

**Colonial Legacies, Postcolonial Contestations: Decolonizing the Social Sciences and the Humanities
International Graduate Conference 2011
Goethe-University Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
16th—18th June 2011**

In the past two decades postcolonial perspectives are increasingly influential in the Social Sciences and the Humanities. In particular, postcolonial-feminist interventions have contributed decisively by revealing the pivotal status and stubborn persistence of colonial gendering and racialisation processes for the structuring of the postcolonial late-capitalist world. The epistemic and material conditions that underpinned European colonialism continue to shape current socio-political constellations and global relations; so that the formal end of European colonial rule has not translated into decolonisation of the global North and the global South. If the Social Sciences and the Humanities seek to overcome this violent and exploitative historical legacy and contribute to the processes of decolonisation, they need to adopt a critical perspective that involves a reassessment of their disciplinary powers and responsibilities.

It is against this backdrop that the Frankfurt Research Center for Postcolonial Studies (FRCPS) seeks to contribute to ongoing debates in the Social Sciences and the Humanities by hosting the International Graduate Conference on Postcolonial Studies. Conference presentations are sought particularly to examine those fields in which postcolonial theory has largely been underrepresented. Postcolonial-feminist theory comprises a key point of reference for the conference, because it has simultaneously led to an increasing differentiation and crucial revisions both within Postcolonial Studies as well as within Gender and Women's Studies.

The conference's goals are twofold: first, we seek to illustrate the epistemological and methodological relevance of a postcolonial (feminist) perspective within the various disciplines of the Social Sciences and the Humanities by example of concrete research projects; second, we aim to facilitate (trans-)disciplinary networking. The conference is conceived of as a graduate conference for early career researchers; contributions with a reference to postcolonial (feminist) theory from advanced students, doctoral candidates and postdocs in the Social Sciences and the Humanities are most welcome.

Keynotes:

Prof. Patricia Hill Collins (University of Maryland)

Prof. Dipesh Chakrabarty (University of Chicago)

How to Submit Proposals:

For your paper proposal to be considered, we request that you email the respective panel conveners directly. An abstract (max. 500 words) and a short bio-note (max. 100 words) should accompany your proposal. The closing date for applications is 30th November 2010.

Conference languages are English, French and Spanish. Abstracts may be submitted in a language as stipulated in the relevant panel's Call for Papers. For the French and Spanish-language panels translations will be made available. The conference rooms are accessible for people of all abilities. Please indicate if any further aides and/or support are needed when registering for the conference.

Registration & Participation:

There is no conference fees, but we kindly request registrations until 31st May 2011 under [frcps.mail \[at\] googlemail.com](mailto:frcps.mail[at]googlemail.com). Kindly state 'registration' in the subject heading.

A limited number of travel bursaries will be provided, especially for panellists from the global South. Please motivate your application in a short accompanying letter (max. 300 words).

Panel Abstracts in English here http://www.frcps.uni-frankfurt.de/?page_id=729