museums (cf. part 4 a). Among them are the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin, the Deutsches Schifffahrtsmuseum, Bremerhaven, the Deutsches Marinemuseum, Wilhelmshaven, the Militärhistorisches Museum, Dresden, the Museum aan de Stroom, Antwerp, and the Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus. Further potential institutional co-operation partners will be invited to contribute to the exhibition. In connection with the preparation of the exhibition three preparatory workshops have already been held in Berlin and Cologne. The next preparatory workshop will take place in November 2014 in Berlin. The launch of a
smaller pilot version of the exhibition is currently scheduled for summer 2017 at the Moesgaard-Museum, Aarhus, as a contribution to the city’s role as the European Capital of Culture in 2017, whereas the opening of the full-scale version of the exhibition is envisaged for 2018 at the Berlin Gropius-Building. The Gropius-Building is among the few European exhibition places which offer an exhibition space of more than 2,500 square meters and thus is large enough to host the exhibition. It is also planned to show the exhibition later on Europe-wide and thus inform a large European audience about the findings of this project.

Finally, a genuinely basic research project has been in development since September 2013, which is closely related to the overall project. A basic assumption of the latter is that Europe’s striving for the world has – since its first attempts in the 15th and 16th centuries – been marked by intense interaction between Europe and the non-European spheres. This interaction took place via the seas, creating a dense global network. In this network ports have always played and still play an eminent role as hubs. However, our knowledge of the functionality of ports in this context is still very feeble. Therefore, for the purpose of improving our knowledge on the role of ports in European history and for the shaping of a European civilization, the project “European Ports: Repositories of European Cultural Heritage and Workshops of European Civilization” has been developed (cf. part 4 b).

The overall structure of the joint research-project therefore is as follows:
c. Innovative potentials of the project

The agency approach as described above has not yet been applied to Modern European history, therefore it is to be expected that this project will in fact generate significant new insights into the history of modern Europe and its position in the global context. It thus has high and innovative research potentials and will open new perspectives for historical research. With regard to the inherent global dimension this project opens a new field for Jean Monnet-funded research on European history, as it will link this particular research with a topic currently under discussion in cultural studies, the project thus will introduce Jean-Monnet-activities to the international community of cultural studies. It will also connect the PI, who is considered to be one of the leading experts on European integration history in Germany, with the Jean-Monnet-Scheme.

The PI’s attachment to the Section of Didactics of the University of Cologne’s (UoC) Department of History will also be a bridge between informed scholarly research and the education of primary and secondary school teachers – not only in Cologne, but Germany-wide, as the design of the PI’s chair (being in charge for teacher’s training) is unique not only Germany-, but Europe-wide. So far, there is, at least in Germany, no curriculum on European history for the usage at schools. Therefore the project is also well-suited to deliver new and innovative impulses for the development of such a curriculum.

The integration of students and school teachers in a course related to the application of the agency-approach on historical research on European history and ways to communicate related findings to school teaching via new teaching material is an innovative approach in teacher’s training schemes and will also safeguard both topicality and quality of the material that is to be disseminated.

There is furthermore no website available that is specially designed for an open discussion on aspects of modern European history. Therefore, the allocation of this website will create a digital space well-suited to discuss approaches and methods used in historiography with particular regard to European integration.

The concept of a large travelling exhibition that is to be shown Europe-wide is a unique approach to disseminate information on European history; while following the agency-approach the exhibition will also be timely and topical.

d. Expected impact

The outputs of this project will be used widely. First of all, it will enrich the scholarly debate on European history by applying a hitherto not utilized methodological approach. The agency-approach is therefore well-suited to include not only specialists of European history into the debate, but will also attract scholars from other historical sub-disciplines acting in
the fields of postcolonial studies, spatial studies, and cultural history, to name just a few. The project’s inherent trans- and interdisciplinary potentials will directly interlink historical research with the broader spectrum of cultural-studies-disciplines.

The second target-group are UoC’s students of history, both regular graduate- and postgraduate students who will be confronted with a new methodological approach to European integration history in a series of courses offered by the PI throughout the span of the project.

