

14th International Refresher Course Week
9 – 14 April 2022

ONLINE EVENT

EASTER OSTERN 2022

Main Focus Class 9



Lehrerseminar für Waldorfpädagogik Kassel,
Deutschland/Germany

The *14th International Refresher Course Week Kassel* will focus on Class 9, and thus the commencement of the upper school. We invite you to join us ONLINE for inspiring lectures, seminars, and artistic courses held in English. Together with colleagues from all over the world, you may engage with subject contents, didactics and pedagogical methodologies in the fields of aesthetics, biology, chemistry, English as a foreign language, geography, ICT, international literature, history, physics, and mathematics. The programme caters to both beginning and experienced teachers who would like to expand their perspectives through the exchange of ideas in an international setting.

In Class 9, pupils' judgement and thinking abilities should be stimulated and developed by the requirements of, as well as the perspectives offered by, each individual subject. Through their lessons, adolescents should experience a genuine encounter with the world, facilitating the discovery of their own ideals, life-principles and intentions. This cultivates an interest-driven understanding of the world, which encourages pupils to embrace their life-tasks and enables them to become authors of their own biographies.

In the face of the ecological and political challenges of our time, our students need upper school teachers who are open-minded, competent in their subject-areas, aware of contemporary developments and sophisticated in their synthesis of these elements in the classroom. These qualities are fostered by professional intercultural exchanges, such as those offered at this international conference. We are looking forward to your participation as we work together towards enriching the experiences of pupils in the upper school.

All times refer to
Central European Summer Time (CEST).

LECTURES *All times refer to Central European Summer Time (CEST).*

Saturday–Wednesday, 9–14 April 2022, 10.00–11.00 am

Saturday, 9 April 2022

Wilfried Sommer

**Forming Judgements in the Age of Puberty –
Grade 9 as a Point of Departure for High School Education**

Sunday, 10 April 2022

Gunter Keller

**Genesis and Development of Minerals and Rocks
from a Qualitative Perspective**

Monday, 11 April 2022

Robin Theiss

**The Aesthetics of Light and Dark –
Forming Judgement through Art**

Tuesday, 12 April 2022

Marisha Plotnik

Mathematics as a Bridge

Wednesday, 13 April 2022

Ágnes Balassa

**Opportunities and Limitations –
Experimenting with Waldorf Principles in the Upper School**

Concluding Lecture

Thursday, 14 April 2022, 12.00–1.00 pm

Martyn Rawson

Re-Imagining Curriculum in Grade 9



Saturday–Thursday

9–14 April 2022, 8.00–9.30 am

C-1 Other Worlds and Meeting the Other: Utopias and Dystopias as a Theme in Literature Lessons in Grade 9 *Martyn Rawson, Rita Schumacher, Robin Theiss*

- History of consciousness and intercultural approach to the functions of utopias and dystopias in literature and film
- Comparative approaches to the ›Other‹ and ›Foreign worlds‹ in various utopia and dystopias in world literature
- Pedagogical anthropological developmental perspectives and the theme of ›foreignness‹ in grade 9

C-2 The Great Changes – What Can History Teach to the 9th Grader *Ágnes Balassa, Markus Osterrieder*

- Markus would like to describe the great changes and emancipation in human consciousness that occurred in Modern Times by presenting short biographical sketches of six individuals: Jan Hus, Sayyid Jamāl al-Dīn al-Afghānī, Pyotr Kropotkin, Nikola Tesla, Sun Yat-sen, Rosa Parks. Their biographies give a key to religious, political, social, scientific and technological transformations of the past six centuries.
- The seminar will also give a pedagogical approach to class 9 presented by Ágnes. For instance: how to plan a main lesson, what is an inspiring question, what can our family history add to the big picture, what kind of individual and groupwork activities help to deepen the understanding of history, what is the role of the history teacher in the 21st century?

Each session will give a chance for sharing experiences and asking questions.

C-3 Physics Grade 9 – Teaching Engineering in the Age of Puberty *Wilfried Sommer*

- Concepts of telecommunication: From a series connection of two microphones and two speakers to digital transmission using glass fibers

- »A liquid boils when its vapor pressure is greater than or equal to the external pressure.« Proposals how to deal with systems travelling along the vapor pressure curve
- The steam jack and geyser as challenging experiments. Follow-ups: Newcomen's steam engine, experiment on burning gasoline, four-stroke engine and combustion engine

C-4 **Chemistry I: 9th Grade Chemistry –** *Dirk Rohde*
A First Approach Towards Upper Grades Science

- Transition from a teacher-focussed teaching towards a student scientific approach regarding chemical questions – how can we get there? And how do we get from observed phenomena to factual judgments?
- As a means of giving students a perspective orientation: forming pictures like circulations of substances out of a multitude of scientific facts to give an outlook onto relations on a higher level.
- Common work on and training with experiments which introduce students into the beginning of organic chemistry.

