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November 2011

AMERICAN STUDIES

the Americas Messenger

AMST
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50 Years in the Making!

American Studies forges ahead as the Program became a Department over the summer months!

Background: Through the commitment of Professors Robert G. Gunderson, Department of Speech and Theatre, Edwin H. Cady, Department of English, and Richard M. Dorson, Department of History and Folklore an interdisciplinary graduate seminar was developed. Funding was obtained from the National Defense Education Act (NDEA), Title IV Grant, and the "Graduate Program in American Studies" was adopted by the Graduate Council in January of 1964.

American Studies has had two external reviews; one in 2003 and another in 2009. The committees from both reviews recommended that the program be elevated to departmental status.

Through the years, many adjunct faculty members of American Studies have taught classes, served on committees, attended meetings, and have collaborated with us in hosting conferences, workshops, and seminars, and continue to do so. For this, we are extremely grateful.

Matt Guterl, Chair of the Department of American Studies, came to the program in July 2005.

He relates a common goal:

"Our hope is that a new department of American Studies will offer students an even broader and deeper set of interesting options in the classroom, and that it will even more significantly shape and complement ongoing college-wide and campus-wide conversations about interdisciplinary work, and especially those about the interdisciplinary study of the relations between United States, the Americas, and the world."

New Stand Alone PhD Degree and NAIS UG

Stand-alone PhD Degree

This recent addition to the graduate program gives students another avenue to deepen their knowledge about American Studies.

90 credit hours are required for the doctorate including:

AMST-G603; AMST-G604; AMST-G620; and four courses at the 700 level (Please visit our web site, http://graduates/phd.shtml, for details.)

Our first two PhD students:

Holly Mayne

Nzingha Kendall

NAIS UG Minor

Undergraduate students may now obtain a BA minor in Native American and Indigenous Studies by completing: AMST-A150 Introduction to Native American and Indigenous Studies; and a total of 15 cr. hrs. (at least six credit hours must be at or above the 300 level).

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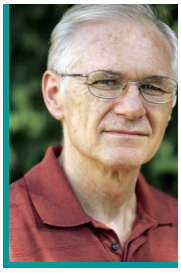
Special points of interest:

- *Honorary Professor*
- *Faculty Mentor Award*
- *Slavery in Indian Country*
- *NAIS Award*
- *IU Exchange Program*

Faculty Joins AMST

Robert L. Ivie



Professor Bob Ivie joined the AMST Core Faculty in July of this year. He is also a faculty member in the Department of Communication and Culture (CMCL).

Professor Ivie was recently named Honorary Professor in Rhetoric by the Department of Media, Cognition, and Communication at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. This title is awarded to academics with distinguished careers and helps to establish stronger ties between the professor and the University of Copenhagen. The appointment is for five years, 2010 through 2014.

He explains: "My relationship with the University of Copenhagen began when the faculty in rhetoric, which is a separate section within the Department of Media, Cognition, and Communication, advanced my nomination through the Department to the University." The head of the Rhetoric Section of the Department, Christian Kock, contacted Professor Ivie in December 2009 to ask if he would consider being nominated for the honorary appointment (Adjunct Professorship).

Professor Ivie travels yearly to the University of Copenhagen. His work there includes giving public lectures, colloquium discussions of his work with faculty and doctoral students, class discussions with graduate classes regarding the subject of rhetorical critique. His next trip is scheduled for April 2012.

Professor Kock writes:

"We are familiar with much of your work and have found it deeply insightful and congenial to our own interests. We are certain that not only our own research, but our students too would have much to gain by such an arrangement."

Ivie states: "This appointment, I believe, has potential for fostering productive relationships between faculty and students at the two universities. I would like to find ways to foster a two-way exchange of faculty and graduate students. Their investigations of rhetoric and civic discourse in a European context provides comparative context and enriching perspective for critical investigations of citizenship and political culture on this side of the Atlantic. The University of Copenhagen is one of Europe's leading research universities and my intellectual exchange with the faculty there has been enriching."

Michael T. Martin

Professor Michael Martin recently became part of the AMST team and holds an appointment in CMCL. Additionally, he is Director of the Black Film Center / Archive.

