



Dr. Anka Steffen

Academic Career

- 2006-2010 **Bachelor's programme Social and Cultural Sciences** at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt/Oder (Germany)
- 2007-2008 One-year **study abroad** at the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torún (Poland)
- 09/2010 **Bachelor of Arts**
(final grade 1,3)

Bachelor's thesis:
"Japonier", "Japanesen" und "Japs" – Analyse des europäischen Selbstverständnisses im Spiegel des Japanbildes in Europa vom 16. Jahrhundert bis zum ersten Weltkrieg
- 2010-2013 **Master's programme European Cultural History** at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt/Oder (Germany)
- 03/2013 **Fritz-Stern-Scholarship** for a research stay in Jelenia Góra (Poland) for archival research in preparation for the master's thesis
- 10/2013 **Master of Arts**
(final grade 1,2)

Master's thesis:
"Insonders hochgeehrter Herr! – Ein Beitrag zur Einbindung der Gewerbeflandschaft Schlesien in den kolonialen Transatlantikhandel im 18. Jahrhundert am Beispiel der Geschäftskorrespondenz des Johann Friedrich Ketzler"

During my studies

Voluntary translation work for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. (USA) on behalf of the “International Database of Oral History Testimonies Program”: translation and transcription of Polish-language eyewitness interviews into English, 2009

Student assistant, later research assistant at the Chair of Comparative Politics, 2009-2013 (Prof. Dr. Michael Minkenberg)

Tutoring at the Faculty of Social and Cultural Sciences:

- 2012 “Einführung in die Kulturgeschichte” (Prof. Dr. Klaus Weber)
- 2012/13 “Einführung in die Kulturwissenschaften” (Prof. Dr. Klaus Weber)
- 2012/13 “Einführung in die Kulturgeschichte” (Prof. Dr. Gangolf Hübinger)
- 2013 “Einführung in die Kulturgeschichte” (Prof. Dr. Klaus Weber)

Participation at the Transatlantic-Seminar “Knowledge in Time - The Experience of History in Modern Knowledge Making”, in cooperation with the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (USA), 2012/13 (Prof. Dr. Reinhard Blänkner)

Scientific Career

- 2013-2014 **Member of the academic staff** at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt/Oder at the Chair of Comparative European Economic and Social History (Prof. Dr. Klaus Weber)
- 2015-2018 **Research associate within the DFG project** “The Globalized Periphery: Atlantic Commerce, Socioeconomic and Cultural Change in Central Europe (1680-1850)”; responsible for the sub-project “Linen Weaving and Social Change in Silesia – a World-Wide Integrated Proto-Industry in Eastern Central Europe”
- 09-10/2015 and 10-11/2016 **Research grants from the German Historical Institute Warsaw** for archival research in Jelenia Góra and Wrocław (Poland)

Language Skills

German,
Polish,
English,
Spanish (advanced),
Russian
(intermediate),
Dutch
(reading competence)

07-09/2016 **Fellowship of the Viadrina International Program for Graduates** (funded by German Academic Exchange Service/DAAD and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research/BMBF) for a stay at the University of Hertfordshire and archive research in London (UK)

03-08/2019 **Scholarship from the Leibniz Institute of European History (IEG)** in Mainz (Germany)

10-12/2019 **Fellowship at the Harvard University (USA)**, “Weatherhead Initiative on Global History”;
Research grant from the German Historical Institute Washington D.C. (USA)

07/2022 **Submission of dissertation**
*“Die »Priesterschaft des heiligen Merkur«.
Schlesische Wirtschaft im globalen Kontext”*
(summa cum laude)

12/2022 **Disputatio**
(summa cum laude)

06/2023 **Martin-Behaim-Dissertation Prize 2022**
of the Society for Global History (GfGG) in Bamberg (Germany)

10/2023 **Teaching position** at the University of Leipzig at the Chair of Early Modern History
(Prof. Dr. Julia Schmidt-Funke)

Academic
Self-administration

Member of the Appointment Committee
“Europäische Zeitgeschichte” (2013/14),
Member of the Working Group for the Revision of the General Regulations for Doctoral Studies (2014/15),
Member of the Working Group for the Reform of the BA Study Regulations in Social and Cultural Sciences and the BA Curriculum in Cultural History (2014/15-2015/16),
Full member of the Council for Academic Staff
(since 2014/15, chair 2018-2019)

Memberships

Gesellschaft für Globalgeschichte (GfGG),
Gesellschaft für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsgeschichte (GSWG),
Women in Economic History (WIEH).

