



Photo: @decolonizethisplace/Instagram

Inter-Disciplinary Conference “DECOLONISING POLITICAL CONCEPTS”

Topic

Postcolonial and decolonial thinkers and activists have spent the last decades unravelling the intellectual, political and structural legacies of colonialism and ongoing coloniality in our contemporary world. Political concepts are part of these legacies. The way academics define and use them is generally mediated by traditions of political thought marked by and even framed by coloniality. However, and despite the increasing and far-reaching work of postcolonial and decolonial research, this aspect of political concepts is still too often silenced or ignored in some academic settings.

Throughout this conference, we aim to engage with the coloniality of political concepts, and with how ontological, epistemological and political closures and exclusions are reproduced through their use. Besides, we seek to open up collective and collaborative reflections on how to expose, challenge and overcome the colonialities still permeating ideas and research by questioning the tools that political concepts are. We aim to engage with non-Western and indigenous political thought and experiences, exploring alternative uses and what decolonised political concepts might look like. We see such dialogues as necessary in order to find ways of living together that acknowledge and respect plurality and allow for genuinely “postcolonial” academic and political contexts.

Thursday 19th -
Friday 20th
September 2019

Hosted by the
Centre for
Citizenship, Civil
Society and Rule
of Law (CISRUL)

At the University
of Aberdeen,
Scotland

Venue Thursday morning:
Fraser Noble building,
Room 185

Venue Thursday
afternoon: University
Office, Committee room 2

Venue Friday (all day):
University Office, Court
room

Academic coordinators:

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Conference administrator:

Michael Tuckwell
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SCHEDULE

THURSDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

09.00 – 09.25 Coffee and Registration

09.25 – 09.40 Welcome and Opening

09.40 – 11.10 Session 1: **Decolonial Horizons – Revealing the Coloniality of Knowledge and Power**

Chair and discussant: Marie Wuth

“History and Universal Politics”

Karim Barakat (American University of Beirut)

“Achieving Global Justice through Decolonising Human Dignity”

Chika Mba (University of Ghana)

“Selected knowing and the privileged ignorance”

Minoo Alinia (Södertörn University)

11.10 – 11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00 Session 2: **Feeling Coloniality – Bodies, Sexuality and Agency**

Chair and discussant: Marie Wuth

“Decolonizing sexuality, disrupting epistemologies, shattering the subject”

Rachel Spronk (University of Amsterdam)

“Enfleshed Political Violences. Rethinking Sexual Violence from a Postcolonial Critique”

Cecilia Cienfuegos (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)

“Decolonising Agency”

Henrike Kohpeiß (Free University of Berlin)

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.20 Keynote: **“The Universal Subject of Precarity: A Decolonial Reading”** by [Ritu Vij](#)

Chair and discussant: Trevor Stack

15.20 – 16.20 Session 3: **Religion and Politics – A Colonial Dualism?**

Chair and discussant: Joel Pierce

“Coloniality of “Politics”: The US-Japan Relations since 1853”

Mitsutoshi Horii (Shumei University & Chaucer College)

“The Religiosity of Secularism and the Political form of Faith”

Anthony Zirpoli (University of Aberdeen)

16.20 – 16.40

Coffee Break

16.40 – 18.00 Keynote: **“Funk Manifesto for a Decolonised Image (With a Plea for a Decolonial International)”** by [Oscar Guardiola-Rivera](#)

Chair and discussant: Ritu Vij

18.30 Conference Dinner

FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

09.30 – 10.30 Session 4: **Subverting Coloniality – Decolonising the Language of Resistance**

Chair and discussant: Andreas Zaunseder

“Decolonizing Anarchism: Experiences from the South of the Mediterranean”

Laura Galian Hernandez (Universidad de Granada)

“Fascism, Communalism and Resistance: Speaking Muslim in India”

Sheheen Kattiparambil (University of Leeds)

10.30 – 11.30 Session 5: **Indigenous Conceptualisations – Articulations, Deployments and Negotiations**

Chair and discussant: Anthony Zirpoli

“Tino Rangatiratanga: A Decolonial Māori Politics of Sovereignty”
Valentin Clavé-Mercier (University of Aberdeen)

“The Political Discourse and Diverse Dimensions of Native American Citizenship”
Paul Rosier (Villanova University)

11.30 – 11.50 Coffee Break

11.50 – 13.20 Session 6: **Beyond Borders – Migration and Re-thinking Citizenship**

Chair and discussant: Nadia Kiwan

“The Coloniality of Citizenship: Recovering Claudia Jones, Anticolonial Imaginations and Lost Thinking beyond the Nation State”
Ricarda Hammer (Brown University)

