



Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Amerikastudien

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien e.V.  
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An

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Professor Sam Kingman, Interim Vice-Chancellor  
Professor Jeremy Gregory, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Faculty of Arts  
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## Support for the Department of American and Canadian Studies at the University of Nottingham

Dear Professors Norman, Kingman, and Gregory,

On behalf of the Board of the German Association for American Studies (GAAS<), which represents scholars of U.S. history, politics, literature, and culture across Germany, we wish to register our deep concern regarding the proposed closure of all degree programmes in the Department of American and Canadian Studies at the University of Nottingham.

The Department has, for decades, been internationally recognized as one of Europe's leading centres of American Studies. It has made critical contributions to transatlantic scholarly exchange through research collaborations, conferences, and visiting appointments that have shaped the field on both sides of the Atlantic. The proposed termination of

these programmes, and the associated redundancies, would therefore constitute a significant loss not only to your university but to the broader academic community.

In the current global context—marked by democratic fragility, social polarization, and shifting international alignments—the study of the United States and its interconnections with Europe is more vital than ever. American Studies departments provide essential frameworks for understanding how ideas, cultural forms, and political practices circulate across nations and shape global developments. To remove this capacity from a major research university such as Nottingham would be to sever a crucial line of scholarly inquiry and public understanding.

We also note that Nottingham's Department of American and Canadian Studies has responded proactively to structural and enrolment challenges with detailed, forward-looking proposals for integration and innovation across disciplines. To ignore such constructive efforts risks not only undermining a thriving intellectual community but also contradicting the University's stated commitment to global engagement and interdisciplinary excellence.

From a European perspective, Nottingham's department has served as an intellectual anchor within the international network of American Studies institutions. German scholars and students have long benefited from its leadership, its collaborations, and its openness to transnational research. Its loss would reverberate across the entire field.

We therefore urge the University of Nottingham to reconsider its decision and to engage seriously with the department's proposals for renewal and adaptation. Sustaining American Studies at Nottingham is not simply a matter of preserving a programme—it is an affirmation of the intellectual responsibilities and global identity of the modern university.

Yours sincerely,  
Prof. Dr. Christian Lammert

Warm Regards



Prof. Dr. Christian Lammert  
President