

Prof. Dr. Simon Wendt

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Education

- 2016 *Habilitation* in Modern History, Goethe University Frankfurt
2004 Ph.D. in Modern History, Free University of Berlin
2000 M.A. in Afro-American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Academic Employment

- 2018-present Professor (*W-2*)
Goethe University Frankfurt, Institute of English and American Studies
2010-2018 Assistant Professor (*Juniorprofessor*)
Goethe University Frankfurt, Institute of English and American Studies
2008-2010 Research Group Leader
University of Heidelberg, Transcultural Studies Program
2005-2008 Assistant Professor
University of Heidelberg, Department of History
2005 Assistant Professor
University of Bonn, English Department, North American Studies Program
2004 Associate Lecturer
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Afro-American Studies
2003-2004 Lecturer
Free University of Berlin, John-F.-Kennedy Institute for North American Studies

Current Research Project

The Black Power Movement and the Contested Nature of American Democracy
(research project, funded by the Gerda Henkel Foundation)

Selected Fellowships and Awards

- 2018 Visiting Professor, University of Freiburg, Collaborative Research Center
“Heroes – Heroizations – Heroisms”
- 2012-2013 Writing Fellowship (*Foerderstipendium*), Historisches Kolleg München
- 2009 German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
- 2008 Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University
Schlesinger Library Research Support Grant
Jolanta and Soheyl Ghaemian Travel Grant
- 2007 John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies Research Fellowship
- 2006 German Research Council (DFG) Travel Grant
- 2004 President’s Memorial Award (awarded by the Louisiana Historical Association)
Leucorea Foundation Research Fellowship
- 2003-04 Foundation for the Support of Scholarship and Culture, City of Hamburg
Dissertation Fellowship
- 2001-03 State of Berlin – Support of Junior Scholars Program (Nafog) – Dissertation
Fellowship
- 2002 German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., Dissertation-Research Fellowship
German Academic Exchange Service Travel-Research Grant
“Memphis State Eight” Paper Prize (awarded by the University of Memphis)
- 2001 Nafog Travel-Research Grant
- 1998-99 University of Wisconsin WARF Fellowship
German Academic Exchange Service Fellowship

Service to the Profession

Official reader for *Amerikastudien* (2011-2016, 2019-2024)

Member of the International Editorial Board of *Men & Masculinities*

Executive Director of the German Association for American Studies (2021-2024)

Selected Publications

Books

The Daughters of the American Revolution and Patriotic Memory in the Twentieth Century. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2020.

The Spirit and the Shotgun: Armed Resistance and the Struggle for Civil Rights. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2007.

Edited Volumes

Ed. with Barbara Korte and Nicole Falkenhayner, *Heroism as a Global Phenomenon in Contemporary Culture*, New York: Routledge, 2019.

Ed. *Warring over Valor: How Race and Gender Shaped American Military Heroism in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2019.

Ed. with Brian D. Behnken and Gregory D. Smithers. *Black Intellectual Thought in Modern America: A Historical Perspective*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2017.

Ed. *Extraordinary Ordinarity: Everyday Heroism in the United States, Germany, and Britain, 1800-2015*. Frankfurt: Campus, 2016.

Ed. with Pablo Dominguez. *Masculinities and the Nation in the Modern World: Between Hegemony and Marginalization*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.

Ed. with Brian D. Behnken. *Crossing Boundaries: Ethnicity, Race, and National Belonging in a Transnational World*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2013.

Ed. with Manfred Berg. *Globalizing Lynching History: Vigilantism and Extralegal Punishment from an International Perspective*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011.

Ed. with Manfred Berg. *Racism in the Modern World: Historical Perspectives on Cultural Transfer and Adaptation*. New York: Berghahn, 2011.

Ed. with Michael Butter and Patrick Keller. *Arnold Schwarzenegger: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Body and Image*. Heidelberg: Winter, 2011.

Journal Articles

“Defenders of Patriotism or Mothers of Fascism? The Daughters of the American Revolution, Antiradicalism, and Un-Americanism in the Interwar Period.” *Journal of American Studies* 47, no. 4 (2013): 943-969.

“Transnational Perspectives on the History of Race and Racism in North America.” *Amerikastudien* 54, no. 3 (2009): 473-498.

“Protection or Path toward Revolution? Black Power and Self-Defense.” *Souls* 9, no. 4 (2007): 320-332.

“‘They Finally Found Out that We Really Are Men’: Violence, Non-Violence and Black Manhood in the Civil Rights Era.” *Gender & History* 19, no. 3 (2007): 543-564.

“God, Gandhi, and Guns: The African American Freedom Struggle in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 1964- 1965.” *Journal of African American History* 89, no. 1 (2004): 36-56.

“‘Urge People *Not* to Carry Guns’: Armed Self-Defense in the Louisiana Civil Rights Movement and the Radicalization of the Congress of Racial Equality.” *Louisiana History* 45, no. 3 (2004): 261-286.

