

Invitation to Ph.D. students at Swedish universities to participate in

WORKSHOP
“American Studies in Sweden”
October 4-5, 2019
Stockholm University

The Swedish Association for American Studies (**SAAS**), in cooperation with the Swedish Institute for North American Studies (**SINAS**), is organizing a workshop open to all Ph.D. students with a Swedish university affiliation working in the field of American Studies. This workshop will provide Ph.D. students with an opportunity to present their research and receive feedback from senior academics and other scholars who share an interest in the study of North America. Another aim of the workshop is to develop doctoral students’ awareness and knowledge of American Studies as a research field and the network possibilities within this field in Sweden and beyond.

American Studies is an extensive and a distinctly interdisciplinary field that includes the study of culture, society, history, politics, media, art, literature, and more. As a research field, American Studies was established in the USA in the 1950s. In Sweden, the research on North America has a more than century-long history, and since the 1960s there has been a Ph.D. program in American literature at Uppsala University. In 1985, the Swedish Institute for North American Studies (SINAS) was formed at the same university. However, unlike in other countries in Europe, American Studies is not an established academic discipline in Sweden: it is not possible to receive a Master’s or Ph.D. degree in American Studies in this country. SAAS, founded in 1997, works to strengthen American Studies in Sweden and to bring researchers together through the activities it organizes.

The workshop will begin with lunch at 12.00 on Friday October 4 and end with lunch on Saturday October 5.

On Friday, there will be a few short presentations on the background and development of the field by scholars active on the SAAS board and at SINAS, after which will follow a discussion concerning the social and academic relevance of American Studies today.

Some of the questions addressed will be:

- What is American Studies in Sweden?
- Where is American Studies in Sweden?
- What does the future of American Studies in Sweden look like?

Saturday will be devoted to discussions of the Ph.D. students’ research. All Ph.D. students will send a short text (about 10 pages) on their dissertation projects to Maria Holmgren Troy, who will distribute them to all participants for reading before the workshop. The deadline for those texts is **September 16**.

The deadline for preliminary registration is June 14. For further registration details, see the registration form.

Welcome!

Workshop coordinators:

Adam Hjørthén, President of SAAS and Postdoctoral Researcher at JFK Institute for North American Studies, Free University of Berlin.

Maria Holmgren Troy, SAAS Secretary and Professor of English at Karlstad University.