

---

**„Time to Build New Bridges“**

**History and Democracy in German-American Relations**

Seminar for students and youth workers from Germany and the United States  
Cooperation project of PfalzAkademie Lambrecht, Atlantic Academy,  
Francis Marion University, South Carolina and Villanova University, Pennsylvania  
29.07. – 10.08. 2010 in Lambrecht and Berlin

**Program outline**

---

**Thursday, 29.07.10: time of arrival – pre-program for American students**

- Transfer to PfalzAkademie; Lunch
- Introduction to the program
- German-American relations: a political and personal overview

**Friday, 30.07.10: transatlantic relations – a historic overview in perspective**

- Europe and the U.S. at the end of the post-war period
- Misunderstandings and common ground
- Sparkling moments of history: a glance at special transatlantic events

**Saturday, 31.07.10: how reality is put together**

- Creating a democratic reality in the world of the seminar (expectations and mutual contract)
- Images in our minds. How we see ourselves and how we see each other (creative tasks on drawing images with silhouettes of the countries involved)
- Reflection on active citizenship: the construction of reality as a framework

**Sunday, 01.08.10: individual lives and international politics**

- How stories create history. Family biographies in the context of historic events (a personal approach on history)
- Everything that counts. Political hopes and visions behind the stories
- Reflection on active citizenship: personal and European factors of identity

**Monday, 02.08.10: how people made a difference**

- the stories of democratic changes from each country (working with historic sources and documents, comparing different historic narratives)
- history as a source of inspiration: an international comparison
- reflection on active citizenship: the impact of historic narratives as a source of intercultural learning

**Tuesday, 03.08.10: examples of democratic participation (excursion)**

- Accepting the challenge: the dialogue process about building the “open mosque” in Mannheim

- Living emancipation: the integration process achieved by the black light theatre project in Boppard (project for young people with migration background)
- Reflection on active citizenship: democracy needs democrats – how to take your role in society

**Wednesday, 04.08.10: Giving the future a better past**

- Leaving the shadows of the past: scenes and experiences of democratic involvement (an active experience through statue theatre)
- Taboo topics and sensitive issues
- Reflection on active citizenship: the balance between diversity and consensus

**Thursday, 05.08.10: overcoming borders (Transfer to Berlin)**

- Borders in our countries and borders in our minds: transfer to Berlin
- Crossing borders (visit to the borderland museum at the former cross-point Helmstedt-Marienborn)
- Reflection on active citizenship: thinking the impossible – how to overcome limitations and restrictions

**Friday, 06.08.10: dialogue and integration – messages of grassroots democracy**

- the impact of intercultural youth projects on dialogue and life perspectives (down-to-earth projects in Berlin-Neukölln and Kreuzberg)
- informal talks with project facilitators and participants
- reflections on active citizenship: creating the world we seek – the power of examples

**Saturday, 07.08.10: encouragement and living democracy**

- Berlin – a city of dialogue. Photo tasks for international groups and observations in different districts (photo assignments – preparation of an exhibition)
- Berlin – a city of European dimensions (photo assignments – preparation of an exhibition)
- Reflection on active citizenship: encouraging examples of living democracy – a multicultural perspective

**Sunday, 08.08.10: those coming too late will be punished by life**

- Traces of the past and messages for the future: the Stasi prison of Hohenschönhausen, the East Side Gallery and the Museum on German history
- Confessions about democracy: a talk with eye witnesses of history and their approach on active citizenship
- Reflections on active citizenship: civil disobedience and civil courage as democratic qualities

**Monday, 09.08.10: How we will make a difference**

- participants develop project modules for follow-up activities (creative tasks for international groups)
- reflections on active citizenship: how we will make a difference – follow-up projects (presentation, critical reflection, discussion)
- farewell-party and ideas about the future

**Departure: Tuesday, 10.08.2010**