“The Idealised Subject of Freedom and the Refugee”
Shahin Nasiri (University of Amsterdam)

“(In)hospitality in Modernist Thought: Rethinking Hospitality through Decolonial Political Theology”
Jasmine Gani (University of St Andrews)

13.20 – 14.20 Lunch

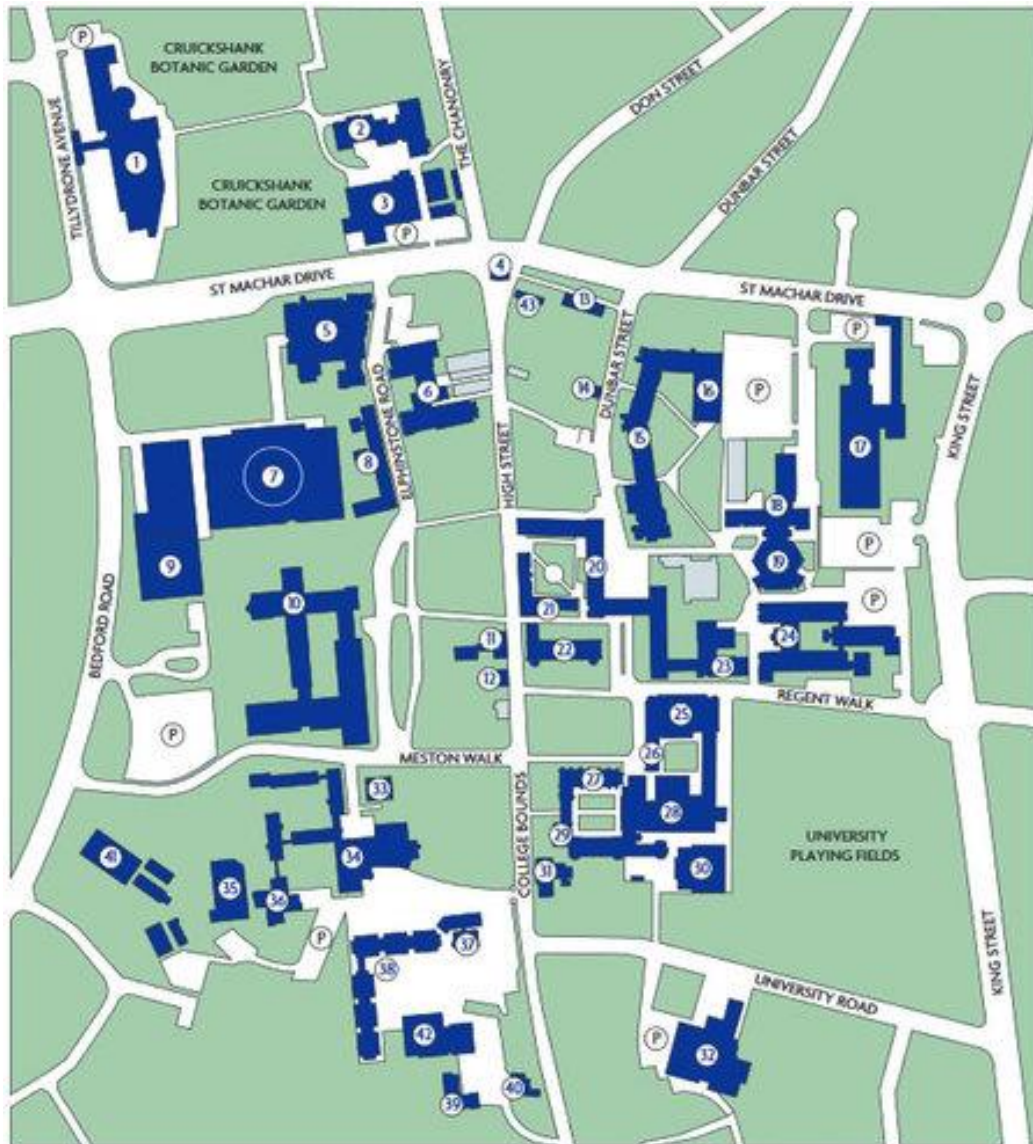
14.20 – 15.50 Workshop: **“Decolonising the Westernised University”**, led by [Julie Cupples](#)

15.50 – 16.10 Coffee Break

16.10 – 17.00 Closing Discussion

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Please, note that the conference will be held in different locations. On Thursday 19th until lunch we will be in the Fraser Noble building, room 185 (first floor). After that, we will move to the University Office, committee room 2 for the afternoon. On Friday 20th we will be in the University Office, court room during all day.



7. Fraser Noble building

24. University Office (enter through Visitor's Reception)