

## Short Bio:

MaryAnn Snyder-Körber is Professor of American Cultural Studies at the Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg. She further directs the Schreibzentrum | Writing Center der JMU Würzburg. Her publications include *Das weiblich Erhabene* (2006), the co-edited volumes *The Pathos of Authenticity: American Passions of the Real* (with U. Haselstein and A. Gross, 2010) and *Machine: Bodies, Genders, Technologies* (with M. Hampf, 2012), and a special issue of the journal *Amerikastudien/ American Studies* devoted to *Trauma's Continuum: September 11th Re-Considered* (with A. Gross, 2011) as well as a study of *Modernism in American Centuries: Henry James, T.S. Eliot, Djuna Barnes, James Baldwin* (Habilitation 2014). In her current project, she joins colleagues in literary and cultural studies to consider *Exemplary Singularity: Fault Lines of the Anecdotal* (forthcoming 2019).

## Abstract:

"Here, There ... Everywhere: Teju Cole and the *fait divers*."

Teju Cole is most commonly celebrated as a renovator of the modernist novel. His *Open City* (2011) uses the epic narrative form to map out as well as to interrogate the interconnections that create global modernity. The presentation aims to consider Cole's mapping and interrogation of interconnected modernity and its textual forms from a different, far more modestly scaled vantage point by examining the writer's use of the *fait divers* or miscellaneous new item in his project *Small Fates*. As will be argued, the project positions Cole as a renovator of the anecdotal as well an interrogator of textual production flows between the local and the global.