The third target-group will be students who are trained to become history teachers for primary and secondary schools. They will not only be confronted with new findings of scholarly research on European (integration) history but will also learn how to use this information in their future professional life. A part of them will also be involved in the development of new teaching material, based on the new findings generated by the project.

The fourth target-group will be active school teachers and, via their activities as history teachers, also the pupils of these teachers, who will, as a consequence of the involvement of these teachers in the project, receive a better and more informed school education in history. At least their teachers will most certainly devote more time for aspects of European (integration) history and they also will be able to look at historical topics through a European lens.

A fifth target group will be a wider European audience, which will be able to visit the travelling exhibition either in Berlin or elsewhere in Europe. It is to be expected that the exhibition will be shown for a period of at least five years (staying six months in one place = ten places in the span of five years). The duration of this exhibition and the public perception of it, which is to be expected, will also safeguard the sustainability of the information provided and ensure its reception by a very broad audience.

The aforementioned groups will all be potential users of the website which will offer them the opportunity to deliver their own contributions to the discourse of the history of Europe and European integration history.

The strategies to disseminate and exploit the project are manifold. First of all, the new methodological approach will have to be defined and sharpened by specialists in their individual fields. Therefore, the participants of the workshop dealing with the impact of the project on historical research in general will have to be handpicked. This selection method will safeguard high scholarly quality with regard to the agency-concept.

The results of the workshops will of course be published; the PI will also publish a monograph on European history as seen from the point of view of the agency-approach.

The academic teaching at university will reach graduate and postgraduate students of history who will get into closer contact with aspects of European (integration) history and will also learn to adjust their individual images of Europe’s global past and present role.
The website will not only introduce a new approach to European history, it will also create a global sphere of communication on aspects and methods of European (integration) history. The website will be online for an unlimited period of time and will therefore exploit the project’s outcomes long after its duration will have ended.

The integration of prospective and active school teachers into the development of a curriculum on European (integration) history and the development of new referring teaching material based on the project’s outcomes will contribute to the improvement of the standards of school teaching on European (integration) history significantly. It is also to be expected that this approach will be discussed in referring journals for history teachers and, therefore, cause the impact of the project not only to be far exceeding the Cologne-area, but it will also have significant national impact. In the best-case scenario this part of the project will stimulate a debate about the design of a Europe-wide approach on how to teach European (integration) history.

The travelling exhibition will present European history via a selection of historical landmarks and turning points. The agency-approach will have to be applied to the conception of the exhibition in order to minimize the risk of creating a kind of teleological picture. On the contrary, the agency-approach is well-suited to demonstrate that Europe’s interactions with the world have always been man-made and are all depending on the special cases that are under survey. The exhibition will also make clear that the various stages of European history as exhibited have to be all understood in the referring time-frames and that only the retrospective view on history suggests the image of a teleological process. The duration of the exhibition (at least five years) will also safeguard a broad public perception of the project that far exceeds its duration.
2. The Jean Monnet Chair for European History at the University of Cologne

a. Objectives

UoC’s Jean Monnet Chair for European History is residing in the section “Didactics of History and History of European Integration” of UoC’s Department of History. The combination of didactics of history and European history – including European integration history – constitutes the unique profile of the section. It provides an academic realm where European history and European integration history in its global context are subjects of research and teaching, including the imparting of knowledge into schools and the public. Apart from its regular duties the section is also arranging public lectures on topics of European history for a broader public and is fostering close contacts to local, regional, and national museums, as it has also developed a profile in museum didactics too.

