

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

DECEMBER 2020

Prepared by:

PENELOPE DEUTSCHER, PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

SIOBHAN LAGRO, PROJECT MANAGER

OVERVIEW

The Critical Theory in the Global South (CTGS) project was established through a \$1,020,000 award from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to Northwestern University to support the development of new open access curricula reflecting the global reach of critical theory. The project arose as a tandem award to University of California - Berkeley to establish the International Consortium of Critical Theory Programs (ICCTP). The curricula have been produced through ten international, cross-university faculty-graduate research cooperations in areas for which North-South and South-South dialogues are consequential: such as critical memory studies, the critical university, plural epistemologies and their routes of translation, biopolitics/necropolitics, and new forms of political violence. A 2015 planning award from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation funded the research and consultation through which the themes were selected. Their selection was also informed by the projected conference series, translation series, and journal themes of the ICCTP. The new syllabi, their teaching materials, and new publications have been developed by international faculty partnerships integrating the research assistance of visiting predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows, together with a series of talks, reading groups and workshops. The new syllabi will be available through Arch, Northwestern University Libraries' open access digital research repository, along with an enduring platform for syllabus collection initiatives.

STATUS SUMMARY

The project has reached a number of milestones related to syllabus development, faculty exchanges, student exchanges, and collaborative events. Outcomes include 14 new syllabi; 8 publications; 9 visiting pre-doctoral fellows from Peru, Mexico, Argentina, and South Africa to Northwestern University; 2 post-doctoral fellows; a *Decolonizing Critical Theory* conference; 10 faculty visits; 8 public talks; 4 reading groups and 12 workshops. Innovations included several new models: 3-day cross-institutional syllabus writing workshops for faculty and graduate students, an integrative approach to predoctoral and postdoctoral fellowships, syllabus collection projects, and multi-day virtual events linking international faculty and students. Over the next year, 3 additional workshops and reading groups, along with 2 public talks are planned to close out the project for August 2021.



SUB-PROJECTS

Indian Ocean Epistemologies

Tina Steiner (Stellenbosch University) and Evan M. Mwangi (Northwestern University)

Trauma, Politics, and the Uses of Memory

Sarah Nuttall (University of Witwatersrand) and Anna Parkinson (Northwestern University)

Circulating Anarchisms and Marxisms in the Andes

Víctor Vich (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú) and Jorge Coronado (Northwestern University)

Aesthetics and the Critique of Political Theology

Eduardo Sabrovsky (Universidad Diego Portales) and Peter Fenves (Northwestern University)

After Foucault: Gender and Biopolitics in the Americas

Daniel Link and Mariano López Seoane (UNTREF/UBA) and

Alejandra Uslenghi and Penelope Deutscher (Northwestern University)

Appropriation and Its Discontents

Athi Mongezeleli Joja (University of the Witwatersrand) and Huey Copeland (Northwestern University)

Critical Epistemology, Knowing through Gender and the Decolonial

José Medina (Philosophy, Northwestern University) and Cintia Martínez Velasco (UNAM)

Technologies of Critique: New Sources for Critical Theory

Paul North (Yale University) and Willy Thayer (Universidad Metropolitana de Ciencias de la Educación)

The University and Its Publics: North, South, and in Between

Marisa Belausteguigoitia (UNAM) and Andrew Parker (Rutgers University)

Hacer Escuela/Inventing School: Rethinking the Pedagogy of Critical Theory

Samir Haddad (Fordham University), Ariana Gonzales Stokas (Bard College), and Jason Wozniak

(San Jose State University) in association with LAPES (Latin American Philosophy of Education Society)

SUPPLEMENTARY INITIATIVES

Contemporary Latin American Contributions to Feminism, Gender, Sexualities, and Trans Studies

- three new courses, one workshop, 2 post-doctoral students, 1 pre-doctoral student, and a new syllabus writing workshop

Critical Epistemologies

- new bibliography

German and Latin American Critical Theory Cooperation

- two faculty teaching visits, lecture series, Syllabus Collection Initiative

Decolonizing Critical Theory

- one conference, one book translation, and core course revision

Critical Theory Archive at UC Irvine - Collaboration with ICCTP

- bibliographies

COURSES

AY 2017-18

ENG461/COM_LIT 486: Indian Ocean Epistemologies
Evan Mwangi, Northwestern University, Spring

