

**SEMINARIO DE INVESTIGACIÓN AVANZADA
TRANSNATIONAL FEMINISM AND DECOLONISATION**

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Alice Salomon Hochschule , Berlín

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Frankfurt Research Center for Postcolonial Studies/
Goethe University Frankfurt

Viernes, 19 y Lunes, 22 de Octubre de 2012

12:00 horas

**Sala de Reuniones
Facultad de Filología**

In the past three decades postcolonial theory has emerged as an influential body of theory within numerous academic disciplines including literature, cultural studies, history and philosophy that attempts to investigate the workings and consequences of European colonialism. In this seminar we shall explore the interplay between Postcolonial Theory and Gender Studies. On the one hand, thinking through the lens of Gender throws a different light on our theorizing about colonial history and contemporary postcolonial politics. On the other hand, postcolonial interventions in Gender studies necessitate rethinking the category of gender itself. Analysis of the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, class will help us to redefine the nature and practice of feminist theory and politics in a transnational context.

Major issues that will be explored in the seminar include: postcolonial critiques of white Western feminism, women and anti-colonial/nationalist movements, gendered international division of labour, subalternity and modernity, globalisation and migration, transnational justice, democratisation and decolonisation.

Seminar Aims:

- Increase awareness of the multiplicity of feminist theories
- Further the ability to critically examine theoretical assumptions
- Stimulate interdisciplinary research in the fields, including feminist theory and literature, philosophy, history, anthropology and sociology

Seminar Readings: <https://www.box.com/s/u2fxqzk6wrmv6ii588kf>

- Mohanty, Chandra Talpade (1984): "Under Western Eyes: Feminist Scholarship and Colonial Discourses", *Boundary 2*, (12) 3, 333-358.
- Mohanty, Chandra Talpade (2003): "'Under Western Eyes' Revisited: Feminist Solidarity through Anticapitalist Struggles". In: Chandra Talpade Mohanty, *Feminism Without Borders. Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity*, Durham: Duke University Press, 221-251.
- Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty (1988): "Can the Subaltern Speak?", In Cary Nelson and Lawrence Grossberg (eds.). *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*. London, UK: Macmillan, 271-313.
- Spivak, Gayatri Chakravorty (2005): "'Use and Abuse of Human Rights", *Boundary 2*, 132-189.

María do Mar Castro Varela is Professor of Pedagogy at the Alice Salomon University Berlin. She was Visiting Fellow at Pusan National University/South Korea (2011) and Maria-Goeppert-Mayer Guest Professor at the Institute of Political Science, Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg/Germany in Winter Semester 2006-2007. She holds a doctorate in Political Science from the Justus Liebig University Giessen and a double degree in Psychology and Pedagogy, both from the University of Cologne, Germany. Her research specializations are queer diasporas, anti-discrimination politics and feminist postcolonial theory. Representative Publication: "*Untimely Utopias. Migrant Women between Self-Invention and Learned Hope*" (2007) (in German).

Nikita Dhawan is Junior Professor of Political Science with focus on Gender/Postcolonial Studies at the Goethe-University Frankfurt. Since 2008 she is Director of the "Frankfurt Research Center for Postcolonial Studies" and Principal Investigator in the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders", Member of the Board of Directors of the Cornelia Goethe Center for Women's and Gender Studies, Goethe-University Frankfurt. She has held Short-term Visiting Professorships at University of La Laguna, Spain (2011), DFG Research Training Group "Dynamics of Space and Gender", University of Kassel/Göttingen (2011), Pusan National University, South Korea (2011), Maria-Goeppert-Mayer Guest Professor at the Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg (2006-2007). In Spring 2008, she was Visiting Scholar at Columbia University, New York. She received her doctorate in Philosophy (2006) from Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany and holds a double M.A. in German Studies (1995) and Philosophy (2000) from Mumbai University, India. Representative publication: "Impossible Speech: On the Politics of Silence and Violence" (2007).

Grupo Investigación *Literatura y Género en Lengua Inglesa*
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