b. The Team

Prof. Dr. Jürgen Elvert

Jürgen Elvert is a Jean Monnet Professor for European History and Professor of Modern History and History of European Integration at the University of Cologne (since 2001). He has been a guest lecturer at the University of Innsbruck in 1996/97, Senior Fellow at the Center for European Integration Studies at the University of Bonn from 1999 to 2005, and is currently Senior Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies (AIAS) of the University of Århus. After his military service in the German Navy and employment in the plant and machine building industry he studied history, English philology, educational science and sociology in Kiel and at Queen’s University, Belfast, and started his academic career as lecturer at the Christian-Albrechts-University, Kiel, where he stayed until 1999, in the end as assistant professor. His main areas of interest are: Modern European and European integration history, the history of the British Isles, intellectual and cultural history, and maritime history. He is the responsible editor of two scholarly journals, the review journal Das Historisch-Politische Buch and the peer reviewed journal Historische Mitteilungen. As editor he is also in charge of two scholarly book series, the Studies of the History of European Integration and Supplements to the “Historische Mitteilungen”. He is a member of multiple boards of various scholarly institutions and has been president of the Ranke-Gesellschaft, Vereinigung für Geschichte im öffentlichen Leben e.V., since 2000. He is also the speaker of the advisory board of the “Stiftung zur Förderung von Schifffahrts- und Marinegeschichte” and works as an expert and referee for numerous European institutions and foundations, among them: De Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NWO), Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, European Commission, Fonds de la
Dr. Philip Bajon

Philip Bajon received his combined French-German PhD in 2010 from the University Paris-Sorbonne and the University of Essen. He has been a fellow and a visiting lecturer at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies of the European University Institute Florence and at the Institute for European Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Philip has extensively published on the history of European Union, in particular on the constitutional crisis of the European Communities in 1965-6. He takes a great interest in the EU’s institutional history and in the current Euro- and sovereign debt crisis. Philip is now based at the University of Cologne, where he develops a second research focus on European maritime history in the 19th and 20th century. Collaborating with research institutions at Kiel, Hamburg, Bremerhaven and Bremen, in the UK and the US, he researches the history of European oceanography.

Martina Elvert B.A.

Martina Elvert studied Political Sciences and Roman Languages at the University of Bonn before she started to run her own business. Since 2006 she has been working as project manager at the Jean Monnet Chair for European history, where she is also in charge as copy editor of the review journal Das Historisch-Politische Buch. She is a graduate in cultural studies (focus: history) of the Hagen Open University and is currently working on her Master thesis about the impact of German migrants on 19th-century winegrowing in Australia and the development of an Australian-German cultural heritage.

Dr. Jens Ruppenthal

Jens Ruppenthal has been research assistant at the Jean-Monnet-Chair for European History at the University of Cologne since 2003. He received his PhD in 2006 from the Christian-Albrechts-Universität in Kiel. Since his PhD thesis dealt with connections between colonialism and science in imperial Germany he has extensively published on German colonial and postcolonial history as well as on collective memory studies concerning colonial history and the history of the Cold War. His current research activities are focused on maritime political and cultural history in 20th century Europe. He is currently writing a study on European Marine Environmental History.
PD Dr. Hermann-Josef Scheidgen

Hermann-Josef Scheidgen has been visiting lecturer at the Jean-Monnet-Chair for European History since 2008. His main research interests are related to modern European ecclesiastical history, intellectual history, and intercultural history. He has published widely to aspects of German and European history of the church and to aspects related to the borderline between history and philosophy.

Dr. Heinrich Walle

Commander (Rtd) (German Navy) Heinrich Walle has been visiting lecturer at the Jean-Monnet-Chair for European History since 2001. His main research interests are related to modern European maritime history, history of technology and history of shipbuilding and seafaring. He is deputy editor-in-chief of the journal Militär und Geschichte, copy editor of the journal Marineforum and chairman of the research-group „Historischer Schiffbau“. He has extensively published on the fields of military history, naval history, and history of technology.

Kristina Weiß

Kristina Weiß is student assistant at the Jean-Monnet-Chair for European History at the University of Cologne and is on the editorial for the Studies on the History of European Integration (SHEI). She studied French and history at the University of Cologne.