Leipzig, 27.09.2023



Teaching Experience

Die Hirschberger Kaufmanns-Societät. Schlesisches Leinen im Atlantikhandel des 18. Jahrhunderts, 2013/14

Geschichtliche Grundbegriffe oder wie beschreibt man die Vergangenheit?, 2014

Von Besitzern und “Besessenen” – Der Gutshof als “Wirtschaftsunternehmen” im globalen Kontext des 18. Jahrhunderts, 2023/24

Presentations and Publications

Presentations

- 09/2014 “A Puzzle on a Globalized Periphery: Silesia's Rural Textile Industry, and 18th Century World Markets”, 4th European Congress on World and Global History, Paris, 04.-07.09.2014.
- 11/2014 “Silesian Linen Merchants within the Global Trade of Textiles in the Early Modern Era”, International PhD and Postdoctoral Workshop “The Global Trade of Textiles and Clothing in the Early Modern Period: Exchange, Meaning and Materialities”, University of Warwick, Coventry, 27.-28.11.2014.
- 07/2015 “Silesian Linen Merchants - Global Players or Regional Distributors?”, 14th International Congress of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam, 27.-31.07.2015.
- 08/2015 “For God sake lett us have them' - Silesian Linens at the Pre-Colonial West-African Coast”, 17th World Economic History Congress, Kyoto, 03.-07.08.2015.
- 09/2015 “Global Players? Die schlesischen Leinenkaufleute im Atlantikhandel des 18. Jahrhunderts”, Deutsches Historisches Institut Warschau.
- 07/2016 “Silesians and Slaves – How Linen Textiles Connected East-Central Europe, Africa and the Americas”, International Conference “Dressing Global Bodies”, Edmonton, 07.-09.07.2016.
- 11/2016 “Global Players? Die schlesischen Leinenkaufleute im Atlantikhandel des 18. Jahrhunderts”, Nachwuchstagung für Schlesienforscher, Einladung der Stiftung Kulturwerk Schlesien und der Kulturreferentin am Schlesischen Museum zu Görlitz, Herrnhut, 16.-17.11.2016.
- 04/2018 “Silesian Serfs and their Contribution to the Atlantic Trade”, European Social Science History Congress, Belfast, 04.-07.04.2018.
- 08/2018 “A Tying Cloth – New Perspectives on the 18th-century Prussian Economy”, 18th World Economic History Congress, Boston, 29.07.-03.08.2018.

Presentations

- 07/2019 “Slave Fabrics and Fabrics that Enslaved: Textiles within the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic Slave Trade”, International Conference “Clothing the Enslaved in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World”, National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, 08.-10.07.2019.
- 11/2019 “‘Priesthood of holy Mercury’. Plantation Slavery and Silesian Serfdom: An Entangled History”, University of Pittsburgh, 11.11.2019.
- 11/2019 “‘Priesthood of holy Mercury’. Silesian Linen Merchants and the Atlantic Trade in the Early Modern Period, Deutsches Historisches Institut Washington D.C., 14.11.2019.
- 02/2020 “A Cloth That Binds – New Perspectives on the 18th-century Prussian Economy”, International Institute of Social History Research Seminar, Amsterdam, 04.02.2020.
- 10/2021 “Auf Tuchfühlung. Schlesien und die Sklaverei – Eine Beziehungsgeschichte vom 16. Jahrhundert bis zum ersten Weltkrieg”, 53. Deutscher Historikertag, 05.-08.10.2021, München.
- 12/2021 “Verwoben. Transatlantischer Sklavenhandel und schlesische Leibeigenschaft im 18. Jahrhundert”, Forschungskolloquium zur Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, 09.12.2021.
- 02/2022 “Verwoben. Transatlantischer Sklavenhandel und schlesische Leibeigenschaft im 18. Jahrhundert”, Forschungskolloquium zur Kulturgeschichte, Europa-Universität Viadrina, Frankfurt/O, 04.02.2022.
- 04/2023 „Am leinenen Faden. Schlesiens Wirtschaft im globalen Kontext“, Forschungskolloquium, Universität Leipzig, Leipzig, 27.04.2023.

