

Discussion Questions Week 1 Day 2 (3 Sept)

Assigned Readings:

Gordon Harvey, *Writing with Sources* (2017), 1-16.

Tara Zahra, "Travel Agents on Trial," *The Great Departure* (2016), 23-55.

Questions to ask yourself when analyzing primary sources [use for Ernst von Weber]

Source: Excerpt from Ernst von Weber, *Four Years in Africa* (1878)

Instructions:

Continuing with our exploration of the relationship between German colonialism, emigration, and the definition of "Germanness," we will explore a source from Ernst von Weber. We will also shift our perspective slightly from Germany to imperial Austria with the Tara Zahra reading, and begin discussing scholarly citation and the use of academic sources.

Begin by reading chapter one of the Gordon Harvey book provided by ESEM. Then read Tara Zahra chapter carefully, paying close attention to her use of sources. This will also be our starting point for beginning to discuss the annotation of scholarly texts as an active reading strategy. **Print out a copy of the Tara Zahra chapter (no need to print the introduction) and annotate it with a pen or pencil as you read.** For now, I would like to see how you currently engage with a text when you're writing on it, so write and take notes on the page in whatever way you're used to or that makes sense to you. **Bring your annotated texts with you to class and submit them to me; I will return it to you the following week.** We'll discuss annotation strategies in more depth later in the weeks that follow.

Below are questions we will discuss:

Tara Zahra, "Travel Agents on Trial," *The Great Departure* (2016), pp. 23-55.

- Who is Tara Zahra?
- What kinds of evidence and sources does Zahra use? As you read, keep a running list of the specific types of evidence and sources she uses. Be sure to

check the endnotes. If you are unsure about any of the sources or pieces of evidence she uses, simply mark down that you are unsure and posit a guess. We will discuss these in class.

- What is the connection between migration as a historical phenomenon and knowledge about migration in this chapter? How is knowledge produced and disseminated?
- What are the tensions between what migrants themselves want and what other actors in this story want?
- Why was emigration a problem for the Austrian government?
- Blood libel: what is this? (look it up)

How do the following sources that Tara Zahra cites differ from one another? Which are secondary and which are primary sources?

- Michael John, "Push and Pull Factors for Overseas Migrants from Austria-Hungary in the 19th and 20th Centuries," in *Austrian Immigration to Canada: Selected Essays*, ed. Franz A. J. Szabo (Carleton, CA, 1996). [note 6]
- Alison Frank, *Oil Empire: Visions of Prosperity in Austrian Galicia* (Cambridge, MA, 2005) [note 13]
- Marcin Kula, ed., *Writing Home: Immigrants in Brazil and The United States, 1890-1891*, Trans Josephine Wtulich (Boulder, CO, 1986). [note 21]
- Alison K. Smith, "The Freedom to Choose a Way of Life: Fugitives, Borders, and Imperial Amnesties in Russia," *Journal of Modern History* 83, no. 2 (June 2011): 243-71. [note 27]
- Friedrich Hey, *Unser Auswanderungswesen und seine Schäden* (Vienna, 1912) [note 82]