In September 2011, Michael presented his conference paper *Historical Trauma: Reading Slavery in the Cinematographic Archive* at the Articulations of Memory in Cinemas" conference. The subject of this interdisciplinary and bilingual (French and English) workshop is the articulations of memory in African, diasporaic, national, and black cinemas.

Abstract: This address engages with memory, its historicity and importance to cinematic accounts and readings of historical trauma. It is also about the relevance of memory to the project of "worldmaking."

Lessie J. Frazier

Associate Professor Lessie Jo Frazier recently became part of the American Studies Core Faculty team. She is also in the Department of Gender Studies.

Lessie is the author of *Salt in the Sand: Memory, Violence and the Nation-State, in Chile, 1890-Present* (Duke 2007).

Her research interests are political culture in the Americas, the intersection of cultural studies theories of power, subjectivity, and ideology, gender, and sexuality.

Aidé Acosta

Aidé Acosta accepted an offer of a one-year appointment (2011-2012), as a Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies and Latino Studies. She completed her Ph.D. in Sociocultural Anthropology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2010. Her research areas include Latina/o migration and diaspora; labor, race and citizenship; social movements; immigrant rights, Latino Cultural production; and gender and Chicana feminism.

Professors **Javier León**, Folklore, **Alex Lichtenstein**, History, **LaMonda H. Stallings**, Gender Studies, recently joined AMST as Adjunct Faculty.

Jason Receives Faculty Mentor Award

Jason Baird Jackson, Associate Professor in the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology, received the 2011 Faculty Mentor Award for "outstanding commitment and mentorship to graduate students at IU Bloomington."

The IU Graduate and Professional Student Organization award is given to one professor each spring. All graduate and professional students are invited to give their support to faculty members that they feel deserve special recognition for exemplary behavior.

A reception was held in his honor late spring at the Wells House in Bloomington.

> *"I am, needles to say, very moved and humbled by this honor. I am fortunate to work so closely with so many great students."*

Jason is also editor of Museum Anthropology Review, an open access journal that he and his colleagues founded in early 2007.

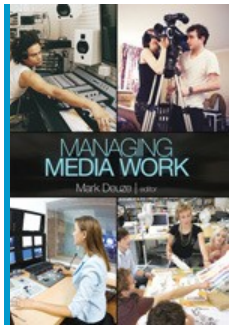
One of Jackson's Folklore students wrote "He has a remarkable ability to phrase constructive criticism in a way that is encouraging, leaving me wanting to work harder and better."

Additionally, he is a member of the Committee on Native American and Indigenous Studies where he regularly advises the NAIS PhD minor students in AMST.

Kellie Hogue, NAIS student, says "Dr. Jackson is the quintessential faculty mentor. An all around superb academic citizen, he cares about his students and offers them consistent and critical guidance, encouragement, and assistance. His knowledge of the historical and contemporary contours of the field, teamed with a deep understanding of the intricacies of publishing, grant writing, and job placement makes him an invaluable resource for NAIS students.

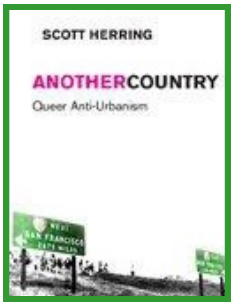
Book Awards

Mark Deuze, Associate Professor, Department of Telecommunications, most recent book *Managing Media Work* (published by SAGE in 2010) was the recipient of the 2011 Robert Picard book award of the Media Managements and Economics Division at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC).



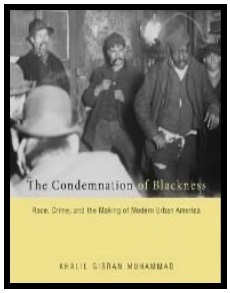
Scott Herring, Associate Professor, Department of English, won the Lambda Literary Award in LGBT Studies for his recent book:

Another Country: Queer Anti-Urbanism, New York University Press, 2010 (Sexual Cultures Series).



Khalil Muhammad, current Director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, has been awarded the John Hope Franklin Prize of the American Studies Association for his book:

The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern America, Harvard University Press, 2010.



Publications and Paper Presentations

PUBLICATIONS

Candy Gunther Brown, Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies: *Global Pentecostal and Charismatic Healing*, ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. 424 pp.

