



Conference Organizers

Michael Mayer

Akademie für Politische Bildung

Michael Butter

University of Tübingen

Simon Wendt

Goethe University of Frankfurt

Registration

Please register by January 15, 2018 with
Simon Wendt

wendt@em.uni-frankfurt.de

Conference Fee

Including room and board 110 Euro

Reduced Fee 65 Euro

Meals

All meals are included in the conference fee.

Vegetarian meals can be served if the

Academy is notified in advance.



Tutzing is located approximately 40 km southwest of Munich on Lake Starnberg.

From the **Central Station** (Hauptbahnhof): Take the urban railway S-6 to Tutzing or the regional train (RB) towards Garmisch-Partenkirchen/Innsbruck/Murnau/Kochel/Seefeld till Tutzing. The train departs from track 27-36 (main level) every half hour.



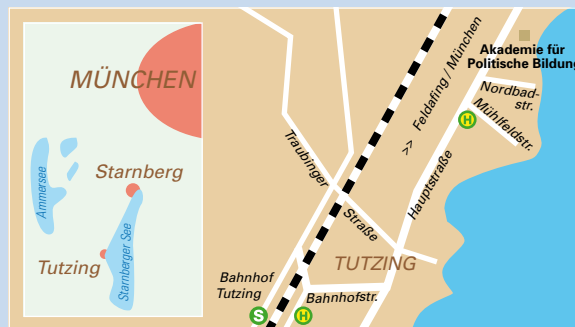
From the **airport** take the urban railway S-1 or S-8 to Munich Central Station and follow the instructions above.



The Academy is located in about 22 walking minutes from the Tutzing Train Station. You will also find cabs and a Bus directly at the front entrance.



Take freeway A95 towards Garmisch-Partenkirchen, then exit to Starnberg and continue on the federal highway (B2 / direction Weilheim) until you enter the town of Traubing, then take a left. At the end of the road turn right to Tutzing. The Akademie für Politische Bildung is on your left shortly after passing the town sign Tutzing.



6-2-18 | 8.12.2017.TA

Akademie für Politische Bildung

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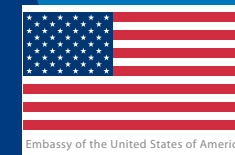
www.apb-tutzing.de



Heroism and the Heroic in American History

February 9-11, 2018

Generously supported by



Embassy of the United States of America



Annual Conference of the
Historians in the German
Association for
American Studies

INVITATION

The conference aims to critically reconsider the history of heroism in the United States from the American Revolution to the present, taking seriously the constructed nature of heroism and the myriad functions it serves in U.S. society. Heroes do not simply exist; they are created through practices of representation, and especially narration. Without a story, there is no hero. Nevertheless, the effects of heroism are real and palpable. As a social and cultural construct, it serves important functions in human societies, but few historians have done justice to the topic's complexities. Too often, scholars still imply that heroism is "real," ignoring the fact that heroes are the product of intricate heroization processes that elevate real or imagined people to heroic status through reoccurring iterations about what is believed to be heroic at a certain point in time. The conference's speakers will shed fresh light on the various ways in which heroism has been constructed, while also probing its social, cultural, and political functions in U.S. history. They will both critically examine the existing scholarship on American heroism and present case studies that might offer new trajectories for future research.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2018

3:00 PM **Arrival, Registration,
Coffee and Tea in the Main Lobby**

4:15 PM **Welcome Address and Introduction**

Michael Mayer

Michael Butter

Simon Wendt

Panel 1: Gender, Race, and the Uses of Heroism in the 20th Century

Chair: *Michael Butter*

5:00 PM **Gender, Race, and Everyday Heroism in the Progressive Era**

Simon Wendt

Women as Murderers, Victims, and (Anti)Heroines in the National Abortion Debate, 1970s-1990s

Isabel Heinemann

University of Münster

6:30 PM **Dinner**

Keynote Address

8:00 PM **Our American Heroes: Themes in the Early Historiography of Superheroism**

Michael Goodrum

Canterbury Christ Church University

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2018

8:15 AM **Breakfast**

9:00 AM **Workshops on Current Ph.D. Projects**

10:30 AM **Tea and Coffee**

Keynote Address

11:00 AM **New Directions in Heroism Research: The Perspective of Political Science**

Bruce Peabody and Krista Jenkins

Fairleigh Dickinson University

12:30 PM **Lunch**

Panel 2: Heroism and War

Chair: *Isabel Heinemann*

3:00 PM **The War of 1812 and the Changing Heroization of American Presidents**

Michael Butter

Heroes Beyond the Color Line? The Harlem Hellfighters on Parade

Sebastian Jobs

Free University of Berlin

4:30 PM **Tea and Coffee**

Keynote Address

5:00 PM **'Life is at Stake': Acts and Arts of Black Heroism in a Transatlantic Imaginary**

Celeste-Marie Bernier

University of Edinburgh

6:30 PM **Dinner**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2018

8:15 AM **Breakfast**

Panel 3: Television and American Heroism

Chair: *Sebastian Jobs*

9:00 AM **Heroes for the Small Screen: Constructions of Heroism in Western Television Series of the 1950s and 1960s**

Brigitte Georgi-Findlay

Technical University of Dresden

Happy Home Front Heroines? Army Wives in Post-9/11 American Culture

Katharina Gerund

University of Erlangen-Nürnberg

10:30 AM **Tea and Coffee**

Panel 4: A Case Study in Popular Culture: The Musical *Hamilton*

Chair: *Simon Wendt*

10:45 AM **The Heroism of Knowledge and Wit: Representing the American Revolution in Lin-Manuel Miranda's *Hamilton***

Nassim Balestrini

University of Graz

The Heroization of Alexander Hamilton in *Hamilton: An American Musical*

Svenja Hohenstein and

Katharina Thalmann

University of Tübingen

12:00 PM **Lunch and Departure**