CPLT 619: Walter Benjamin and Critical Theory in Latin America
Paul North, Yale University, Spring

PHIL 3653: Latin American Philosophy
Samir Haddad, Fordham University, Spring

AY 2018-19

SPANPORT 480-0: Indigenismos and Indigeneities in Latin America
Jorge Coronado, Northwestern University, Winter

SPAN 397/COMP_LIT 307/GNDR_ST 341: Queer Theory (in) Latin America
Jorge Sanchez-Cruz, Northwestern University, Winter

SPAN 397/COMP_LIT 390: Sexual Dissidence & Activism in Latin America
Jorge Sanchez-Cruz, Northwestern University, Spring

AY 2019-20

SPANPORT 343-0: Latin American Avant-Garde
Jorge Coronado, Northwestern University, Fall

ART_HIST 460: Appropriation ("North" and "South")
Huey Copeland, Northwestern University, Fall

ENG 365: Indian Ocean Cultures
Evan Mwangi, Northwestern University, Spring

SPAN 395: Latin American Feminism and Latinx Feminism
Cintia Martínez Velasco, Northwestern University, Winter

PHIL 220/COMP_LIT 207: Introduction to Critical Theory
Penelope Deutscher, Northwestern University, Winter

SPAN 397/COMP_LIT 383/GNDR_ST 341: Critical Theory in Latin America
Cintia Martínez Velasco, Northwestern University, Spring

AY 2020-21

German 441: Trauma, Politics, and the Uses of Memory
Anna Parkinson, Northwestern University, Fall 2020

PHIL 415/COMP_LIT 488/GNDR_ST 233: Biopolitics and Thanatopolitics
[From Foucault to Necroresistance]
Penelope Deutscher, Northwestern University, Fall

TRANSLATIONS/PUBLICATIONS

Evan M. Mwangi and Tina Steiner - *Indian Ocean Trajectories*

Special issue of the journal of Eastern African Literary and Cultural Studies co-edited by Professors Tina Steiner and Evan M. Mwangi

Published October 2018: available to read on-line at

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/real20/4/3-4?nav=tocList&>

Indian Ocean Epistemologies

Nelly Richard - *Eruptions of Memory: The Critique of Memory in Chile 1990-2015*

Published by Polity Press in 2019 as part of the “Critical South” series.

Trauma, Politics and the Uses of Memory

Davidson Don Tengo Jabavu - *In India and East Africa E-Indiya nase East Africa:*

A travelogue in isiXhosa and English

Published by Wits University Press 2019. Distributed in the US by NYU Press.

Edited by Tina Steiner, Mhlobo Jadezweni, Catherine Higgs and Evan M. Mwangi

Indian Ocean Epistemologies

Sam Haddad, Ariana González Stokas, and Jason Wozniak - *Hacer Escuela*

Lapíz No.6 (Special Issue), Forthcoming 2021.

Hacer Escuela

Willy Thayer - *Technologies of Critique*

Published by Fordham University Press in 2020.

Technologies of Critique: New Sources for Critical Theory

Eduardo Sabrovsky - *Modernity as Exception and Miracle*

Published by SUNY Press in 2020 with introduction by Peter Fenves.

Aesthetics and the Critique of Political Theology

Jorge Coronado - *Antología de textos primarios: Anarquismos y marxismos en los Andes*

Forthcoming with Editorial Plural, La Paz

Edited by Jorge Coronado

Circulating Anarchisms and Marxisms in the Andes

Santiago Castro-Gomez - *Critique of Latin American Reason*

Forthcoming with Columbia University Press June 2021.