“Southern Intellectuals and the Defense of Slavery: The Proslavery Thought of George Fitzhugh and Henry Hughes.” *Southern Historian* 23 (2002): 56-70.

Book Chapters

“Paws of Courage: The Heroization of Dogs in Contemporary American Culture.” In *An Eclectic Bestiary: Encounters in a More-Than-Human World*, ed. Birgit Spengler and Babette B. Tischleder, 321-334. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2019.

“Instrument of Subjugation or Avenue for Liberation? African American Military Heroism in World War II and the Vietnam War.” In *Warring over Valor: How Race and Gender Shaped American Military Heroism in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries*, ed. Simon Wendt, 57-78. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2019.

“American Studies as a Multi/Inter/Transdisciplinary Endeavor? Problems, Challenges, and the Potential of Heroism for Collaborative Research.” In *Projecting American Studies: Essays on Theory, Method, and Practice*, ed. Frank Kelleter und Alexander Starre, 197-205. Heidelberg: Winter, 2018.

“‘The Thought of a Black Male with a Weapon Scares America’: African Americans, the Second Amendment, and the Racial Politics of Armed Self-Defense in the Civil Rights Era and Beyond” (with Rebecca Rössling). In *The Second Amendment and Gun Control: Freedom, Fear, and the American Constitution*, ed. Kevin Yuill and Joe Street, 65-82. New York: Routledge, 2018.

“Intellectual Predicaments: Black Nationalism in the Civil Rights and Post-Civil Rights Eras.” In *Black Intellectual Thought in Modern America: A Historical Perspective*, ed. Brian D. Behnken, Gregory D. Smithers, and Simon Wendt, 170-205. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2017.

“Heldentum und Autorität in der US-amerikanischen Gesellschaft um 1900.” In *Autorität: Krise, Konstruktion und Konjunktur*, ed. Oliver Kohns, Till van Rahden, and Marc Roussel, 75-107. Paderborn: Fink, 2016.

“Eldridge Cleaver: *Soul on Ice* (1967) Oder: ‘I will not be free until the day I can have a white woman in my bed and a white man minds his own business.’” In *Race & Sex: Eine Geschichte der Neuzeit*, ed. Jürgen Martschukat and Olaf Stieglitz, 152-159. Berlin: Neofaris, 2016.

“White Elite Women, the Gendered Memory of Heroism, and American Nationalism, 1890-1939.” In *Bewunderer, Verehrer, Zuschauer: Die Helden und ihr Publikum*, ed. Ronald G. Asch and Michael Butter, 161-178. Würzburg: Ergon, 2016.

“Transnationalizing American and Transatlantic History: Chances and Challenges.” In *American Studies Today: New Research Agendas*, ed. Winfried Fluck, Erik Redling, Sabine Sielke, and Hubert Zapf, 3-24. Heidelberg: Winter, 2014.

“Nationalist Middle-Class Women, Memory, and Conservative Family Values, 1890-1945.” In *Gender Roles and the Family: Changing Values and Norms in 20th-Century United States*, ed. Isabel Heinemann, 31-58. Frankfurt: Campus, 2012.

“Bodybuilding, Male Bodies, and Masculinity in 19th and 20th Century America: Eugen Sandow and Arnold Schwarzenegger.” In *Arnold Schwarzenegger: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Body and Image*, ed. Michael Butter, Patrick Keller, and Simon Wendt, 25-48. Heidelberg: Winter, 2011.

“Transnationalizing American Studies: Historians’ Perspectives” (with Heike Bungert). In *American Studies/Shifting Gears*, ed. Birte Christ, Christian Kloeckner, Elisabeth Schäfer-Wünsche, and Michael Butter, 89-116. Heidelberg: Winter, 2010.

“‘We Were Going to Fight Fire with Fire’: Black Power in the South.” In *Neighborhood Rebels: Black Power at the Local Level*, ed. Peniel E. Joseph, 131-147. New York: Palgrave, 2010.

“Massenmedien und die Bedeutung von Helden und Stars in den USA (1890-1929).” In *Medien und Imagepolitik im 20. Jahrhundert: Deutschland, Europa, USA*, ed. Daniela Münkler and Lu Seegers, 187-205. Frankfurt: Campus, 2008.

“Martin Luther Kings Philosophie der Gewaltfreiheit – Prinzip oder Methode? Pazifismus, gewaltloser Protest und bewaffneter Widerstand in der afroamerikanischen Bürgerrechtsbewegung.” In *Martin Luther King, Jr.: Leben, Werk und Vermächtnis*, ed. Michael Haspel and Britta Waldschmidt-Nelson, 35-54. Weimar: Wartburg Verlag, 2008.

“Krieg und Heldentum in den USA: Die Heroisierung amerikanischer Soldaten vom Ende des Bürgerkriegs bis zum spanisch-amerikanischen Krieg.” In *Krieg: Vergleichende Perspektiven aus Kunst, Musik und Geschichte*, ed. Cord Arendes and Jörg Peltzer, 115-132. Heidelberg: Winter, 2007.

