



**University of Stuttgart**

Dr. Saskia Schabio

American Literature and Culture

## Lecture Series Environmental Humanities

**Prof. Timo Müller, "Urban Traffic and the Question of Sustainability in the Early Automobile Novel"**

November 21, 2023 / 5.30 p.m. / [Webex Link](#)

The implementation of "car-friendly" urban infrastructure in the twentieth century created considerable environmental damage and worsened living conditions, especially for socially disadvantaged groups. People were unaware of some of these problems at the time, while others were actively suppressed or glossed over. Fictional narratives contributed decisively to spreading such distorted representations. At the same time, they helped shape early notions of sustainable mobility. The lecture traces this double role in novels from the early twentieth century that are being collected in the project "Off the Road: The Environmental Aesthetics of Early Automobility" at the University of Konstanz.

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Concept: Felix Heidenreich ([IZKT](#)) and Saskia Schabio (American Literature and Culture)

Neuigkeiten aus dem  
Imaginationslabor:  
Nachhaltige  
Metropolen und  
Fiktionen des  
Klimawandels –  
Diverse Perspektiven

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