It is strongly suggest to sign in also for part II of the seminar A-4.

C-5 **Geography I: The Development of the Earth Crust** *Gunter Keller*
and the Concept of Plate Tectonics

- Observation, thinking and the way to come to a concept
- How are we able to include our feeling in the process of understanding?
- The importance of an understanding of ocean floor
- The development of the Alps and the metamorphose of rocks during the process of subduction
- Earthquakes and volcanos
- Rocks and their structure and mineralogy

Please sign in also for part II of the seminar A-5.



Saturday–Wednesday
9–13 April 2022, 2.45–4.15 pm

- C-6 Cultural Perspectives through Short Stories** *Robin Theiss*
- In this workshop, we will explore short stories in English that can help the students understand cultural perspective. These stories can be used in schools with English as a primary or secondary language. We will look at practical ways to work with the texts and how they address the soul development of the adolescent.
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- C-7 Creative and Sustainable Foreign Language Teaching in Class 9** *Ulrike Sievers*
- Engaging students into active listening to and speaking with others through games, poetry, songs, communication activities, drama etc.
 - Creating a rich language environment through reading activities; inviting students to develop their own voice in writing; using open tasks for differentiated learning
 - Inviting curiosity and raising awareness of cultural differences and similarities – a stepping stone for teenagers in their search for identity
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- C-8 Active Learning and Practicing in the Weekly Math Lessons** *Birte Vestergaard*
- Binomial formulas, quadratic equations, planimetry and other topics of the weekly lessons
 - Problem solving based on practical life challenges
 - Discovery sheets and how they can be used

C-9 **Combinatorics –
Bringing Structure in Grade 9 Students Thinking
with Rhythms and Systems**

Jessica Krause

- We will look at the content and the structure of the grade 9 combinatorics block.
 - We will discuss many examples of how to let the students experience that math is interesting itself!
 - We will discuss of how to develop grade 9er's practical judgement in this math block.
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C-10 **Biology I**

Albrecht Schad

- We will talk about the upper school curriculum to get an idea of why we teach what in grade 9.
- Our main subject will be the human sense organs and the human skeleton.

Please also register for part two of the seminar: C-15.



Saturday–Wednesday
9–13 April 2022, 4.45–6.15 pm

C-11 Multiple Perspectives in History Teaching: The National Question in Modern History *Ágnes Balassa, Markus Osterrieder, Martyn Rawson, M. Michael Zech*

- How is the emergence of a »national or national-religious question« dealt with in the school curriculum at the age of the rise of modern states and empires since the 16th century?
- How is community identity described and discussed? (Not only in the sense of a functional legitimation of governance, but also as a force of rebellion and resistance against existing rule.)
- Which upheavals, or ambivalent light and dark sides, are addressed in school teaching?
- The focus of the contribution should be less on the content of specific »origin myths«, but more on the cultural, political, social and economic effects of the »national question« in modern times.

C-12 Working Creatively with Literature in Foreign Language Teaching *Mario Radisic*

- In this course we will be talking about different creative tasks to work with literature.
- On the one hand, it's essential to practice basic skills in different variations, but on the other hand literature provides a lot of opportunities to offer space for individual approaches the students can discover for themselves.
- I hope the participants can also share some of their own ideas.

C-13 Mathematics for Everyone *Marisha Plotnik*

- Provide rich mathematical problems to invite student initiative
- Cultivate a striving and supportive atmosphere for learning
- Use different kinds of activities to engage different learning styles

- C-14** **Geometry: Conic Sections (Parabola, Ellipse, Hyperbola)** *Robert Neumann*
- The Conic sections in the 9th grade
 - Different ways of construction
 - Please have pencil, ruler and compass at hand.
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- C-15** **Biology II** *Albrecht Schad*
- Continuation of part I of the course (C-10).



Saturday–Wednesday
9–13 April 2022, 11.30–1.00 pm
Thursday
14 April 2022, 10.00–11.30 am

A-1 Storytelling

Ulrike Sievers

- You are invited to discover stories in pictures, in others, and in the world.
- You will get to know techniques of developing, embodying and presenting stories.
- We will work with various activities, material and media in order to engage body, mind and soul in the process of discovering and creating stories.

Course language is English for general activities – individual exercises can be done in different mother tongues.

