# Verena Baier

American Studies | University of Regensburg | verena.baier@ur.de

## **EDUCATION**

11/2017 – now	Doctoral candidate in American Studies, University of Regensburg Working title of thesis: Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Peace and Solidarity Movement and Contra War, 1979-1990 Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Volker Depkat
10/2010 - 07/2017	First State Examination, University of Regensburg Double major in English and Spanish Studies
09/2014 - 03/2015	International student at Universidad de Sevilla, Spain (supported by Erasmus+)
08/2012 - 02/2013	International student at Augustana College, Illinois, USA (PROMOS scholarship)
04/2013 - 01/2017	B.A. American Studies, University of Regensburg
09/2001 - 07/2010	Veit-Höser-Gymnasium Bogen, Germany



#### FELLOWSHIPS & EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

02/2022 - 05/2022	Visiting Scholar at the Center for Latin American Studies, UC Berkeley, USA
04/2021 - 09/2021	Visiting Scholar at the Department of Historical Geography, Faculty of Humanities, Otto-
	Friedrich-Universität Bamberg
12/2019 - 06/2020	Visiting PhD student at Institute of European Studies, UC Berkeley, USA
04/2019	Fellowship for Regensburg-Berkeley Doctoral Exchange Program, granted by the University of
	Regensburg (university-wide scholarship competition)
05/2019	International Summer Academy fellowship, granted by Bavarian American Academy Munich
01/2019 – today	Assistant Manager of the doctoral research group of the faculties of philosophy at the
	University of Regensburg (PUR)
10/2018 – today	Full PhD scholarship of the Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft (sdw)
10/2017 - 09/2018	Lecturer in American Studies, Department of American Studies, University of Regensburg
06/2017 - 08/2017	Student Research Assistant for research stay of visiting professor Prof. Dr. Jeannette E.
	Jones (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), University of Regensburg
03/2017 - 09/2017	Student Research Assistant in publication process of <i>The African American Sonnet: A</i>
	Literary History by Prof. Dr. Timo Müller (University Press of Mississippi)
07/2016 - 09/2017	Student Research Assistant, Department of American Studies, University of Regensburg

## **PUBLICATIONS**

09/2021	"Workshop Report: Narrated Lives, Remembered Selves: Emerging Research in Life Writing Studies," in: <i>Frictions: Europe, America and Global Transformations</i> (with Tamara Heger, University of Regensburg) (doi: 10.15457/frictions/0013)
03/2021	"Sometimes the Past is Just Around the Corner: Impressions from Berkeley," in: <i>Frictions: Europe, America and Global Transformations</i> (doi: 10.15457/frictions/0001)
06/2019	'Whose Tomorrow is Tomorrow?': Remembering (Past) Futures in Autobiographical Writings of the US-Nicaragua Solidarity Movement and Contra War, 1979-1991," in: <i>COPAS</i> ( <i>Current Objectives in Postgraduate American Studies</i> ) (Vol. 20.1)

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04/2019 "Collective Writing – Writing Collectives: Die Konstruktion Kollektiver Identität in Life Writings der US-Nicaragua-Solidaritätsbewegung der 1980er," in: *Zeitschrift für Kultur- und Kollektivwissenschaft* (Vol. 5.1)

#### SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

11/2021	"Where And When Is Nicaragua? Remembering Transnational Activism in Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Peace Movement and the Mercenaries of the 1980s Contra War," <i>Life Writing: Transnationalism, Translingualism, Transculturalism – International Auto/Biography Association Asia-Pacific Conference</i> , University of Adelaide, 20-23 Nov. 2021 (Presentation)
11/2021	"The Making of Communicative Networks," SAMLA's 93rd Annual Conference 'Social Networks, Social Distances' – Southern Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, USA, 4–6 Nov. 2021 (Presentation)
09/2021	"Zwischen Konflikt und Kompromiss: Autobiographische Erzählungen von Religiösen Organisationen in der US-Nicaragua Friedens- und Solidaritätsbewegung der 1980er," Jahrestagung der <i>Görres-Gesellschaft</i> , 25 Sept. 2021 (Invited guest talk)
06/2021	"Rambos and Martyrs: The Making of Heroes in Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Solidarity Movement and Contra War of the 1980s," Department of North American History, John F. Kennedy Institute, Freie Universität Berlin, 14 June 2021 (Invited guest lecture)
05/2021	"'But in Nicaragua There's a Lot of Hope': US-Peace Activists' Life Writings of 1980s Revolutionary Nicaragua, International Workshop "Narrated Lives – Remembered Selves. Emerging Research in Life Writing Studies," Regensburg, 13-14 May 2021 (Presentation)
03/2021	"Remembering Nicaragua?: Life Writings by US American Volunteers in the Nicaragua Peace and Solidarity Movement and the Contra War, 1979-1990," <i>HCA Spring Academy</i> , Heidelberg Center for American Studies, Heidelberg University, 24 Mar. 2021 (Presentation)
02/2021	"Memory Production in the US Nicaragua Solidarity Movement and US Latin American Relations in the Cold War," FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, 3 Feb. 2021 (Invited guest lecture)
02/2020	"Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Peace and Solidarity Movement and the Contra War of the 1980s," <i>Institute of European Studies</i> , UC Berkeley, 21 Feb. 2020 (Presentation)
11/2019	"Whose Crisis?: Solidarity Activists, Cold Warriors and the Case of Nicaragua during the 1980s," LMU Munich, 4 Nov. 2019 (Invited guest lecture)
10/2019	"A Bunch of Rambos': Remembered Lives of US Mercenaries in the Nicaraguan Contra War," Brno-Regensburg PhD Conference, Telč, Czech Republic, 11-13 Oct. 2019 (Presentation)
05/2019	"The America I Identify With?': Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Solidarity Movement and Contra War, 1979-1991," <i>BAA 11th International Summer Academy</i> , Nuremberg, Berlin, Regensburg, 25 May- 8 June 2019 (Presentation)
02/2019	"Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Solidarity Movement and Contra War," <i>Young Scholars Forum</i> at <i>Annual Meeting of the Historians of the German Association for American Studies (GAAS)</i> , Lichtenfels, 8-10 Feb. 2019 (Presentation)
11/2018	"Negotiating Utopia in Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Solidarity Movement and Contra War, 1979-1991," <i>Postgraduate Forum (PGF) of the German Association for American Studies (GAAS)</i> , University of Essen, 8-10 Nov. 2018 (Presentation)
10/2018	"Negotiating Uneasy Collectives in Life Writings of the US-Nicaragua Solidarity Movement and Contra War, 1979-1991," <i>American Studies Graduate Conference</i> , Masaryk University Brno, Czech Republic, 12-13 Oct. 2018 (Presentation)
06/2018	"Narrating Lives, Narrating Progress: Progress and the Self in Life Writings of the US- Nicaragua Solidarity Movement," <i>GSNAS Graduate Conference</i> , FU Berlin, 7- 8 June 2018 (Presentation)

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#### ORGANIZED CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

12/2021	Masterclass "Performance Beyond the Pale" with Prof. Dr. James Harding (University of Maryland), 15 – 16 Dec. 2021, University of Regensburg
05/2021	International Workshop "Narrated Lives – Remembered Selves: Emerging Research in Life Writing Studies" with keynotes by Prof. Dr. Sidonie Smith (Ann Arbor, Michigan), Prof. Dr. Julia Watson (Columbus, Ohio) and Prof. Dr. Mita Banerjee (Mainz), 13 – 14 May 2021 (with Tamara Heger, University of Regensburg)
10/2019	International PhD Conference as cooperation between doctoral candidates of Masaryk University Brno and University of Regensburg, Telč, Czech Republic, 11–13 Nov. 2019 (with the Department of English and American Studies, Masaryk University, Brno)
2019 - today	Annual conference of the doctoral research group of the faculties of philosophy (PUR) Tag des wissenschaftlichen Nachwuchses, University of Regensburg (multiple times)

#### SELECTED SUMMER SCHOOL FELLOWSHIPS

Heidelberg Spring Academy, funded by Heidelberg Center for Am. Studies (March 2021)

International Summer Academy, funded by Bavarian American Academy (May/June 2019)

#### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Life writing studies; social movements; US imperialism; the Cold War; Transnational American Studies; Latin American Studies

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

10/2017 - 08/2018	Lecturer at Department of American Studies of the University of Regensburg, taught
	Introduction to English and American Literary Studies (multiple times)
03/2018 - 05/2018	Advanced training in didactics of teaching at university level (ZHW, University of
	Regensburg)
02/2015 - 04/2015	Teaching Assistant at IES San Isidoro, Sevilla, Spain
01/2012 - 02/2014	Various internships and teacher trainings at Bavarian high schools
08/2010 - 10/2010	Teaching Assistant at Korowa Anglican Girls' School, Melbourne, Australia

#### LANGUAGES

German (native language)

English (C2 \*of common European framework of reference)

Spanish (C1\*) French (B2\*)

Latin (advanced Latinum certificate)

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

German Association for American Studies (GAAS/DGfA) International Auto/Biography Association (IABA) South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA)

PUR (doctoral research group of the faculties of philosophy at the University of Regensburg)

CampusAsyl (non-profit refugee organization in Regensburg, Germany)

Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft (sdw; Foundation of the German Economy)