Foreword by Linda Martín Alcoff, Introduction by Eduardo Mendieta and

Appendix of interventions by Don Deere, Rocío Zambrana, Barnor Hesse,

Cintia Martínez Velasco, Jesús Luzardo, Yuderlys Espinosa-Miñoso,

Jimmy Casas Klausen, Rafael Vizcanío, Yala Kisukidi, and

María del Rosario Acosta López

Decolonizing Critical Theory

EVENTS



AY 2017-2018

Talk and Reading Group: Benjamin's Critique of Violence, Christoph Menke, María del Rosario Acosta, Ronald Mendoza-de Jesús, and Rocío Zambrana, in Evanston, IL (Nov 8, 2017)

German and Latin American Critical Theory Cooperation

Opening Conference: Transformations of Critical Theory, in Evanston, IL (Nov 10-13, 2017)

Talk: Carl Schmitt: As his Own Most Enemy, Peter Fennes Eduardo Sabrovsky, in Evanston, IL (Nov 13, 2017)

Aesthetics and the Critique of Political Theology

Faculty Exchange Visits: Peter Fennes, Anna Parkinson, Evan M. Mwangi, Willy Thayer, Jorge Coronado and Andy Parker

Workshop: Hacer Escuela/Making School #1, in New York City, NY (April 13-14, 2019)

Hacer Escuela/Making School: Rethinking the Pedagogy of Critical Theory

AY 2018-19

Dissertation Workshop and Faculty Visit, in Mexico City, Mexico (Nov 2018)

The University and Its Publics: North, South, and In Between

Conference: Decolonizing Critical Theory, in Evanston, IL (Nov 30 – Dec 3, 2018)

Decolonizing Critical Theory

Talk: Victor Vich (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú), Performances medioambientales en el Perú contemporáneo, in Evanston, IL (Jan 17, 2019)

Circulating Anarchisms and Marxisms in the Andes

AY 2018-19 (CONT)

Talk: Jorge Sanchez Cruz, Politics of Illegibility: Aesthetics, Sexual Dissidence, and Mexico, in Evanston, IL (Mar 5, 2019)

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow

Dissertation Workshop and Faculty Visit, in Buenos Aires, Argentina (Mar 25-29, 2019)

After Foucault

Workshop: Hacer Escuela/Making School #2, in Philadelphia, PA (Mar 29-30, 2019)

Hacer Escuela/Making School: Rethinking the Pedagogy of Critical Theory

Talk: Gabriela Balcarce (University of Buenos Aires), Resistance and Argentinian Feminism, in Evanston, IL (Apr 16, 2019)

After Foucault | Biopolitics Speaker Series

Reading Group: Eruptions of Memory by Nelly Richard, in Evanston, IL (Apr 22, 2019)

Trauma, Politics, and the Uses of Memory

Talk: Gabriel Giorgi (New York University) A Democratic Hate: Writing the 'Wars of Subjectivity' in Latin America, in Evanston, IL (Apr 25, 2019)

After Foucault | Biopolitics Speaker Series

Workshop: Eruptions of Memory by Nelly Richard, in Evanston, IL (May 3, 2019)

Trauma, Politics, and the Uses of Memory

Workshop: Democracy, Critique, and Europe's "Crisis": Black Feminist and Decolonial Troubles, in Evanston, IL (August 29, 2019)

Decolonizing Critical Theory

AY 2019-20

Graduate Pedagogy Workshop: The Ambulant Pedagogy of Latin American Critical Gender and Queer Theory, in Evanston, IL (October 18-20, 2019)

The University and Its Publics: North, South, and In Between

Workshop, Reading Group, and Talk: Mario Bellatín, in Evanston, IL (January, 2020)

After Foucault | Co - Sponsored

Faculty Visit: Daniel Link and Mariano López Seoane (UNTREF/UBA), in Evanston, IL (Jan 27 – Feb 7, 2020)

After Foucault

EVENTS

AY 2020-21

Talk: Candice Jansen (WiSER), via Zoom (October 2020)
Trama, Politics and the Uses of Memory

Workshop and Reading Groups: Critique of Latin American Reason
via Zoom (October 2020)
Decolonizing Critical Theory

Workshop: Death's Futurity: The Visual Life of Black Power; Sampada Aranke,
and Huey Copeland [responses by æryka hollis o'neil, Jordan Mulkey,
Harrison Graves, and Alex Weheliye], via Zoom (December 2020)
Appropriation and Its Discontents