Sven Wunderlich

Sven Wunderlich is student assistant at the Jean-Monnet-Chair for European History at the University of Cologne, is on the editorial for the Studies on the History of European Integration (SHEI) and responsible for the homepage of the Didaktik der Geschichte und Geschichte der Europäischen Integration. He studied history and philosophy at the University of Cologne and is also acting as tutor for theoretical philosophy.
c. Publications

Jürgen Elvert

A. Monographs

A maritime history of European Civilization (contracted with DVA – A Random House Company, manuscript due 31 March 2016)

Walter Hallstein. Eine biographische Skizze (Muster-Schmidt Verlag, Göttingen) (manuscript due autumn 2015)


Zur gegenwärtigen Verfassung der Europäischen Union. Einige Überlegungen aus geschichtswissenschaftlicher Sicht (Discussion Paper C 148), Zentrum für Europäische Integrationsforschung, Bonn 2005


Mitteleuropa! Deutsche Pläne zur europäischen Neuordnung (1918-1945), (Historische Mitteilungen, Beiheft 35), Steiner, Stuttgart 1999


Vom Freistaat zur Republik. Der außenpolitische Faktor im irischen Unabhängigkeitsstreben, 1921 - 1948, Brockmeyer Studienverlag, Bochum 1989

B. Collected Essays / Anthologies

Das maritime Europa. Das Meer und seine Bedeutung für die Geschichte Europas in der Neuzeit (in preparation)

Geschichte jenseits der Universität. Netzwerke und Organisationen in der frühen Bundesrepublik (in preparation)

Memoria e Identidad del Mediterráneo. Las relaciones exteriores y políticas de la Unión Europea y la cooperación en el Mediterráneo (zus. m. E. Moradiellos, in print)


Ces Chers Voisins. L’Allemagne, la Belgique et la France en Europe du XIXe au XXIe siècles. Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart 2010 (zus. m. M. Dumoulin u. S. Schirmann)


Continuity, Evolution and Breakdowns (Cuadernos de Yuste, 5), P.I.E. Peter Lang S.A., Brüssel 2008 (zus. m. Sylvain Schirmann)

Nationalsozialismus und Kulturwissenschaften, Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart 2008 (zus. m. J. Nielsen-Sikora)

Relaciones entre Europa y Rusia en los siglos XIX y XX (zus. m. E. Bussière, M. Dumoulin u. S. Schirmann) (Cuadernos de Yuste 2), Fundación Academia Europea de Yuste, Cuacos de Yuste 2005


Deutschland 1949-1989. Von der Zweistaatlichkeit zur Einheit, 238 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 2002 (zus. m. F. Krüger)

Historische Debatte und Kontroversen im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert, 288 Seiten, Steiner, Stuttgart 2001 (zus. m. S. Krauß)

Deutsch-skandinavische Beziehungen nach 1945, 233 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 2000 (zus. m. R. Bohn u. K.C. Lammers)


Der Balkan. Eine europäische Krisenregion in Geschichte und Gegenwart, 368 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 1997

Kriegsende im Norden, 384 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 1995 (zus. m. R. Bohn)

Nordirland in Geschichte und Gegenwart / Northern Ireland – Past and Present, 576 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 1994


Der Umbruch in Osteuropa, 256 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 1992 (zus. m. M. Salewski)

Kiel, die Deutschen und die See, 204 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 1992 (zus. m. J. Jensen u. M. Salewski)


Neutralität und totalitäre Aggression. Nordeuropa und die Großmächte im Zweiten Weltkrieg, 448 S., Steiner, Stuttgart 1991 (zus. m. R. Bohn, M. Salewski u. H. Rebas)

C. Articles

About 120 scholarly articles, essays and other contributions to refereed and non-refereed scholarly journals, collections of essays etc., plus ca. 150 reviews since 1989
Jens Ruppenthal

A. Monograph

B. Collected Essays / Anthologies

C. Articles in international, refereed journals


Philip Bajon

A. Monograph

B. Articles in international, refereed journals

C. Book chapters

D. Reviews
d. Activities
i. Teaching

Jürgen Elvert

Winter-term 2013/2014
Europas Griff um die Welt im 16. Jahrhundert
This lecture was designed to introduce the participants into the general outlines of Europe’s embrace of the world in the 16th century. Starting point was the rise and fall of the early 15th-century Chinese maritime empire in the Indian Ocean, followed by the establishment of the Portuguese and Spanish early colonial empires and the attempts of their rivals to also profit and to find alternative sea routes to Southeast Asia. As the agency-approach was applied in all courses taught in the framework of this project as listed later on in this report, Europe’s embrace of the world in the 16th century was presented by a selection of representative contemporary actors.

