

SFB 1288

PRACTICES OF COMPARING: AN INTERNATIONALLY EMERGING FIELD OF RESEARCH

International kickoff conference of the SFB
'Practices of Comparing. Ordering and
Changing the World' at Bielefeld University,
5–7 October 2017

The act of comparing has become the focus of
scholarly attention worldwide. Comparing
matters at all societal levels, be it comparatively
established world orders or literary adaptations
of cultural contact.

The emerging research field 'Practices of
Comparing' transcends the boundaries of
disciplines within the humanities.

The Collaborative Research Centre (SFB) 1288
analyses comparing by understanding it as a
practice: What do actors do when they compare?

The keynotes will be held by historian Ann
Laura Stoler, 'On the Limits of Comparison',
and by literary scholar Haun Saussy, who asks,
'Are we comparing yet?'

Contact

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Website

www.uni-bielefeld.de/sfb1288/kickoff.html

Venue

Bielefeld University, CITEC Building

Conference Language

English



PRACTICES OF COMPARING. ORDERING AND CHANGING THE WORLD

5–7 October 2017 | Bielefeld University
International Kickoff Conference of the SFB 1288

Universität Bielefeld

SFB 1288
PRACTICES
OF COMPARING

THURSDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2017

13:00	Arrival, Registration, Coffee
	CONFERENCE OPENING
14:00	Opening Address by Gerhard Sagerer, Rector Introduction by Convenors: Angelika Epple, Walter Erhart, Johannes Grave
14:15	Angelika Epple, <i>Bielefeld</i> : The Practices of Comparing as a New Research Paradigm: the Anatomy of White People CHAIR: ANTJE FLÜCHTER
	PANEL I: COMPARING AND THE EMERGENCE OF INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS CHAIR: MATHIAS ALBERT
15:00	Leopold Ringel, Tobias Werron, <i>Bielefeld</i> : The Emergence of Rankings: on the History and Institutionalization of a Modern Practice of Comparison, 1700–1980 Matthias Kranke, <i>Warwick</i> : Practices of International Comparison and the Indirect Power of Global Benchmarking
17:00	Coffee Break
18:00	KEYNOTE: ANN LAURA STOLER, NEW YORK: ON THE LIMITS OF COMPARISON CHAIR: BETTINA BROCKMEYER
19:30	Evening Reception

FRIDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2017

9:30	Walter Erhart, <i>Bielefeld</i> : Odysseus, Blackbirds, and Rain Barrels. Literature as a Comparative Practice CHAIR: KAI KAUFFMANN
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PANEL II: ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS COMPARED: THE MARGINS OF COMPARISONS
CHAIR: KIRILL POSTOUTENKO

10:00	Hartmut von Sass, <i>Zürich</i> : The Non-Comparable. A Report from the Margins of Comparing Carlos Spoerhase, <i>Bielefeld</i> : The Quantification of Comparison. Practices of Ranking Artistic Achievement in Early Modern Europe
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12:00 Lunch

PANEL III: COMPARING ART AND THE ART OF COMPARING
CHAIR: CHRISTINA BRAUNER

13:00	Peter Geimer, <i>Berlin</i> : What Happens Between Two Pictures? On Comparative Seeing Joris Corin Heyder, <i>Bielefeld</i> : 'Goût de Comparaison'. Practices of Comparative Vision in 18th Century Connoisseurship Britta Hochkirchen, <i>Bielefeld</i> : Genealogies of Modernity. Curatorial Practices of Comparing in 20th Century Art Exhibitions
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PROJECT INF: DATA INFRASTRUCTURE AND DIGITAL HUMANITIES
CHAIR: WILLIBALD STEINMETZ

15:00	Anna Maria Komprecht, Silke Schwandt, <i>Bielefeld</i> : Comparing in the Digital Age: about the Transformations of Practices
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16:00 Coffee Break

PANEL IV: COMPARING IN EARLY MODERN LITERATURE AND HISTORY
CHAIR: MARCUS HARTNER

16:30	Andrea Frisch, <i>Maryland</i> : The Challenge of Comparative History in the European Renaissance: the Case of Louis Le Roy Kirsten Kramer, <i>Bielefeld</i> : Comparing Worlds. Modern French Travel Writing and World Literature
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18:00 **KEYNOTE: HAUN SAUSSY, CHICAGO: ARE WE COMPARING YET? AN ASIANIST REVISITS MARCEL DETIENNE**
CHAIR: WALTER ERHART

19:30 Dinner

SATURDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2017

PANEL V: THE MAKING OF 'COMPARATA' ACROSS PERIODS
CHAIR: RALF SCHNEIDER

10:00	Alexander Martin, <i>Notre Dame</i> : 'Venice' on the Baltic, 'Amazons' in Crimea, 'Columbus' in Siberia: the Use of Transnational Comparisons in the Construction of Imperial Russian Culture Longxi Zhang, <i>Hong Kong</i> : Comparison and East-West Encounter in the Seventeenth and the Eighteenth Centuries Gary Shaw, <i>Middletown</i> : The Weight of Comparison across Periods: some Medieval English Evidence
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12:00 Lunch

PANEL VI: POLITICS AND PARADOXES OF COMPARISONS
CHAIR: SILKE SCHWANDT

13:00	Thomas Müller, <i>Bielefeld</i> : Assessing and Negotiating Military Balances: the Politics of 'Force Comparisons' Peer Vries, <i>Amsterdam</i> : Comparing the Wealth of Nations: the Case of Meiji Japan Kirill Postoutenko, <i>Bielefeld</i> : Paradoxes and Patterns of Comparisons in Poetry, Political Speeches and Religious Pamphlets
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15:00 **CONCLUDING DISCUSSION**
CHAIR: JOHANNES GRAVE