

The Cuban Missile Crisis

Hybrid Teacher Seminar

Wednesday, October 05, 2022, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Andreas Etges, Amerika-Institut, LMU

Organizer: Recherchezentrum, Programme Schüler*innen und Lehrkräfte
Stiftung Bayerisches Amerikahaus gGmbH – Bavarian Center for Transatlantic Relations
Registration fee: € 10. Active participation is possible in-person or digitally.

60 years ago, in **October 1962**, the Cuban Missile Crisis brought the world to the brink of a nuclear war. Due to the declassification of many secret primary sources in the past decades a much more accurate description of the crisis and the broader historical context can be given. That includes the US policy against Cuba and its leader **Fidel Castro (Bay of Pigs invasion; CIA Operation Mongoose)**, Khrushchev's motivation to station nuclear weapons on Cuba, the respective crisis management, the use of media and backchannel diplomacy, Cuba's role, open and secret agreements, and the aftermath of the crisis with the beginning of **détente policy**. Numerous archival sources, film and audio clips, photos, cartoons, and movies will be presented and analyzed, including excerpts from the **declassified audio recordings President John F. Kennedy secretly made** of many of the meetings of his crisis team, a unique historical source.


Kennedy and Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, who both bear responsibility for the dangerous crisis, found a way to end the crisis peacefully and without the losing too much face. They also started to build trust and worked on détente agreements. With the dangers of a global confrontation caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Cuban Missile Crisis can provide lessons about crisis management and crisis resolution that once again could be of special relevance.

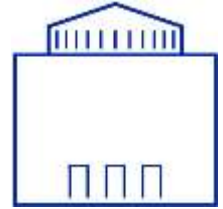
This teacher seminar is part of a larger program on the Cuban Missile Crisis 60 years after the so called "Thirteen Days." Under the direction of Dr. Andreas Etges, students of the Amerika-Institut of the University of Munich (LMU) will curate a **pop-up exhibit on the Cuban Missile Crisis to be shown at the Amerikahaus in the second half of October**. They will also create online content that will allow more in-depth discussion of the different issues and the inclusion of multimedia content. Students will also offer tours of their exhibit for high school students and others. In addition, a stage(d) reading of primary sources is planned.

Schedule:

- 09:00 The Cold War in the Early 1960s
- 09:30 Cuba and the United States
- 10:00 The Cuban Missile Crisis I: Deployment and Discovery of the Soviet Nuclear Missiles
- 10:45 Coffee break**
- 11:15 The Cuban Missile Crisis II: Escalation
- 12:00 The Cuban Missile Crisis III: Finding an Agreement
- 12:30 Lessons Learned: Détente and the Aftermath of the Cuban Missile Crisis
- 13:00 Open discussion
- 14:00 End

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Karolinenplatz 3, 80333 München

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The Hollywood Melodrama in the Classroom

Online Teacher Seminar

Friday, October 14, 2022, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Heike Paul, FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg

Organizer: Recherchezentrum, Programme Schüler*innen und Lehrkräfte
Stiftung Bayerisches Amerikahaus gGmbH – Bavarian Center for Transatlantic Relations
Registration fee: € 10

"Hollywood melodrama" usually refers to a **set of iconic films and their characteristic style**. The label evokes **powerfully sentimental plots** of suffering and sacrifice along with scenes of **romantic bliss and estrangement**, familial tragedy, fateful coincidences, and **happy (or not-so-happy) endings**. Ever since the emergence of the filmic formula in the first half of the 20th century, melodramas 'made in Hollywood' have been shown, on the one hand, to **address and critique social injustices** reflected in hierarchies of race, class, and gender in American society. Think, for instance, of Douglas Sirk's *All That Heaven Allows* (1955; starring Jane Wyman and Rock Hudson) and its critique of snobbish hypocrisy and class-based prejudice.

On the other hand, it has also been pointed out that Hollywood melodramas have nostalgically **affirmed systems of inequality** and have even condoned slavery. Thus, a film such as *Gone with the Wind* (1939) has been repeatedly at the **center of harsh controversy**. The sentimental politics of the melodrama are ambivalent to this day and can also be traced in remakes, sequels, and other cultural forms. In this seminar, we will discuss selected melodramas and examine the cultural work they have performed. We will also widen our perspective to look beyond Hollywood and at least briefly acknowledge more recent appropriations of the genre of the **melodrama in a postcolonial world**.