James Capshew, Associate Professor, Department of History and Philosophy publishes two articles:

"Indiana University as the 'Mother of College Presidents': Herman B Wells as Inheritor, Exemplar, and Agent." *Herman B Wells Distinguished Lecturer Series 9*. Institute for Advanced Study, Indiana University, 2011.

"Encounters with *Genius Loci*: Herman Wells at/and/of Indiana University." In Roger L. Geiger, ed., "Iconic Leaders in Higher Education," *Perspectives on the History of Higher Education* 28 (2011): 161-192.

Ilana Gershon, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication and Culture: "Neoliberal Agency," outlining what neoliberal subjectivity entails, came out in August in *Current Anthropology*. And her edited volume in *Anthropological Quarterly*, "The Ethics of Disconnection in a Neoliberal Age," is forthcoming along with an article, "Un-Friend My Heart" on why some people experience Facebook as encouraging them to be neoliberal selves.

Colin Johnson's Summer

During the month of May, Colin Johnson, Assistant Professor of Gender Studies, was invited to be visiting scholar-in-residence at MUENA, the North American Studies program at the Universidad de La Laguna in the Canary Islands. While there he delivered a public lecture entitled "Gay Histories/Queer Cultures" and taught a related intensive seminar in US lesbian and gay history for graduate students enrolled in that program.

Universidad de La Laguna

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JULY — He presented a working version of a new essay entitled "American Peasantry: On the Future of Backwardness in the United States" at the annual meeting of the Rural Sociological Society in Boise, ID.

AUGUST — Colin's essay "Homosexuals from Haystacks: Gay Liberation and the Specter of Queer Majority in Rural California, circa 1970" was published in *Subalternity and Difference: Investigations From the North and the South*, Gyanendra Pandey, ed. (London: Routledge, 2011), 41-56.

Stephanie Kane Presents

Stephanie Kane, Associate Professor, Departments of Criminal Justice and Gender Studies, began exploratory research about computer-mediated communication during the Chilean earthquake and tsunami of 27 February 2010 (with Eden Medina, PI, and a grant from IU's Center for Applied Cybersecurity).

She co-presented this work-in-progress with Daniel Michler in a talk entitled: "Technology and Social Experience in Unstable Contexts." (*Tecnología y Experiencia Sociales en Contextuales Inestables).* Escuela de Tecnología, Universidad de Viña del Mar, Viña del Mar, Chile, 20 June.

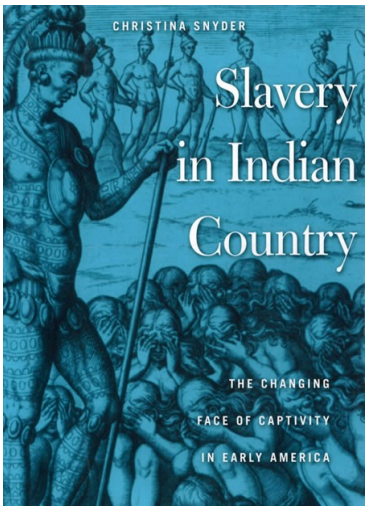
Journal article in press: The Art of Torture and the Place of Execution: A Forensic Narrative. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review* (PoLar).

Stephanie also presented a paper entitled "Environmental Decision Making in the Argentine Delta." International conference on Comparative Decision Making Analysis (CDM), Lexington, Kentucky, May 13-15. The article and accompanying commentaries will appear in a volume on Comparative Decision Making, forthcoming Oxford UP, Phil Crowley and Thomas Zentall, eds.

Christina Snyder's Book

Christina Snyder's book, *Slavery in Indian Country: The Changing Face of Captivity in Early America*, published by Harvard University Press, 2010, won the best first book prize at the 2011 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians. This book also won the James H. Broussard Prize, awarded by the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic for the year's best first book.

Snyder was recently announced a finalist for the Frederick Douglass Prize from Yale University's Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition: http://www.yale.edu/glc/events/fdbp-finalists.htm.



Christina Snyder is Assistant Professor in the Departments of American Studies and History.

Looking for a Job?

BUTLER UNIV.

