

## COURSE INFORMATION

<b>EUPeace Alliance University</b>	Marburg University
<b>Course Title</b>	Introduction to North American Studies
<b>Department and/or Faculty</b>	FB10 Fremdsprachliche Philologien Department of Foreign Languages and Cultures
<b>Course Code</b>	LV-10-871-315
<b>Course Type</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Curricular <input type="checkbox"/> Non-curricular	<b>Course Modality</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online  <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous  <input type="checkbox"/> Both (A/S)ynchronous </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> In-person  <input type="checkbox"/> Lecture <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory </div> </div>
<b>Date</b>	14.10.2025 – 10.02.2026
<b>Language(s) of Instruction</b>	English
<b>Course Coordinator</b>	Prof. Dr. Carmen Birkle
<b>Course Instructor</b>	Prof. Dr. Carmen Birkle

## TARGET AUDIENCE

### Suitable as Pre-Service Teacher Training Course

☐ Pre-primary ☐ Primary ☒ Secondary Lower ☒ Secondary Upper ☐ Tertiary

### Suitable as In-Service Professional Development Course

☐ Pre-primary ☐ Primary ☐ Secondary Lower ☐ Secondary Upper ☐ Tertiary

### Suitable for non-student body

☐ Administrative staff ☐ Other

## TYPE – WORKLOAD – RECOGNITION

<b>Number of hours</b>	See under ECTS Credits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>ECTS Credits</b>	Clarify the scope of the course in consultation with the lecturer and your home university before the course begins.
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Certificate</b>	

## COURSE DESCRIPTION (EN/L1 [if taught in L1])

### Content

This lecture class will serve as a survey of the discipline of North American Studies as well as the literature and culture of the United States and, to some extent, of Canada and the English-speaking Caribbean. We will look at what North American Studies actually is and does and will exemplify our more theoretical insights with phenomena taken from literature and culture. American Studies by definition is interdisciplinary so that our examples will be taken from literature, history, film and TV, music and art and will show how their interaction and multiple perspectives help us to understand what we talk about when we talk about North America. Literary and cultural theory and practical analysis will be integrated. Our objects of analysis will range from Christopher Columbus's early letters to Europe all the way up to twenty-first-century presidential elections and inaugural speeches and representations of current protest movements such as #BlackLivesMatter and #MeToo. Significant historical moments such as the foundation of the United States, slavery and the Civil War, Native Americans and the Westward Movement including immigration and imperialism, the Harlem Renaissance and the Great Depression, the Civil Rights and Women's Rights Movements, 9/11, Artificial Intelligence, and the Corona crisis will be intertwined with literary texts, popular examples, and concepts and theories such as emancipation, gender, class, and ethnicity. Our socio-historical categories will be (im)migration, emancipation, and globalization. We will read and analyze one short story for each session. The password for this class is Introduction. But everyone who is registered on MARVIN will automatically be transferred to ILIAS.

### Competences & Learning Objectives

This course will serve to enhance critical thinking as a necessary objective in teaching (also in high school).

**LINK to Course Details** | Click [here](#)