Schedule:

09:00 An Introduction to Hollywood Melodrama, Past and Present

09:30 Case Studies from the 1930s to 50s

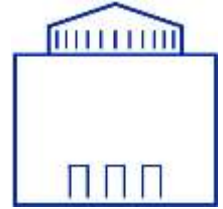
10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Case Studies from the 1960s to 90s

12:00 After 2000: From Hollywood to Bollywood, Nollywood and beyond

13:00 Open Discussion

14:00 End



“Say It Loud”: African American History and Music

Hybrid Teacher Seminar

Thursday, October 27, 2022, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Speakers: Ernest Butler, M.A., Dr. Bärbel Harju, LMU
Munich

Organizer: Recherchezentrum, Programme Schüler*innen und Lehrkräfte
Stiftung Bayerisches Amerikahaus gGmbH – Bavarian Center for Transatlantic Relations
Registration fee: € 10. Active participation is possible in-person or digitally.

This teacher seminar examines **African American history through music**. From work songs and spirituals of the times of slavery to jazz, blues, and bebop of the Harlem Renaissance; from the anthems of the Civil Rights Movement to hip hop and today’s diverse soundtrack of the #BlackLivesMatter movement, we will take a closer look at **how music reflects and shapes the cultural context** in which it is created and performed. In this interactive seminar we will explore the long and varied history of African American music by **analyzing iconic songs** against the background of the historical moment in which they were created. What is the role of music in protest movements? How does music represent and influence ideologies and to what extent does music project an agenda for social and political change? We will discuss musical examples by a range of artists, from the Fisk Jubilee Singers to Jelly Roll Morton, from Billie Holiday and Sam Cooke to Nina Simone, Aretha Franklin and James Brown, as well as NWA, Kendrick Lamar, and Beyoncé, among many others.

Schedule:

09:00 Introduction: African American Music and History

09:30 Slave Songs, Field Hollers, and Spirituals

10:00 Jazz and Blues: Sounds of the Harlem Renaissance

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 From the Anthems of the Civil Rights Movement to Black Power


11:45 Political Hip Hop and Conscious Rap

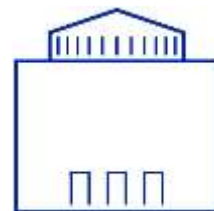
12:15 The Soundtrack of #Black Lives Matter

13.00 Open Discussion

14:00 End

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USA Update 2022

Hybrid Teacher Seminar

Friday, November 25, 2022, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Markus Hünemörder, LMU Munich

Organizer: Recherchezentrum, Programme Schüler*innen und Lehrkräfte
Stiftung Bayerisches Amerikahaus gGmbH – Bavarian Center for Transatlantic Relations
Registration fee: € 10. Active participation is possible in-person or digitally.

Nearly two years have passed since Joe Biden's inauguration as president, and the **2022 midterm elections** on November 8 have altered the make-up of Congress. In light of this, where does the United States stand? What **administrative and legislative reforms** have the Biden administration brought about and what changes are on the horizon considering the new members of Congress?

This seminar will look at central topics of American politics such as **international relations** and **economic policy**, as well as perennial issues like **immigration** and **racial justice**. Was the Democratic Party doomed to lose the congressional midterm elections a few weeks ago? And are there any signs of the Republican Party growing more independent of Donald Trump?

As usual, satirical cartoons and videos will provide comic relief on these often dark and serious issues.

Schedule:

09:00 The end and legacy of the Trump presidency

09:45 Foreign Policy Priorities and Challenges for the Biden Administration

10:30 Coffee Break


11:00 Domestic Priorities and Challenges for the Biden Administration

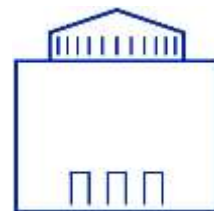
12:00 Midterm Elections, Local Politics and their Implications for the United States

13:00 Open Discussion

14:00 End

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State and Religion in the US: A Nation with the Soul of a Church

Online Teacher Seminar
Friday, December 09, 2022, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Speaker: Dr. Markus Hünemörder, LMU Munich

Organizer: Recherchezentrum, Programme Schüler*innen und Lehrkräfte
Stiftung Bayerisches Amerikahaus gGmbH – Bavarian Center for Transatlantic Relations
Registration fee: € 10

It is one of the **great American paradoxes**: few countries have a stricter separation of church and state than the USA, yet religion pervades both public life and politics to a degree unknown in most other democracies. This seminar will examine the **historical and political dimensions of church and state in the US**, with a focus on the development and effects of religious diversity in America as well the political controversies driven by religious issues such as contraception, abortion, school prayer, teaching evolution, and same-sex marriage. Political satire will help bring a **sense of humor** to these otherwise serious topics.

Schedule:

09:00 The Founding Fathers, the First Amendment, and Jefferson's "Wall of Separation"

09:45 Religious Diversity in America

10:45 Coffee Break

11:15 The Supreme Court and Religious Issues

12:00 The Religious is Political - The Emergence of Religious Conservatism

13:00 Open Discussion

14:00 End