The Gender, Women & Sexuality Studies program at Butler University announces a one-semester lectureship to begin January 2012. Successful applicants will teach two courses (one preparation) in our First Year Seminar (GWSS topic expected) and two courses in the GWSS program. We seek to offer courses that focus on issues of gender, technology, and sexuality to complement our other course offerings. A strong background in the social science preferred, all highly qualified candidates considered. **Qualifications**: Interdisciplinary scholar in the social sciences with a Ph.D. Preferred. Highly qualified candidates from the humanities and/or A.B.D also will be considered. The ideal candidate will be an excellent teacher committed to undergraduate teaching and dedicated to feminist praxis in the classroom. Butler University was founded in 1855 by abolitionists who sought to educate persons from a diverse background, black and white, male and female. Continuing in this tradition we seek candidates who are adept and comfortable working with a diverse student, faculty, and staff population to help advance the University Mission of educational and personal excellence. **Application**: Please send a letter of application along with a teaching statement, two sample syllabi please indicate if you have taught them before and/or if you would like to teach them at Butler, and recent teaching evaluations and/or observation letters as well as a current *c.v.* with a list of references and graduate courses related to GWSS. Other materials may be requested as the search advances. Enquiries may be sent vdeno@butler.edu. Address application materials may be sent electronically or sent to: Vivian Deno, Director of GWSS, Butler University, JH 349D, Indianapolis, IN 46208.

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIV.

Attached is a handout and a letter advertising a tenure-track position in Science, Technology and American Culture at the George Washington University. Could you please post the handout and circulate it among your department? I am including a brief version of the ad below, which is appearing in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. The Department of American Studies at The George Washington University seeks to appoint a tenure-track assistant professor beginning Fall 2012. **Basic Qualifications:** All requirements completed for Ph.D. in American Studies or related discipline by August 1, 2012. Research experience/potential as demonstrated by works in progress or scholarly publications, and teaching experience at the college level. **Preferred Qualifications:** Research and teaching interests in the history and/or meaning of science or technology in American culture, environmental history, urban sustainability, medical humanities, environmental anthropology, ethnography of science, or the geopolitical impact of American scientific enterprise. Please send a cover letter, CV, three letters of recommendation, and a thirty-page writing sample to: Science and Technology Search Committee, Department of American Studies, The George Washington University, 2108 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20052. Review of applications will begin October 15, 2011, and continue until the position is filled. Only complete applications will be considered. The George Washington University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and particularly encourages applications from women and persons of color. Visit our website: http://departments.columbian.gwu.edu/americanstudies/.

UCLA

The UCLA Departments of English and History, in collaboration with American Indian Studies Center, invite applications for an open-ranked tenured and tenure track position in Native American Studies. Candidates should demonstrate engagement with the changing dynamics of the field, and have a strong record of publication that engages the literature and/or history of Native American cultures and societies. The successful candidate could be housed in either the History or English department, or have a split appointment between the two. Candidates should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, 20-page writing sample, and dossier including three letters of recommendation to Search Committee, American Indian Studies Center, 3220 Campbell Hall, University of California-Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90095. The position is subject to final administrative approval. UCLA is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

NORTHEASTERN UNIV.

The English Department at Northeastern University (www.english.neu.edu) invites applications for an assistant or associate professor specializing in American literature. The department has particular needs in the nineteenth century but is open to innovative scholarship from the nineteenth century through the modern and contemporary periods of American literature. We welcome interdisciplinary scholarship that will contribute to the broader field of American Studies at Northeastern. The department is developing expertise in transnational and postcolonial literatures as well as in digital humanities and is participating in a college-wide initiative on the internationalization of the curriculum. Review of applications will begin immediately; for fullest consideration, applications should be submitted by November 16th. To apply, please visit the College of Social Sciences and Humanities website, http://www.northeastern.edu/cssh/, and click on the Faculty Positions link. If you are viewing this posting through a Northeastern University website, simply click the button below. Applicants will be asked to upload letter, c.v., and writing sample.

Alumni Lowdown

Laila Amine is a Postdoctoral Research Associate of African American Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, for the 2011-2012 academic year. She earned her doctorate June 30, 2011, as a Combined PhD student in American Studies and Comparative Literature. Dissertation: *Algerian Paris: Place, Identity, and the War*.

