

Current Issues

in North American Studies and Cultural Studies

Lecture Series | Winter Term 2016-2017

**NORTH
AMERICAN
STUDIES
PROGRAM**

Dr. Jared Sonnicksen

Institute of Political Science, TU Darmstadt

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Dementia and Democracy in North America: Two Approaches to a Growing Challenge

Tuesday, December 13, 2016 | 6:00–8:00 pm
Room A, IAAK, Regina-Pacis-Weg 5



Attention to dementia and related issues has grown tremendously in the past few decades, also in academia. However, the same cannot be said with regard to the implications for democracy and democratic practice. Consequently, it is necessary to reflect on how political representation, participation, and inclusion are fundamentally challenged by the growing prevalence of dementia in societies across the world. The cases

of Canada and the United States reveal widely different approaches for dealing with such challenges. In addition to problematizing these issues, Dr. Sonnicksen's talk seeks to stimulate reflection and discussion on how to balance between protection and accommodation of democratic practices and the citizens themselves.

Jared Sonnicksen is a research associate at Technische Universität Darmstadt. He received his doctorate from the University of Bonn in 2013 and has previously worked as a lecturer in political science at the North American Studies Program. A frequent contributor on U.S. issues for *Deutsche Welle* and *Phoenix*, he is the author of *Ein Präsident für Europa: Zur Demokratisierung der Europäischen Union* (2014) as well as fifteen articles in renowned journals and edited volumes.