



ONLINE WORKSHOP 4

Critical perspectives on transformations in/of/post movement

23 June 2020, 2:00 - 5:30 pm (CET)

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This workshop has a threefold aim. First, a brief presentation of individual projects will serve to familiarise the participants with the three ESRs' project developments, as well as discuss some of the challenges they encounter at this stage of their individual work. This will be followed by a thematic session delivered by the ESRs. Inspired by conceptual and methodological challenges they encounter in their dissertations, which are all focusing on Britain and its Empire from various perspectives, the ESRs will open a space for discussing how to apply a critical lens when doing migration research. The goal is to share and co-construct critical tools - methodologies, conceptual tools, self-awareness - which would enable migration researchers to avoid inadvertently reproducing hegemonic discourses and structures and empower them to produce critical knowledge that would counter the construction of migration as a "problem" and of "migrants" as deviant "others". These will be general enough to allow wide application, and the WP4 ESRs will reflect on how they employ some of them in their own work. Other participants will be encouraged to consider how they might employ some of these tools in their own work as well. The final session will include a contribution by Bojan Savić, University of Kent, on how Foucauldian methods can be critically employed in dealing with questions of power in migration research.



Schedule:

2.00 - 2.10 – Introduction (WP lead, Nathalie Vienne-Guerrin)

2.10 - 3.00 – Project presentations + Q&A (chair: Jean-Christophe Mayer)

Each presentation will take 10 minutes, with the final 20 minutes dedicated to Q&A and feedback.

ESR 1 (Iva Dodevska): *Constructing the Immigrant Threat in Postcolonial Britain: Securitisation, Racialisation, and the (Re)invention of 'Britishness'*

ESR 2 (Viktoryia Vaitovich): *Forced Migration and Labour Exploitation in the Context of Economic Transformations: A Study of Transnational Circular Mobility among Polish Migrants*

ESR 3 (Rituparna Rana): *The 'Postmemory' of the Second and the Third Generations of the Partition Migrants: Revisiting the 1947 Partition of India from the Side of Bengal*

3:00 - 3.10 – Break

3.10 - 4.30 – WP session TRANSFORMATIONS (chair: Pierre Kapitaniak)

"Countering hegemonic discourses: applying a critical lens in migration research" - Iva Dodevska, Viktoryia Vaitovich, Rituparna Rana

3.10 - 4.55 – 45 min seminar

4.55 - 4.30 – 35 min workshop - all participants assigned in 4 breakaway groups (15 min group work + 5 mins per group for summarising group discussion)

Readings will be sent well in advance which all participants are advised to read. Please see below the description of the session and the reading list.

4.30 - 4.40 – Break

4.40 - 5.20 – Intervention by guest speaker (chair: Nathalie Vienne-Guerrin)

"Reproducing the Migrant Subject: Foucault's Work on Power and Analytical Strategies for Students of Migration" - Bojan Savić, University of Kent
See description and the list of recommended readings on page 6.

5.20-5.30 – Summary (Andreas Mahler)



WP session TRANSFORMATIONS:

"Countering hegemonic discourses: Applying a critical lens in migration research"

Chair: Pierre Kapitaniak

Speakers: Iva Dodevska, Viktoriya Vaitovich, Rituparna Rana

This session will address *transformations* triggered by the movement of people by structuring such transformations - be they personal, societal or global - within a broader context of Empire, colonialism, Western knowledge production, global inequalities, and the active efforts on the part of states to construct a particular (negative) picture of migration and of the "migrant". As such, it entails sharing and co-constructing critical tools - methodologies, conceptual tools, self-awareness - which would enable migration researchers to avoid inadvertently reproducing hegemonic discourses and structures and would empower them to produce critical knowledge that would counter the construction of migration as a "problem" and of "migrants" as deviant "others". The goal is to remain aware of the political nature of knowledge production and of the power vested in academic research, and to share tools that would minimise the risk of research contributing to the stigmatisation of human mobility and to reproducing exclusionary categorisations. Some examples of the kind of tools we will discuss are: decolonial methodologies; reflexivity in doing research; dealing with the issue of race; the issue of taken-for-granted categorizations; the problem of integration; methodological nationalism; the politicisation of migration (studies). These will be general enough to allow wide application, but the ESRs will reflect on how they deal with some of them in their own work.

The second part of this session will include a workshop, in which participants will be encouraged to reflect how they might employ some of these tools in their own work. This will be organised as group work, followed by a discussion including all participants.

The following questions will be discussed in breakaway groups:

Q1: Do you think that any aspects of your own research could be problematised in light of these critical tools?

Q2: Think about other tools - possibly some you already use in your own work - that could be used to counter the reproduction of exclusionary state discourses and categorizations, the essentialization of "migrants", the unequal power relations (e.g. researcher - interviewee), or the construction of movement as deviant and of mobile individuals as a "problem".

Readings will be sent in advance (see reading list below). All participants (ESRs and staff alike) are advised to read the core articles before the workshop takes place. **Please think about the questions above in light of these articles.** The reading list also includes recommended articles for further reading.