Laila accepted an offer from the University of North Texas as Assistant Professor of English starting fall 2012.

Laila Amine

In January 2011, **Danille Elise Christensen** began an eighteen-month Visiting Lectureship in the Department of American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she is teaching AMST 375 Food in American Culture, FOLK 550 Introduction to Material Culture, and AMST 293 Vernacular Poetry. She is also Managing Editor of the Journal of Folklore Research.

Danille received her PhD in Folklore from the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology in 2009, with minors in American Studies and Philanthropic Studies. In 2010, she was one of four Research Associates working on the Civil Rights History Project, a Congressionally mandated effort to locate and document oral histories related to the Civil Rights Movement. The project generated a database recently made public by the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian (see http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2011/11-150.html).

This summer, Dr. Christensen published "'Look at us now!': Scrapbooking, Regimes of Value, and the Risks of (Auto) Ethnography" in the Journal of American Folklore (http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5406/jamerfolk.124.493.0175).

Danille E. Christensen

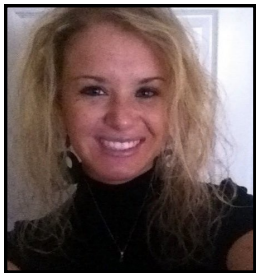
Beau Dunfee majored in American Studies and Criminal Justice and graduated in August 2009. Beau moved back home to South Bend where he worked in the title insurance industry. After one year of work in the "real world," Dunfee returned to school and is currently in his second year of study at the University of Notre Dame Law School.

Beau's auxiliary career of officiating basketball began in the intramural program at Indiana; he currently works a full varsity high school schedule and was recently selected to the officiating staff for the Great Lakes Valley Conference of Women's NCAA Division II.

Beau Dunfee

Erica Goldenberg double majored in American Studies and Telecommunication writes "After graduation (2008), I took my talents back east to be a Sales Assistant supporting three Account Executives at amNewYork - a free, daily newspaper in Manhattan. Then, in July 2009, I moved to Chicago where I accepted a position as Sales Executive at Groupon. Since then, things have exploded, and I'm now a Divisional Sales Manager at Groupon, managing a team of 25 Sales Executives all selling in Central and Southern California. Outside of work, I'm just enjoying living in Chicago, learning a new city, and remembering what it's like to read for fun!"

Jamie Palmer graduated in the spring of 2008 as a double major in American Studies and Sociology. She writes "I have my MA in sociology and am pursuing a PhD in sociology and a certificate in Women's Studies.



Jamie Palmer

I have presented my research at two workshops (Global Culture and Power Workshop at UGA) and two conferences (North Central Sociological Association and American Sociological Association).

I am working on my MA for publication in Social Problems. I have and will attend the annual Women and Girls in Georgia conference as well as the National Association for Women's Studies. My research focuses on transnational structures, gender, and Latin America (specifically portrayals of Cuba in the United States)."

Elizabeth Warren triple majored in American Studies, English, and Spanish & Portuguese: "After graduating from IU in May 2009, I spent two academic years in Granada, Spain—the first working as an English Language Assistant at a bilingual primary school and the second taking Spanish language classes and teaching English privately. As I write this, I am about to begin the PhD program in Spanish at the university of California, Los Angeles."

Graduate Student Tributes

Callie Clare's First Book

Callie Clare Combined PhD student, AMST and FOLK, authored *Potions and Notions: The Legacy of Rabbit Hash, Kentucky* published by the Rabbit Hash Historical Society in September 2011. (Proceeds will benefit the Rabbit Hash Historical Society: http://www.rabbithashusa.com/.) Clare's book was adapted from her mater's thesis.

Additionally, Callie won the Gunderson Award, Spring 2011, for her essay "Digging Our Own Grave: Monster Trucks and America."

Callie Clare

Tony Krus Publishes Article

Tony is an NAIS minor student in AMST - 2011, "Bridging History and Prehistory: The Possible Antiquity of a Native American Ballgame." *Native South* 4: 136-145. (URL: http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/native_south/.)

Anthony M. Krus

Kate Lemay Receives Postdoc

Kate Lemay, Combined PhD student, AMST and FINA, received a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, NM for the 2011-2012 academic year. Kate defended her dissertation August 15, 2011.