“Gewalt und Männlichkeit in der Black Power Bewegung.” In *Väter, Soldaten, Liebhaber: Männer und Männlichkeiten in der Geschichte Nordamerikas*, ed. Jürgen Martschukat and Olaf Stieglitz, 355-369. Bielefeld: Transcript, 2007.

“African Americans and Criminal Justice in the American South: The Convict Lease System, 1868- 1928.” In *Criminal Justice in Germany and the United States*, ed. Manfred Berg, Stefan Kapsch, and Franz Streng, 19-28. Heidelberg: Winter, 2006.

“The Roots of Black Power? Armed Resistance and the Radicalization of the Civil Rights Movement.” In *The Black Power Movement: Rethinking the Civil Rights-Black Power Era*, ed. Peniel E. Joseph, 145-165. New York: Routledge, 2006.

Encyclopedia Articles

„Lynching and Mob Violence.” In *The Mississippi Encyclopedia*, ed. Ted Ownby, et. al., 757-758. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2017.

“Daughters of the American Revolution.” In *Encyclopedia of American Social History*, ed. Lynn Dumenil, 246-248. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.

“Black Self-Defense;” “Deacons for Defense and Justice;” “Williams, Robert F.” In *Encyclopedia of African American History*, ed. Leslie Alexander and Walter Rucker, 665-667, 732-733, 1104-1105. Santa Barbara: ABL-CLIO, 2010.

“African American Resistance, Jim Crow Era;” “African American Resistance, Reconstruction Era;” “American Slave Rebellions.” In *International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest: 1500 to the Present*, ed. Immanuel Ness, 16-19, 19-21, 88-90. New York: Blackwell, 2009.

“Civil Rights Movement.” In *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896-Present*, ed. Paul Finkelman, 411-419. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.

“Du Bois, W.E.B” and “Garvey, Marcus.” In *Encyclopedia of the Jazz Age: From the End of World War I to the Great Crash*, ed. James Ciment, 183-184, 256-257. New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2008.

“Bunche, Ralph (1904-1971);” “Gandhi, Mohandas (1869-1948);” “Kenyatta, Jomo (1897/1898?-1978);” “King, Martin Luther, Jr. (1929-1968);” “Mau Mau;” “Weathermen.” In *Encyclopedia of the Cold War: A Political, Social, and Military History*, ed. Spencer C. Tucker and Andrew McCormick, 214-215, 486-487, 711-712, 720-722, 832-383, 1417-1418. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2007.

“Southern Christian Leadership Conference;” “Poor People’s Campaign;” “Selma March.” In *Postwar America: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural, and Economic History*, ed. James Ciment, 987-989, 1103-1105, 1153-1155. New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2006.

“Parks, Rosa Louise.” In *Encyclopedia of American Lives*, ed. Arnold Markoe, Karen Markoe, and Kenneth T. Jackson. Vol. 7, 413-415. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2006.

“Nonviolent Direct Action and the Civil Rights Movement”; “Congress of Racial Equality”; “Racial Violence and the Civil Rights Movement.” In *Encyclopedia of American Social Movements*, ed. Immanuel Ness. Vol. 1, 202-207; 208-211; 222-226. New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2004.

“Cold War (1945-1950), The Start of the Atomic Age.” In *Encyclopedia of Espionage, Intelligence, and Security*, ed. K. Lee Lerner and Brenda Wilmoth Lerner. Vol. 1, 230-233. New York: Gale, 2004.

“Malcolm X (Malik El-Shabazz).” In *The Scribner Encyclopedia of American Lives: The 1960s*, ed. William L. O’Neill. Vol. 2, 37-40. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2003.

Book Reviews

Elliot J. Gorn, *Let the People See: The Story of Emmett Till* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018, in: *American Historical Review* 125, no. 4 (2020): 1442-1443.

John H. Hale, *The Freedom Schools: Student Activists in the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2016. *Journal of American History* 104, no. 2 (2017): 546-547.

Charles E. Cobb Jr., *This Nonviolent Stuff’ll Get You Killed: How Guns Made the Civil Rights Movement Possible*. New York: Basic Books, 2014. *American Historical Review* 120, no. 2 (2015): 672-673.

The Black Power Mixtape 1967-1975. Dir. by Göran Hugo Olsson. Prod. by Annika Rogell, Joslyn Barnes, and Danny Glover. Louverture Films, 2011. *Journal of American History* 99, no. 1 (2012): 380-382.

Paul Alkebulan, *Survival Pending Revolution: The History of the Black Panther Party*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2007. *Journal of African American History* 94, no. 1 (2009): 125-127.

Mark Newman, *The Civil Rights Movement*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2004. *Journal of Southern History* 74, no. 1 (2008): 229.