Publications

- 05/2016 (Rezension) Marco Veronesi, *Oberdeutsche Kaufleute in Genua, 1350-1490. Institutionen, Strategien, Kollektive, Veröffentlichungen der Kommission für Geschichtliche Landeskunde in Baden-Württemberg*, vol. 199, Kohlhammer, Stuttgart, 2014, in: *WerkstattGeschichte*, Bd. 70, 2016.
- 06/2016 (Peer-Reviewed) “Spinning and Weaving for the Slave Trade: Proto-Industry in Eighteenth-Century Silesia” von Anka Steffen und Klaus Weber, in: Felix Brahm und Eve Rosenhaft (eds.), *Slavery Hinterland. Transatlantic Slavery and Continental Europe, 1680-1850*, Boydell & Brewer, Woodbridge, 2016, pp. 87-107.
- 01/2017 “Schlesische Leinwand als Handelsgut im atlantischen Sklavenhandel der frühen Neuzeit. Das Beispiel der Hirschberger Kaufmanns-Societät”, in: Themenportal Europäische Geschichte, (<https://www.europa.clio-online.de/essay/id/artikel-4005>).
- 07/2020 (Peer-Reviewed) “A Fierce Competition! Silesian Linens and Indian Cottons on the West African Coast in the Late Seventeenth and Early Eighteenth Centuries”, in: Jutta Wimpler und Klaus Weber (eds.), *Globalized Peripheries. Central Europe and the Atlantic World, 1680-1860*, Boydell & Brewer, Woodbridge, 2020, pp. 37-56.
- 01/2021 (Peer-Reviewed) “A Cloth that Binds – New Perspectives on the Eighteenth-century Prussian Economy”, in: *Slavery & Abolition*, vol. 42/1, 2021, pp. 105-129.
- 2021/22 (Peer-Reviewed) “‘used for ~~clothing~~ the slave^{trade}’. Sletias and Osnabrugs in the Early Eighteenth-century Atlantic World”, in: Chris Evans (Hrsg.), *Clothing the Enslaved in the Eighteenth-century Atlantic World*, Boydell & Brewer, Woodbridge (forthcoming).
- 09/2022 “Sklavereigeschäft im Riesengebirge”, in: *SPIEGEL Geschichte*, No. 5 “Sklaverei. Wie Menschen zur Ware wurden – und Deutschland profitierte”, 19.09.2022, pp. 66-71.
- 2023 (Peer-Reviewed) “Silesia, Serfdom and Slavery – A Relationship History from the Late Seventeenth to the Early Twentieth Century”, in: *Journal of Global Slavery*, special issue (forthcoming).

Publications

- 2023 (Peer-Reviewed) “Beyond not Behind: East-Central Europe’s Atlantic History” von Anka Steffen und Doina Anca Cretu, in: Journal of Global History, special issue “‘Flyover Country’: East-Central Europe’s Place in Global History” (forthcoming).
- 2023 (Rezension) Lucas Haasis, The Power of Persuasion. Becoming a Merchant in the 18th Century, Practices of Subjectivation, vol. 23, transcript Verlag, Bielefeld, 2022 (forthcoming).
- 2024 (Currently reviewed) “The Linen Export Trade of Silesia during Habsburg Rule”, in: Klemens Kaps und Kolja Lichy (eds.), Economic Connections and Exchange of the Habsburg Monarchy in the Early Modern Age, Economic History Series, Brill, Leiden.

Radio Features

- 07/2023 Von Zucker und Zink: das Rheinland und der Sklavenhandel, WDR 5 Scala – Hintergrund Kultur; broadcast on 05.07.2023. Interview by Matthias Hennies, 16.06.2023.
- 07/2023 Mit Sklavenelend erkaufte. Verdrängte Ursprünge der Industrialisierung, BR 2, IQ – Wissenschaft und Forschung; broadcast on 18.07.2023. Interview by Matthias Hennies, 16.06.2023.