

## **Working Group: Ecological Dependencies**

Workshop: Friday, 3 February 2023 · BCDSS, Niebuhrstraße 5

### **Ecological Inter/Dependencies: Strong Asymmetrical Relations and More-than-Human Worlds**

This workshop seeks to synthesize perspectives from the environmental humanities with the study of strong asymmetrical dependencies across histories, geographies and cultures. Ecological issues concerning climate change, pollution, extraction logics, unequal land ownership or multispecies relationships intersect with and prompt us to rethink questions of power, difference and dependency.

Bringing together the BCDSS's different focal points within the humanities and social sciences (and thus combining anthropological, historical, literary, archaeological, ethnographic and technological perspectives), this workshop's focus on ecological inter/dependencies offers a valuable critical perspective on the cluster's research on strong asymmetrical dependencies. By foregrounding relationships beyond the human to include animals, ecosystems, landscapes, organisms and resources, the workshop aims to connect researchers across disciplines and to sharpen our approach to the study of dependency.

#### **Schedule**

Panel format: 90 minutes with 3 speakers, 15-20-minute papers, 30-45-minute discussion

#### **09:00-09:30**

Introduction · Zeynep Gökce and Jenny Leetsch

#### **09:30-11:00**

Panel 1

- Dita Auziņa · Networks of Dependency in Kukra Hill Oil Palm Regions: The Theoretical Thinking of Other-Than-Human Actor Roles in Networks of Dependencies during Environmental Catastrophe
- Kristina Großmann · Strong Asymmetries and Conflicting Notions of Land in Contemporary Indonesia
- Christoph Antweiler · Conceptual Approach to the Plantationocene (In Relation to Slavery)

#### **11:00-11:30**

Coffee break

**11:30-13:00**

Panel 2

- Stefan Feuser · Triumph over Nature: Ecological Dependencies and Landscape Modification in Mediterranean Port Cities
- Bethany Walker · Inequalities in Land Tenure, Environmental Change and Social Transformation in Pre-Modern Syria
- Julia A. B. Hegewald · Ecological Dependencies in South Indian Architecture

**13:00-14:00**

Lunch (self-pay)

**14:00-15:30**

Panel 3

- Paul Graf · Landscape Modification as Domination: Pre-Hispanic Human-Environment Relationships in the Southern Maya Lowlands
- Lewis Doney · Ecology and 'Zomia-Thinking' in Southern Tibetan Highland Border Areas: Changing Power Dynamics in Religious Lifestyles between the Pre-Modern and Modern Periods
- Taynã Tagliati · Rain Forest Beings and Sociocosmic Relations: A Mebengokré-Kayapó case study (Amazonia)

**15:30-16:00**

Coffee Break

**16:00-17:30**

Panel 4

- Farai Chipato · Approaches to Blackness and Decoloniality in the Anthropocene: Repairing, Returning to or Refusing the World?
- Katharina Fackler · Slavery, Whaling and the Forms of Extraction in Early American Literature
- Viola Müller · Labor Coercion of Port Workers in 19th-Century Regla (Cuba) and the Tensions between Natural Environment and the Private Industrial Complex

**17:30-18:00**

Closing Remarks and Future Plans

**18:30 Conference Dinner**

*Nishas Restaurant* (buffet style, with vegan and vegetarian options)