

# NCGS

## NORTH CAROLINA GERMAN STUDIES

seminar & workshop series

**Co-Conveners: Duke University, Dept. of History, UNC-Chapel Hill, Dept. of History, and UNC-Chapel Hill Center for European Studies**

### Thursday, 23 January 2020

**5:30–7:00 pm | UNC–Chapel Hill |  
FedEx Global Center 4003**

## DAVID BLACKBOURN

**Cornelius Vanderbilt Distinguished Chair of History,  
Vanderbilt University, Department of History**



## The German Atlantic: Recovering an Invisible World

Atlantic history, the history of the great interactions that took place between Europe, Africa and the Americas, has emerged since the 1980s as a dynamic field of study that has generated its own programs, textbooks, essay collections, book prizes and online list-serve. The German presence in the Atlantic world remains largely hidden because of the absence of a German nation state before 1871. Settlers, merchants, mining engineers, missionaries and scientific travelers from the German lands did not fly under a German flag. We have to look for them in the empires established by others, whether Spanish, Dutch, British or French. This lecture, drawn from a larger project on “Germany in the World, 1500-2000”, tries to recover this invisible German presence and shows that Germans played a greater role than we think, often as major brokers or intermediaries.

**DAVID BLACKBOURN** is Cornelius Vanderbilt Distinguished Chair and Professor of History at Vanderbilt University. A Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the British Academy, he is the author of *Class, Religion and Local Politics in Wilhelmine Germany* (1980), *The Peculiarities of German History* [with Geoff Eley] (1984), *Populists and Patricians* (1987), *Marpingen* (1993), *The Long Nineteenth Century: A History of Germany, 1780-1918* (1997) *The Conquest of Nature* (2006), and *Landschaften der deutschen Geschichte* (2016).

**Moderator: KONRAD H. JARAUSCH | UNC-Chapel Hill, Department of History**

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**CONVENERS:** Carolina Seminars | The Carolina-Duke Graduate Program in German Studies | Duke University Dept. of Germanic Languages & Literature | Dept. of History, Duke Center for Jewish Studies | The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill College of Arts and Sciences | Carolina Center for Jewish Studies | Dept. of Germanic and Slavic Languages & Literatures | Dept. of History



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