Reading list:

Core readings (will be distributed in .pdf form in advance):

- Amelina, Anna. 2017. 'After the Reflexive Turn in Migration Studies: Towards the Doing Migration Approach'. *Working Paper Series "Gender, Diversity and Migration"*, no. 13. https://www-docs.b-tu.de/fg-interkulturalitaet/public/Homepage/Paper_Amelina_Doin_g_Migration.pdf.
- Dahinden, Janine. 2016. 'A Plea for the "de-Migranticization" of Research on Migration and Integration'. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 39 (13): 2207–25. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2015.1124129>
- Erdal, Marta Bivand, and Ceri Oeppen. 2018. "Forced to Leave? The Discursive and Analytical Significance of Describing Migration as Forced and Voluntary." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 44 (6): 981–98.
- Erel, Umut, Karim Murji, and Zaki Nahaboo. 2016. 'Understanding the Contemporary Race–Migration Nexus'. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 39 (8): 1339–60. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2016.1161808>.
- Grosfoguel, R. (2011). Decolonizing Post-Colonial Studies and Paradigms of Political-Economy: Transmodernity, Decolonial Thinking, and Global Coloniality. *TRANSMODERNITY: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of the Luso-Hispanic World*, 1(1). <http://dialogoglobal.com/texts/grosfoguel/Grosfoguel-Decolonizing-Pol-Econ-and-Postcolonial.pdf>
- Schiller, Nina Glick, and Karin Schittenhelm. 2007. 'Beyond the Nation State and Its Units of Analysis: Towards a New Research Agenda for Migration Studies'. *Concepts and Methods in Migration Theory*, 39–72.
- Schinkel, Willem. 2018. 'Against "Immigrant Integration": For an End to Neocolonial Knowledge Production'. *Comparative Migration Studies* 6 (1): 31. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40878-018-0095-1>.

Further reading:

- Anderson, Bridget. 2019. 'New Directions in Migration Studies: Towards Methodological de-Nationalism'. *Comparative Migration Studies* 7 (1): 36. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40878-019-0140-8>.



- Bhambra, Gurinder K. "Postcolonial and Decolonial Reconstructions." *Connected Sociologies*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2014. 117–140. Bloomsbury Collections. Web. 24 May 2020. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5040/9781472544377.ch-006>.
- Golash-Boza, Tanya, Maria D. Duenas, and Chia Xiong. 2019. 'White Supremacy, Patriarchy, and Global Capitalism in Migration Studies'. *American Behavioral Scientist* 63 (13): 1741–59. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0002764219842624>.
- Grosfoguel, Ramón. 2004. 'Race and Ethnicity or Racialized Ethnicities?: Identities within Global Coloniality'. *Ethnicities* 4 (3): 315–36. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1468796804045237>.
- Hayden, Bridget A. 2019. 'Only Mexicans There: The Nation as Inequality Regime and Methodological Nationalism in Migration Studies'. *Migration Studies* 7 (1): 100–116. <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnx072>.
- Horvath, Kenneth, and Rossalina Latcheva. 2019. 'Mixing Methods in the *Age of Migration Politics* : A Commentary on Validity and Reflexivity in Current Migration Research'. *Journal of Mixed Methods Research* 13 (2): 127–31. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689818822445>.
- Korteweg, Anna C. 2017. 'The Failures of "Immigrant Integration": The Gendered Racialized Production of Non-Belonging'. *Migration Studies* 5 (3): 428–44. <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnx025>.
- Levitt, Peggy. 2012. 'What's Wrong with Migration Scholarship? A Critique and a Way Forward'. *Identities* 19 (4): 493–500. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1070289X.2012.676255>.
- Meissner, Fran, and Tilmann Heil. 2020. 'Deromanticising Integration: On the Importance of Convivial Disintegration'. *Migration Studies*, February, mnz056. <https://doi.org/10.1093/migration/mnz056>.
- Mignolo, W. D. (2009). Epistemic Disobedience, Independent Thought and Decolonial Freedom. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 26(7–8), 159–181. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0263276409349275>
- Mignolo, Walter, and Catherine E. Walsh. 2018. *On Decoloniality: Concepts, Analytics, Praxis*. On Decoloniality. Durham: Duke University Press.
- Schinkel, Willem. 2017. *Imagined Societies: A Critique of Immigrant Integration in Western Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316424230>.
- Stoetzler, Marcel, and Nira Yuval-Davis. 2002. 'Standpoint Theory, Situated Knowledge and the Situated Imagination'. *Feminist Theory* 3 (3): 315–33. <https://doi.org/10.1177/146470002762492024>.
- Tudor, Alyosxa. 2018. 'Cross-Fadings of Racialisation and Migratisation: The Postcolonial Turn in Western European Gender and Migration Studies'. *Gender, Place & Culture* 25 (7): 1057–72. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0966369X.2018.1441141>.



Intervention by guest speaker

"Reproducing the Migrant Subject:

Foucault's Work on Power and Analytical Strategies for Students of Migration"

Chair: Nathalie Vienne-Guerrin

Speaker: **Bojan Savić**, University of Kent

This will be a talk on how Foucault's various concepts of power (as productive and relational; power as sovereignty, discipline, governmentality, and biopolitics) and his view of history as non-linear and contingent ("genealogy") can be used to study the problems of bodily and population (im)mobility.

Recommended readings:

Bulley, Dan (2017) *Migration, Ethics and Power: Spaces Of Hospitality In International Politics*. London: Sage.

Duffield, Mark (2006) Racism, Migration and Development: The Foundations of Planetary Order, *Progress in Development Studies* 6(1): 68-79.

Fuggle, Sophie et al. (Eds.) *Foucault and the History of Our Present*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Tazzioli, Martina (2020) *The Making of Migration: The Biopolitics of Mobility at Europe's Borders*. London: Sage.

Williams, Allan M. and Vladimír Baláž (2015) *Migration, Risk, and Uncertainty*. London: Routledge.

Walters, William (2015) Reflections on Migration and Governmentality. *movements. Journal for Critical Migration and Border Regime Studies*. 1(1), downloadable at <https://movements-journal.org/issues/01.grenzregime/04.walters--migration.governmentality.pdf>.