

EINLADUNG ZUM KOLLOQUIUM**Prof. Dr. Catherine Westfall**

(Michigan State University, USA)

**Learning From
“Walking in the Footsteps of Einstein”**

This talk will discuss what can be learned from a course for American undergraduate university students that visited key sites where Einstein and his circle developed relativity and quantum theory to simulate understanding of physics, history, and culture. The course was co-taught by the speaker, historian Catherine Westfall and Gerd Kortemeyer, a physicist, both faculty members at Lyman Briggs College at Michigan State University. The talk will explain the special learning opportunities the course offered for students as well as the professors, who developed interdisciplinary teaching strategies and techniques. The talk will also describe the research findings arising from this and on-campus versions of the course showing that the course format can favorably influence students' epistemological beliefs and expectations about physics.

Catherine Westfall is a Visiting Professor at the multidisciplinary Lyman Briggs College, Michigan State University, USA where she teaches the history of physics and technology. In addition, she has published numerous articles on the history of the U.S. national laboratories and co-authored two books, *Critical Assembly: A Technical History of Los Alamos During the Oppenheimer Years, 1943-1945* and *Fermilab: Physics, the Frontier, and Megascience*.

Dienstag, 20.05.2014**18 c.t. Uhr****Raum N.10.20**