

Current Issues in North American and Cultural Studies | Lecture Series of the North American Studies Program

Martin Luther King Day Lecture

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Nadja Klopprogge

University of Tübingen

Intimate Constellations as Sites of Multidirectional Memory: Relating African American and German History

Monday | 20 January 2025 | 6:00 c.t.-8:00 pm
53111 Bonn | Rabinstraße 8 | Room 7



African American GIs engaging with white German women at Wannsee beach in Berlin. Photo: Friedrich Seidenstücker, 1947.

Departing from interpersonal constellations that crossed the Atlantic, the color line, and the fault lines of the Cold War, the lecture by Jun.-Prof. Klopprogge interrogates the proximities of African American and German history in the 20th century. Tracing anti-miscegenation laws, casual sexual cross-racial encounters, and dimensions of marriage and friendship, her argument opens our perspective for the intimate in African American-German relations in a century of extremes.

Nadja Klopprogge is a Juniorprofessor of North American History at the University of Tübingen. She received her PhD from the John-F.-Kennedy-Institute in Berlin, taught in Berlin, Basel, and Giessen, and recently published the book *Intimate Histories: African Americans and Germany since 1933* (2024).