

Course Format & Requirements

- ✓ **Duration:** 12-14 weeks (full German university term)
- ✓ **Language:** English or French
- ✓ **Format:** long-distance e-learning, courses are taught on a biweekly basis (double sessions)
- ✓ **Course requirements:**
 - critical reading of the texts provided by the lecturers
 - written assignments for each session
 - regular participation in online discussion forum and chats
 - submission of a final term paper
- ✓ **Entry requirements:**
 - enrolment in a university program (second-year level or above)
 - proficiency in English or French
 - online access
 - interest in Canada
 - registration fee: 50 Euro (participants outside the Euro Zone: 60 Euro)

Contact & Registration

Program coordinator for the **Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien**, information and registration:

Dipl. Dolm. Annekatriin Metz
(metzanne@uni-trier.de)

For further information please go to the website of the *Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien*: vcs.kanada-studien.de

What is VCS all about?

- ✓ it focuses on Canada and Canadian issues in the format of interdisciplinary courses,
- ✓ it is an opportunity to learn more about Canada through long distance E-learning,
- ✓ it is an easy access to resources on Canada worldwide,
- ✓ it provides access to courses by specialists on Canada from different German universities,
- ✓ it allows participants to earn credit points (from 3 to 7, based on chosen level) that can be used towards programs at home universities (Bachelor, Master etc.) (check with your own university before enrolling),
- ✓ students will receive a special certificate by the GKS testifying to their course participation,
- ✓ it is a great experience to get acquainted with new forms of learning and digital media.

This is an official program sponsored by the

Gesellschaft für Kanada-Studien (GKS) / Association of Canadian Studies in German-speaking Countries / L'association d' études canadiennes dans les pays de langue allemande



Virtual Canadian Studies

VCS Literature "Canadian Women on the Sea"

While, recently, there has been a turn to representations of the sea and the oceans in cultural and literary studies, the role of Canada within this transoceanic paradigm has not been as prominent as that of other transnational and archipelagic nations (see the United States or Indonesia). Whether narrating nineteenth century immigration from Ireland to Canada as in Jane Urquhart's *Away* (1993), attending to contemporary characters and their transoceanic links as does Dionne Brand in her novel *What We All Long For* (2005) or depicting a species of sea people as is the case in Nalo Hopkinson's *The New Moon's Arms* (2007), narratives by Canadian authors establish close links between characters and the sea and thus provide pertinent comments on Canada's status as a nation bound to water as well as post-colonial and feminist issues. This seminar will investigate the transoceanic relations in contemporary Canadian diasporic and indigenous literature by means of selected novels. Accordingly, it intends to unravel some of the common themes that these novels raise in regard to the ocean, the sea and 'sea people,' addressing the question of where diasporic and indigenous Canadian literature written by women can be situated within a wider transoceanic and transnational paradigm.

Course will start on April 16, 2020
(Registration deadline : April 9, 2020)

Instructor:
Dr. Lena Schneider, Saarbrücken
(lenaschneider_@gmx.de)

VCS Literature "Japanese-Canadian Writing"

After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941 brooding racism within Canada and the USA found its outlet in the deportation and interment of Canadian citizens of Japanese decent living in the coastal regions of North America. Entire families were uprooted and dispossessed, compelled to live in camps and to perform forced labor. We will be exploring this dark chapter of Canadian history with the aid of predominantly Japanese-Canadian authors, dwelling deep into the realm of fiction and memory. With the help of a diverse range of texts, from novel, to graphic narratives, children's books to memoirs, we will explore a Japanese-Canadian identity informed by the traumatic events around WWII that echo through generations.

Course will start on April 15, 2020
(Registration deadline: April 8, 2020)

Instructor:
Amanda Boyce, M.A., Trier
(boyce@uni-trier.de)

Selection of Previous Courses

- VCS English Literature "Robert Kroetsch: Novels, Bio-Texts, and the Canadian West", Dr. Markus M. Müller, Trier.
- VCS English Literature "Introduction to English-Canadian Literature", Dr. Lutz Schowalter, Trier.
- VCS Littérature francophone «Littérature québécoise et belge. Analogies et différences», Dr. Alex Demeulenaere, Trier.
- VCS Geography "Urban Canada", Prof. Dr. Ulrike Gerhard, Heidelberg.
- VCS History "Introduction to Canadian History", Dr. Petra Dolata, London.
- VCS English Literature "Multicultural Ideology in Canadian Children's Literature", Dr. Miriam Richter, Düsseldorf
- VCS Native Studies "First Nations, Eskimo, and Inuit of North-Eastern Canada", Renate Bartl, MA, München
- VCS Literature/Littérature "Canada and the U.S. Borders/Border Fictions", Diane Bélisle-Wolf, Mainz
- VCS Women and Gender Studies "Gender in Canadian Literature: Female Characters in Margaret Atwood's Short Stories", Tobias Schlosser, MA, TU Chemnitz.
- VCS English Literature/Popular Culture "An Introduction to Contemporary Canadian Science Fiction", Lars Schmeink, MA, MoHE, Hamburg.