Kate Lemay

NAIS Award 2011-2012

Sarah M. Gordon

Sarah M. Gordon received the College of Arts and Sciences Native American and Indigenous Studies award. She is a doctoral candidate in Folklore minoring in Anthropology, with an emphasis on Native American Studies. For her dissertation research, Sarah has been working with the Sahtuot'ine (People of Bear Lake) in Canada's Northwest Territories. She spent a total of thirteen months doing fieldwork in th Sahtuot'ine community of Délįnę, on the shore of Great Bear Lake.

> *"My passion and fascination for Native American culture began with 2 books of Inuit Raven stories that I devoured as a young child."*

This annual award includes a fellowship and a small travel award to promote NAIS degree offerings at a professional development conference. AMST supplements this package with a modest stipend to cover responsibilities as the editor of the NAIS newsletter.

AMST Associate Instructors

Scarlett Brooks (Top Left): Doctoral candidate in English and has taught for Indiana Department of Corrections at the Putnamville facility as a volunteer educational provider teaching English. Her teaching experience also includes college prep schools.

Mark Hain (Top Middle): Doctoral candidate in Communication & Culture & American Studies. Mark has taught and designed classes on ethnic food and multicultural identity.

Holly Mayne (Top Right): Doctoral candidate in American Studies who previously was an Associate Instructor in AAADS.

Cara Kinnally (Bottom Left): Doctoral candidate in Spanish & Portuguese & American Studies where her teaching experience "exposes students to materials from political cartoons to folktales."

Siobhan Carter-David (Bottom Middle): Doctoral candidate in History & American Studies. She "merges interest in fashion, history, and material culture into teaching."

Amy Rubens (Bottom Right): Doctoral candidate in English who has taught composition courses including a thematic course of her own design that focused on contemporary memoir & identity performance.

Call for Papers and Proposals

Call for Papers
UC Santa Barbara
Music and Crisis

The Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Music (CISM) at UC Santa Barbara announces an interdisciplinary graduate conference Music and Crisis, to be held at UCSB on April 14-15, 2012. Run by and intended for graduate students, this conference invites presentations that explore crisis from perspectives that expand the boundaries of traditional music research, welcoming participants from all disciplines. The deadline for submissions is December 2, 2011. For more information and instructions for submissions, please see the attached call for papers and visit our website, http://www.music.ucsb.edu/projects/CISM/musicandcrisis/.

Call for Proposals
American Studies Association
Dimensions of Empire and Resistance: Past, Present, and Future

2012 November 15-18: Caribe Hilton
San Juan, Puerto Rico
The 2012 ASA Program Committee invites current individual members of the ASA (or an affiliated international American studies association) to submit proposals for individual papers, entire sessions, presentations, performances, films, roundtables, workshops, conversations, or alternative formats described below on any topic dealing with American cultures. All proposal submitters must be current ASA members (or an affiliated international American studies association) at the time of submission.

IU Exchange Program — Freie Universität Berlin

Mr. Christian Caspar Guese and **Ms. Franziska Krause** from the Free University of Berlin were admitted to the Department of American Studies as undergraduate non-degree students for the 2011-2012 academic year as participants of the IU student exchange program.

The exchange program is administered by the Office of the Vice Provost for International Affairs for undergraduate and graduate students.

Ms. MarieChristine Mitzlaff was admitted to the graduate non-degree program in American Studies for the fall 2011 semester.

After completing her Bachelor of Arts degree in American Studies at the University of Hamburg in the summer of 2010, Marie moved to Berlin to continue her studies at the John F. Kennedy Institute of the Free University of Berlin.

Before coming to the States, she expresses her desire:

"Living and studying in the U.S. could definitely give me a better understanding of different aspects of American culture and provide me valuable academic and personal knowledge for my further MA studies in Berlin and the writing of my master's thesis."

Marie's impressions from her time at Indiana University:

"Studying at IU has been a great experience so far. There is a wide variety of courses I could choose from, which enabled me to pursue my core interests during my studies in Bloomington. All of my classes are really exciting and inspiring, with dedicated professors, as well as students. I also appreciate all the help and advice that was offered to me by IU staff and feel very glad that I got the chance to study here!"

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES
College of Arts and Sciences
Bloomington

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