Der agency-approach. Ein neuer Zugang zur europäischen Geschichte
This course tried to contextualize the theoretical genesis of the agency-approach as a methodological tool of cultural studies within the framework of the methodological debate in historical sciences in general and in European and Global History in particular. Again, a selection of representative theoretical reflections were taken into consideration and used as starting points for fruitful and advanced discussions among the participants which raised their awareness of the potentials and limits of agency.

Dekolonisation und Dekolonisateure im 20. Jahrhundert
This course looked at Europe’s embrace of the world from the end. Its aim was to identify a representative set of political agents who inspired the process of decolonization in European colonies in the 20th century. Their individual biographies had been subject to analysis as well as their individual education to show their personal coinage and the intellectual framework in which they developed their ideas for national independence of their home countries. In spite of their different backgrounds the course was able to show that the majority of decolonization-actors received their education in the later to become former colonial “motherlands” and thus used to a large extend European theories of the state to define their individual concepts of national independence.

Europäische Unternehmer als globale Akteure im 19. Jahrhundert
European colonialism and imperialism flourished in the 19th century and in the end culminated in the age of imperialism. This course was designed to identify the role of European entrepreneurs as actors on the colonial stage. It brought the motives and strategies of the selected actors into focus, tried to identify their perception of the potentials and limits of colonial economies, and also to identify their strategies, whether they might have been successful or failed.
Niederländische Kaufleute als globale Akteure im 17. Jahrhundert

The Dutch „golden age” of the 17th century can only be understood in the context of the successful implementation of the Dutch trading empire in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans. The course took a selection of representative Dutch traders and ship-owners into perspective and tried to explain their strategies as well as the repercussions of their actions on the Dutch social and economic structures, which as a matter of fact had been vastly copied by other European agents. The course was able to show that it had to a large extent been the Dutch actors in the Netherlands and overseas who had been taken up as role-models by other European societies.

Summer-term 2014

Europas Griff nach der Welt im 17. Jahrhundert

This lecture was designed to introduce the participants into the general outlines of the basic features of the constitution of the European colonial empires in the 17th century. Again it focused on a selection of representative European actors and institutions, such as the trading companies set up by European private companies or by European rulers in various parts of the world. The lecture shed light on the individual motives of the participants and it also focused on the transfer of knowledge from Europe into the outer European spaces as well as from outer Europe to Europe. Knowledge was a prerequisite for successful acting overseas, but also the fundament for the development of the European knowledge society of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Die Väter der Europäischen Integration

This course identified a set of prominent European statesmen of the 20th century who actively participated in the establishment of the European integration process post World War II. It took the individual biographies into perspective and tried to identify the coinage of “European thought” against the background of personal war- and occupation experiences. The course also tried to explain the European discourse which had started shortly after the war and which created a special European dynamic as the central precondition for the integration process.

Europäische Kolonialgouverneure und –verwalter im 19. Jahrhundert

How did European colonial powers tried to implement the politics of the motherland in the colonies in the 19th century? This course tried to explain this mechanism by selecting a set of representative leading colonial civil servants from various European colonial powers. It took the individual personal biographies into perspective and also tried to explain the performances of the agents against the background of their societal origin and professional career.

Der britisch-niederländische Kolonialantagonismus im 18. Jahrhundert

The English-Dutch antagonism of the 18th century marks the shift from Dutch to English predominance in European colonialism. Taking a set of representative actors of both Dutch and English origin into perspective the course tried to explain the motives behind the actions
taken on both sides. It became clear that a central problem of the Dutch actors had been their focus on the trading empire in the Malaysian archipelago whereas the English actors had been more flexible with regard to space and trading goods.

