



Decoloniality:

a reflexive workshop on the epistemic, ethical and methodological implications for our research praxis

A collaborative workshop of the two BMBF-projects on
 “Universality and Acceptance Potential of Social Science Knowledge”
 and on “Southeast Asian Studies”

Organized by Anika Meckesheimer, Ann-Kathrin Krüger and Julia Suárez Krabbe



26. Juni 2013, 9:00 - 17:30h

Universität Freiburg, Liefmann-Haus, Goethestr. 33 in 79098 Freiburg-Wiehre

Decoloniality has become an emerging topic in German Social Science. We have observed that academia in the Global North has mostly been engaged in studying decoloniality as a discourse. Our workshop suggests a different focus in asking: *What are the implications of practicing decolonial research in the academic environment of a country within the Global North?*

This workshop provides a laboratory to explore decoloniality conceived as a research “attitude” focusing on its implications on an epistemological, ethical and methodological level and invites participants to contribute insights from their own research experience.

Together with **Dr. Julia Suárez Krabbe** we will elaborate on these implications using the conceptual framework of **Boaventura Sousa Santos** known as *Epistemologies of the South* (2009), which will serve as a conceptual tool for analyzing our own research experience.

As Sousa Santos describes, dialogical sociology is yet to emerge. Those researchers who have set out to ‘walk the talk’ find themselves confronted with “strange mirrors [and] unsuspected lessons” (ALICE 2011) which this workshop will address. On this basis we will critically reconsider issues which are often perceived as solely individual experiences as a social and epistemological challenge.

Basic Reading:

Santos, Boaventura de Sousa (2004) “A Critique of Lazy Reason: Against the Waste of Experience.” In: Wallerstein, Immanuel (org.) *The Modern World-System in the Longue Durée*. London: Paradigm Publishers, 157-197 (Available as PDF: <http://www.ces.uc.pt/bss/documentos/A%20critique%20of%20lazy%20reason.pdf>).

Dr. Julia Suárez Krabbe is currently involved in the research project “ALICE – Strange Mirrors, Unsuspected Lessons” (alice.ces.uc.pt) coordinated by Prof. Boaventura de Sousa Santos which is financed by the European Research Council (FP/2007-2013).

She coordinates the Decoloniality Europe network, composed by a majority of southern scholars and activists who work against racism, islamophobia and coloniality in Europe (<http://decolonialityeurope.wix.com/decoloniality>) and is assistant professor at the Department of Culture and Identity, Roskilde University, Denmark and associated researcher at the Center for Social Studies (CES) of the University of Coimbra, Portugal.

Binding registration until 1st June 2013

The workshop is free of charge but limited to 15 participants.

In order to be able to form a quality group we ask for a short presentation of your motivation to participate in the workshop, and of the research experience you wish to elaborate on.

Details and Registration: http://www.gesellschaftswissen.uni-freiburg.de/activity/ws-je/ws-decolimplic-en?set_language=en

For inquiries or questions please contact: anika.meckesheimer@soziologie.uni-freiburg.de

About the Organizers:

Anika Meckesheimer is a PhD candidate at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana - Unidad Xochimilco in Mexico City. Her academic work is concerned with the practice of knowledge construction between women’s rights activism and academic research. She is a member of the Seminar “Constructing Knowledge from gender, movements and networks” based in Chiapas, México (<http://encuentroredtoschiapas.jkopkutik.org/index.php/es/actividades/seminario-sobregenero-movimientos-y-redes>).

Dr. Julia Suárez Krabbe, assistant professor at the Department of Culture and Identity, Roskilde University, Denmark and associated researcher at the Center for Social Studies (CES) of the University of Coimbra, Portugal.

Ann-Kathrin Krüger is a student of the Global Studies Master Program of the University of Freiburg and does an internship in the BMBF Program “Acceptance Potential of Social Science Knowledge.”