Workshop and Reading Group: Modernity as Exception and Miracle;
Peter Fenves, Eduardo Sabrovsky, and Javier Burdman via Zoom (February 2021)
Aesthetics and the Critique of Political Theology

Workshop and Reading Group: Latinx and Black Trans Feminism;
Marcia Ochoa and Marquis Bey via Zoom (April 2021)
After Foucault | Contemporary Latin American Contributions to Feminism, Gender, Sexualities, and Trans Studies

Workshop and Reading Group: Universality and the Decolonial University; Yala
Kisukidi, via Zoom (June 2021)
Decolonizing Critical Theory



PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

Each sub-project included an exchange of graduate fellows, who traveled to the partnering institution for a six-month period to provide research assistance for the new course development and conduct their own research under the supervision of the hosting sub-project faculty convenor. This "Mellon International Pre-Doctoral Fellowship" provided graduate students with an experiential learning opportunity to contribute to syllabus development, an essential academic skill. Additionally, they assisted faculty convenors with their sub-project research, translations, and research.



Serah Kasembeli

Stellenbosch University, South Africa
Sub-project: Indian Ocean Epistemologies
Convenor - Evan Mwangi 09/13/2017 -
03/17/2018



Rodrigo Farias

Universidad Diego Portales, Chile
Sub-project: Aesthetics and the Critique of
Political Theology
Convenor - Peter Fenves
04/1/2018 - 06/29/2018



Athi Mongezeleli Joja

University of Witwatersrand, South Africa
Sub-project: Appropriation and Its
Discontents
Convenor - Huey Copeland
06/1/2018 - 03/31/2018



Sheyla Huyhua Munoz

Pontificia Universidad del Peru
Sub-project: Circulating Anarchisms and
Marxisms in the Andes
Convenor - Jorge Coronado
10/01/2018 - 03/23/2019

PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWS



Candice Jansen

WiSER, South Africa

Sub-project: Trauma, Politics, and the
Uses of Memory

Convenor - Anna Parkinson

02/01/2019 - 06/30/ 2019



Cintia Martínez Velasco

National Autonomous University of Mexico

Sub-project: Critical Epistemology, Knowing
through Gender and the Decolonial

Convenor - José Medina

12/01/2018 - 01/31/2019



Lisandro Andrés Mendieta

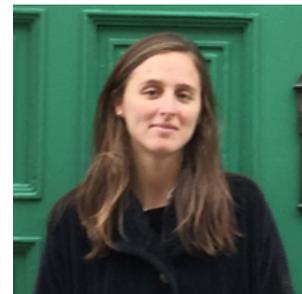
Universidad Tres de Febrero, Argentina

Sub-project: After Foucault

Convenor - Penelope Deutscher & Alejandra

Uslenghi

09/15/2019 - 03/16/2020



Victoria Gubbins

Yale University, USA

Sub-project: Technologies of Critique:
New Sources for Critical Theory

Convenor - Willy Thayer

09/2019 - 03/2020



Matías Sánchez

Universidad Metropolitana de Ciencias de la Educación, Chile

Sub-project: Technologies of Critique: New Sources for Critical Theory

Convenor - Paul North

09/2019 - 03/2020

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

JORGE SANCHEZ-CRUZ



COURSES TAUGHT

Queer Theory (in) Latin America

Winter 2019

SPAN 397/COMP_LIT 307/GNDR_ST 341

- 23 students across the School of Arts & Sciences, School of Communication, School of Education and Social Policy, and School of Journalism enrolled.

Sexual Dissidence & Activism in Latin America

Spring 2019

SPAN 397/COMP_LIT 390

- 17 students across the School of Arts & Sciences, School of Communication, School of Education and Social Policy, and School of Journalism enrolled.

CINTIA MARTÍNEZ VELASCO

COURSES TAUGHT

Latin American Feminism and Latinx Feminism

Winter 2020

SPAN 395

- 10 students across the School of Arts & Sciences, School of Education and Social Policy

Critical Theory in Latin America

Spring 2020

SPAN 397/COMP_LIT 383/GNDR_ST 341

- 18 students across the School of Arts & Sciences, School of Communication, School of Education and Social Policy, and School of Journalism enrolled, with 4 PhD students.

