



Nordamerikastudienprogramm  
Institut für Anglistik, Amerikanistik und Keltologie

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## Lecture Series

"Current Issues in North American Studies and Cultural Studies"

Winter Term 2013-14

## Columbus Day Lecture 2013

**Prof. Dr. Susanne Lachenicht**

Department of Early Modern History, University of Bayreuth

## "Conquest, Expansion, Colonization: Risk and Risk Assessment in the Early Modern Atlantic World"

Tuesday • 5 November 2013 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Room A • Department of English, American, and Celtic Studies • Regina-Pacis-Weg 5



Risk, the story goes, is a category inextricably linked with industrial and post-industrial societies. Some analysts of late 20th and early 21st century societies, however, have argued that it was the early modern or pre-modern period, the time of discoveries, conquests, and colonization, that fostered the development of modern risk society. This paper aims at testing this narrative and looks at possible concepts of risk in the "Age of Exploration." A particular focus will be on what kinds of risk Europeans encountered in the early modern Atlantic world and how they assessed those risks.

Susanne Lachenicht is Professor and Chair of Early Modern History at the University of Bayreuth. She is the founder of the Summer Academy of Atlantic History (SAAH), Chair of the European Early American Studies Association (EEASA) as well as a member of the editorial board of *Oxford Bibliographies: Atlantic History* and of the steering committee of the Bayreuth Institute for American Studies (BIFAS). She has been a visiting fellow/professor at All Souls College, Oxford, the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, the Université d'Angers and the Université de Toulouse-Le Mirail. Her publications include the monographs *Information und Propaganda: Die Presse deutscher Jakobiner im Elsaß* (2004), *Hugenotten in Europa und Nordamerika: Migration und Integration in der Frühen Neuzeit* (2010) and *Die Französische Revolution* (2012) and, as (co-)editor, *Religious Refugees in Europe, Asia and North America, 6th–21st Century* (2007) and *Diaspora Identities: Exile, Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism in Past and Present* (2009).