Martina Elvert

Summer-term 2014
"Waltzing Mathilda". Deutsche Auswanderer in Australien
This course first gathered information concerning Australia's discovery, settlement, and immigration through reading material. Afterwards, exemplary lives and accomplishments of Germans were examined through various groups of individuals: This involved discoverers (Leichhardt), explorers (Dietrich, Lommel, Menge), prospectors and adventurers (Holtermann, Rasp, Bertram), scientists (Neumayer, von Müller, Petermann, Menge), emigration agents (Heussler), artists (Sievvers), merchants and winegrowers (Grampp), migrant workers (Hoffmeister), and missionaries (Strehlow). And finally, the focus was laid on the state of the German-Australian relationship in the face of rising National Socialism.

Jens Ruppenthal

Winter-term 2013/2014
Vom „Führer-Mythos“ zum Hitler-Kult
The seminar was designed to impart knowledge about the history of National Socialism, especially the construction and representation of political power and leadership personally connected to Adolf Hitler, the role of propaganda and of ideology in Nazi Germany. Equally important was the intention to shed light on forms of appearance of the Fuehrer-Mythos in European collective memories as well as in commemorative culture up to nowadays. Students in the course were exceptionally engaged in finding and critically interpreting sources relating to both key aspects of the seminar. The visit of a documentation center and memorial in Cologne was part of the seminar. As a result, the majority of the participants agreed on the fact, that the contents exceeded merely academic significance.

Summer-term 2014
Zeit-Raumsonden – Räume in der Geschichtswissenschaft
The seminar’s aims were to compile and to discuss different concepts of spatial perspectives in historical science and to apply them to concrete historical problems such as armistice agreements and annexations as results of wars in Europe, the role of maritime spaces in European collective memories, spatial aspects of diasporas overseas or the meaning of space concerning European lieux de mémoire. The approach of the course turned out to be a challenge from a didactical point of view since theoretical issues are rather seldom focal
point of seminars on this level. Hence, it has to be admitted that debates and conclusions in
the group were tough, although on the other hand thinking about spatial questions was
accepted and appreciated as a means to open new perspectives on various topics. Especially
the comprehensive character of the approach concerning epochs as well as nation states or
other familiar entities was positively valued.

Philip Bajon

Winter-term 2013/2014
Wegmarken der Europäischen Integration nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg
This course was an introduction to the history of European integration after World War Two. Special emphasis was given to the formative period of European integration between 1950 and 1969, in particular the signing of the Rome Treaties and the period of crises and compromises between 1963 and 1969. Gaullist Foreign and European policy and its consequences were intensely debated in class along with theories and concepts of European integration, such as neo-functionalism and federalism. The course also included a tutorial in scientific writing and presentation skills.

Summer-term 2014
Krisen und Erfolge der Europäischen Integration 1958-2013
This course reviewed the present crisis of European Union in historical perspective. Looking back to the period of Gaullist challenge in the 1960s, students explore diverging theories and conceptions of European integration. Studying the Relance européenne of the 1980s, the Treaty of Maastricht and the subsequent institutional reforms as well as the Eastern enlargement, students reconstructed the historical formation of the present day EU. Special attention was given to the current Euro- and sovereign debt crisis, in particular in Greece, Italy, Spain, and Portugal.

Heinrich Walle

Summer-term 2014
Piraterie vom Mittelalter bis zur Neuzeit
Piracy is a form of injustice that has been committed since antiquity. Due to the fact that the victims of armed robbery onboard the targeted merchant vessels did not often get away with their lives, piracy is said to be one of the most brutal forms of crime. In this exercise seminar, examples from five centuries were used to demonstrate that the most effective and permanent way of fighting piracy was not by confronting the pirates at sea, but by taking away their land bases.
Hermann-Josef Scheidgen

