



RECALIBRATING
AFRIKANISTIK

SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

AFRICAN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND UNCERTAINTY

ADWENEM NAAYE
UKUNGAQINISEKI
SHAKA

"...whenever she felt besieged by doubts, she would think of herself as standing valiantly alone, as almost heroic, so as to squash her **uncertainty**."

CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE,
AMERICANAH

ABSTRACT

The research project "**Recalibrating Afrikanistik**" (<https://recaf.de/>) is inviting applications from MA and PhD students at Bayreuth, Cologne, Leipzig, Wukari, Stellenbosch, and Moi universities to participate in a 10-day summer school to be held at Moi University in Eldoret, Kenya from August 30th to September 9th, 2021.

Coming against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been characterized by uncertainty manifesting itself in various ways in different countries, cultures, economic classes, and social groups with rippling effects that will be witnessed for years to come, the summer school will explore how this uncertainty incarnates within African contexts, how it's discussed and interpreted. How does this weighty unpredictability of the present and future change the way people speak from, within, and to Africa? How does this uncertainty differ from the uncertainty African artists have already felt and portrayed? These are some of the questions that will be explored by speakers from Moi, Stellenbosch, Wukari, Leipzig, Cologne, and Bayreuth universities during the first part of the summer school. During the second part, students are invited to attend the 5th Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies Conference from the 6th-8th of September in Eldoret to discuss "Radical Joy" as a means of countering depressive realities.

To apply for participation in the summer school, please send a one-page letter of motivation to brady.blackburne@uni-bayreuth.de and tommichaelmboya@gmail.com. Accommodations in Eldoret and flight costs for all participants will be taken care of. Also consider submitting a paper for the 5th Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies Conference with the theme "Radical Joy" (<https://africanlit.org/cfp-5th-eastern-african-literacy-and-cultural-studies-conference-moi-university-6-8-september-2021/>)



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