

**Book launch for Greta Olson’s *From Law and Literature to Legality and Affect* (Oxford University Press, 2022)**

Please join us on Monday, 10 October, from 6 to 8 PM / 18:00 to 20:00 (UTC+02:00). Everyone is welcome, and there is no need to register beforehand.

Join via the following link: <https://uni-giessen.webex.com/uni-giessen-en/j.php?MTID=m20a89c33ef370abcbfae8e0e596e6bf7>

or Webinar number 2734 594 3859 & password: ygNsY2uSP67

If you have any issues while logging in, please contact Melanie.Kreitler@gcsc.uni-giessen.de

From Law and Literature to Legality and Affect argues for the continued vitality of Law and Literature. Traditional methods of Law and Literature are combined with work in critical media studies, affect, and cultural narratology to address topics such as ethnonationalism, anti-immigration sentiment, and systemic racism in Germany and the United States. Taking stock of the diversification of the field at fifty years, this book understands Law and Literature as a political project. It has a precedent in inaugural Law and Literature texts such as Jacob Grimm’s “Von der Poesie im Recht” (On the Poetry in Law) from 1815/16, which imagined an alternative legal order that was grounded in the unity of law, poetic language, and feeling. The political thrust of Law and Literature continues up into the present in the arts of BlackLivesMatter, which document and resist police violence. Law and Literature offers keys for understanding how legal texts and identities are constructed, and for comprehending how cultural-legal issues are mediated affectively. Using cultural, medial, affect theoretical, and narrative analyses of law, a revitalized Law and Literature offers a set of methods and theories with which to address the most pressing issues of the present.

The book launch will feature inputs by Jeanne Gaakeer, Professor of Jurisprudence at Erasmus School of Law (Rotterdam) and Senior Justice in the Court of Appeal, The Hague;

Simon Stern, Professor of Law and English, Chair in Innovation Law (Toronto) and Co-Editor of the Oxford University Press Law and Literature series;

Werner Gephart, Professor of Legal Sociology and Founding Director of the Käte Hamburger Center for Advanced Study “Law as Culture” (Bonn); and

Peter Goodrich, Professor of Law and Director of the Program in Law and Humanities, Cardoza Law School (New York) and Visiting Professor in the School of Social Science at New York University Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates).

The launch will be moderated by Birte Christ, Substitute Professor for English and American Literature (Giessen) and author of a book on representations of the American death penalty in film and television (under review) and co-editor, with Stefanie Mueller, of a special issue of *Amerikatustudien* on Poetry and Law.