Summer-term 2014
Assimilation und Kulturtransfer im Zeitalter der europäischen Entdeckungen
This seminar explored the cultural aspects of the European expansion between the 15th and 18th centuries. While Portugal and Spain were the leading sea powers during the threshold between the Middle Ages and the modern era, the Netherlands, England, and France dominated the European expansion during the 17th and 18th centuries. Further focal points of this course had been the ethnology of the indigenous peoples, the economic history ranging from mercantilism up to the early form of liberalism, and the history of science with a focus on seafaring, geography, and the natural sciences. Furthermore, the objectives of the Christian churches, the trade companies, and those of individual seafarers were discussed. Finally, the question behind the long-scale impact of the eurocentric thought formed during that time and its affect on us – whether consciously and unconsciously – had been explored.
## ii. Summary of Teaching Activities

### Winter-term 2013/2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Titel of activity</th>
<th>Numbers of Students</th>
<th>Hours per Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europas Griff um die Welt im 16. Jahrhundert</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Der agency approach. Ein neuer Zugang zur europäischen Geschichte</td>
<td>Advanced Course</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dekolonisation und Dekolonisateure im 20. Jahrhundert</td>
<td>Advanced Course</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europäische Unternehmer als globale Akteure im 19. Jahrhundert</td>
<td>Advanced Seminar</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niederländische Kaufleute als globale Akteure im 17. Jahrhundert</td>
<td>Advanced Seminar</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vom „Führer-Mythos“ zum Hitler-Kult</td>
<td>Proseminar</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wegmarken der Europäischen Integration nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg</td>
<td>Advanced Seminar</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summer-term 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Titel of activity</th>
<th>Numbers of Students</th>
<th>Hours per Week</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europas Griff nach der Welt im 17. Jahrhundant</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Die Väter der Europäischen Integration</td>
<td>Advanced Course</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thema</td>
<td>Veranstaltung</td>
<td>Kursnummer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europäische Kolonialgouverneure und -verwalter im 19. Jahrhundert</td>
<td>Advanced Course</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Der britisch-niederländische Kolonialantagonismus im 18. Jahrhundert</td>
<td>Advanced Seminar</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Waltzing Mathilda&quot;. Deutsche Auswanderer in Australien.</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeit-Raumsonden – Räume in der Geschichtswissenschaft</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krisen und Erfolg der Europäischen Integration 1958-2013</td>
<td>Advanced Seminar</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piraterie vom Mittelalter bis zur Neuzeit</td>
<td>Seminar</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assimilation und Kulturtransfer im Zeitalter der europäischen Entdeckungen</td>
<td>Advanced Seminar</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### iii. Interdisciplinary Team-taught Lecture Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.04.14</td>
<td>Hiram Morgan, Ph.D. (UCC Cork)</td>
<td>Subaltern Imperialists: Irish servants of European Empire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.04.14</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Jürgen Elvert (Köln)</td>
<td>Der Agency-Ansatz. Ein neuer Zugang zur europäischen Geschichte?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.04.14</td>
<td>Dr. Heinrich Walle (Köln)</td>
<td>Vom Mythos zur Ratio: Reflexionen über die Gründe der europäischen Expansion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.04.14</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Reinhard (Freiburg)</td>
<td>Zehn kleine Negerlein. 550 Jahre Missachtung und Selbstbehauptung der Afrikaner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.05.14</td>
<td>Dr. Jens Ruppenthal (Köln)</td>
<td>Zeus und Poseidon in Verhandlung. Die Nutzung maritimer Ressourcen in Europa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28.05.14</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Ulrich Fellmeth (Stuttgart-Hohenheim)</td>
<td>Antike Gesellschaften und das Meer. Selbstorganisation und Interaktionen mit dem Fremden.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04.06.14</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Jochen Oltmer (Osnabrück)</td>
<td>Migration und europäische Expansion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.06.14</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Robert Bohn (Flensburg/Schleswig)</td>
<td>Durch Seeraub zu Seemacht.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.07.14</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Hasso Spode (Berlin)</td>
<td>Provincializing Asia: Was heißt und zu welchem Ende studiert man europäische Geschichte?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.07.14</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Jürgen Elvert (Köln)</td>
<td>Abschlussdiskussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
iv. The Workshop