A-2 Telling Biographies

Ágnes Balassa

- Presenting life stories of great people are a key factor in engaging students. In this course we will go through the process of presenting biographies from choosing the topic to delivering it in a joyfull way.
 - Through various exercises and examples everybody will create his/her own biographical speech.
 - The course will give you more confidence in selecting your material, in building up and preparing your presentation just as well as performing it.
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A-3 Land Art

Martyn Rawson

- Land art is a way of meditatively and aesthetically connecting to place, nature and culture that draws out our creative forces and links them to the place and the materials we use.
- No prior experience required – anyone can do it.
- Examples will be given briefly and participants go offline to work artistically, loading images of their work onto an online platform provided.

A-4 Chemistry II – Chemical Exercises

Dirk Rohde

- Experiments related to the main course will be carried out that are suitable for teacher demonstrations or which can be done by pupils.
- Join from your school lab so that you can do experiments on your own.
- This course is a continuation of the seminar C-4.

It is strongly suggested to visit both.

A-5 Geography II

Gunter Keller

- Continuation of part I of the course (C-5).



OVERVIEW OF THE SEMINARS

COURSES I <i>9–14 April 2022</i> <i>8.00–9.30 am</i>	COURSES II <i>9–13 April 2022</i> <i>2.45–4.15 pm</i>	COURSES III <i>9–13 April 2022</i> <i>4.45–6.15 pm</i>
C-1 Literature: Utopias and Dystopias	C-6 Literature: Short Stories	
C-2 History		C-11 History Multiperspective
	C-7 Teaching Foreign Languages	C-12 Foreign Language Learning
C-3 Physics	C-8 Active Practicing in Math Lessons	C-13 Mathematics for Everyone
	C-9 Mathematics: Combinatorics	C-14 Mathematics: Conic Sections
C-4 Chemistry I		
	C-10 Biology I	C-15 Biology II
C-5 Geography I		

ART.+PRACT. COURSES

9–13 April 2022, 11.30–1.00 pm
14 April 2022, 10.00–11.30 am

A-1 Storytelling

A-2 Telling Biographies

A-3 Land Art

A-4 Chemistry II

A-5 Geography II

CONFERENCE FEE

Conference fee: € 360.00

ONLINE-REGISTRATION

We have offered the umbrella organisations of the individual countries to make participation possible for the colleagues of all schools in the country by paying a lump sum. Please check with your association before registering with us. You will find the registration form on our website:

<https://www.lehrerseminar-forschung.de/weiterbildung/internationale-fortbildung-oberstufe>

FURTHER ONLINE-SEMINARS

We are planning a supplementary offer in English, which will support the quality development of upper school education at Waldorf schools internationally. Three online modules (approx. 4 hours each) spread over a year (May 2022 to February 2023) will focus on the basics of content and subject didactics as well as ideas and concepts for lessons. The participants are to be encouraged to continue working independently on tasks in the periods between the events, especially together in the subject and upper school colleges of their schools. You will soon find more detailed information on our website under: *Fortbildungen/Internationale Fortbildung Oberstufe*



OVERVIEW OF THE EVENT

	Saturday 9 April 2022	Sunday 10 April 2022	Monday 11 April 2022
8.00–9.30 am	Courses I		
	Break		
10.00–11.00 am	Opening Lecture <i>Wilfried Sommer</i>	Lecture <i>Gunter Keller</i>	Lecture <i>Robin Theiss</i>
	Break		
11.30–1.00 pm	Artistic and Practical Courses		
	Break		
2.45–4.15 pm	Courses II		
	Break		
4.45–6.15 pm	Courses III		

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Tuesday 12 April 2022	Wednesday 13 April 2022	Thursday 14 April 2022
Courses I		
Break		
Lecture <i>Marisha Plotnik</i>	Lecture <i>Ágnes Balassa</i>	10.00–11.30 am Artistic and Practical Courses
Break		
Artistic and Practical Courses		Break
		12.00–1.00 pm Concluding Lecture <i>Martyn Rawson</i>
Break		
Courses II		
Break		
Courses III		



Working in close cooperation with the Freie Waldorfschule Kassel and other Steiner Schools, the Alanus University for the Arts and Social Sciences in Alfter, as well as with the Pedagogical Research Centre of the Federation of Waldorf Schools, the Kassel Teacher Training College has been training teachers in post-graduate courses since 1983.

**Topics of the upcoming International
Refresher Course weeks:**

Easter 2023 – Main Focus Class 12
Easter 2024 – Main Focus Class 10
Easter 2025 – Main Focus Class 11

In planning:

**Online modules in English on the subject
didactics of upper school education**

(May 2022 – February 2023)

More information soon on our website.



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