Do. 06.11.2014
14:00: Treffen der Teilnehmergruppe „Vorbereitung Ausstellung“
Fr. 07.11.2014
09:30: Eröffnung und Begrüßung
09:45: Dietmar Rothermund, Heidelberg
Zur Frage der Anwendbarkeit des Agency-Ansatzes auf die europäische Expansionsgeschichte
11:30: Ulrich Fellmeth, Stuttgart-Hohenheim
Meer und Häfen in der europäischen Antike
12:00: Markus A. Denzel, Leipzig
Seefahrt als Determinante des interkontinentalen Zahlungsverkehrs in der Vormoderne
14:30: William Marshall, Stirling
Agents of the „French Atlantic“

15:00: Wolfgang Reinhard, Freiburg
Wie aus Opfern Täter wurden Diskussion
16:30: Klaus Schwabe, Aachen
Monnet und Amerika
17:00: Philipp Robinson Rössner, Manchester

Sa., 08.11.2014
09:30: Michael Jeismann, Dakar
10:00: Hasso Spode, Berlin
Max Weber und die Europäizität des Kapitalismus
11:30: Gerd Hoffmann-Wieck, Kiel
Die Geschichte der Meeresforschung und ihre mögliche Visualisierung in der Ausstellung „Europa und das Meer“
v. The Homepage

The homepage is currently still under construction. The next report will contain more information on the structure, design, and function of the website.

3. Related projects

a. The exhibition-project

Between June 2013 and May 2014 three preparatory workshops took place.

First preparatory workshop:

Location: Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum
Date: 07. Juni 2013
Duration: 11:00-17:00 Uhr
Participants:

Dr. Philip Bajon (Universität zu Köln)
Prof. Dr. Markus Denzel (Universität Leipzig)
Martina Elvert (Universität zu Köln)
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Elvert (Universität zu Köln)
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hasberg (Universität zu Köln)
Dr. Gerd Hoffmann-Wieck (Geomar Kiel)
Prof. Dr. Sunhild Kleingärtner (Deutsches Schifffahrtsmuseum Bremerhaven)
Prof. Dr. Alexander Koch (Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum Berlin)
Dr. Jens Ruppenthal (Universität zu Köln)
Prof. Dr. Hasso Spode (TU Berlin/ Universität Hannover)
PD Dr. Dr. Ulrich van der Heyden (Berlin)
Dr. Heinrich Walle (Deutsches Maritimes Institut/DGSM)
Prof. Dr. Reinhard Wendt (FernUniversität Hagen)
Bouya Fall (Goethe Institut Dakar, Senegal)

Second preparatory workshop:

Location: Universität zu Köln, HF-Fakultät, Department Heilpädagogik, Sitzungsraum 22
Date: 30. Oktober 2013
Duration: 11:00-17:00 Uhr
Participants:

Dr. Philip Bajon (Universität zu Köln) (PB)
Prof. Dr. Markus Denzel (Universität Leipzig) (MD)
Martina Elvert (Universität zu Köln) (ME)
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Elvert (Universität zu Köln) (JE)
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hasberg (Universität zu Köln) (WH)
Dr. Gerd Hoffmann-Wieck (Geomar Kiel) (GHW)
Mag. Dominik Kimmel (Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum, Mainz) (DK)
Prof. Dr. Alexander Koch (Stiftung Deutsches Historisches Museum, Berlin) (AK)
Prof. Dr. Christoph Marx (Universität Duisburg-Essen) (CM)
Prof. Dr. Jochen Oltmer (IMIS u. Universität Osnabrück) (JO)
Dr. Jan Parmentier (Museum aan de Strom, Antwerpen) (JP)
The central question of the research-project entitled “European Ports: Repositories of European Cultural Heritage and Workshops of European Civilization” has evolved from the intensive debates within research-teams related to a) the Jean-Monnet-project and b) the exhibition-project. The project-design is currently under preparation. For this purpose a European-wide research-network is currently in the process of being set up.