

Becoming Fugitives - Collaborating towards anti-colonial/decolonial praxis in academic spaces

Wednesday 17 June 2020 15:00 (1h 30m)

For colleagues invested in anti-colonial/decolonial movements –and to their disordering and disruption of coloniality, as global and transversal processes –there is a constant, unsettling set of questions that emerge, given the constrictive arena in which we produce our scholarship: How do we produce an ethics of practice that is politically invested in solidarity and allyship; that contributes to rather than extracts from movements and struggles; that challenges attempts to discipline who, what, where and how we teach and share our work? In other words, how do we produce scholarship that operates as and with anti-colonial/decolonial praxis?

This roundtable attempts to contribute both conceptually and methodologically to these questions. On one hand, participants already engage these questions in their own work in International Studies: in the way they examine race and gender as imbricated in colonial relations, rethink policing and carcerality as foundational to global capitalist-colonial systems, work to reveal colonial relations in materials and materiality, and envision decolonial methods and practices in quotidian spaces and lives. On the other, this roundtable asks participants to read and reflect on the work of the other members, and thus present on how the challenges and political projects inherent to their colleagues' work - in terms of methodologies, topics, and approaches - changes and helps to better develop their own. In this way, the roundtable sets out to expand the connections between different analyses of colonial and anti-colonial circuits, and at the same time disrupt the modes of accumulation and extraction that are central to academic knowledge production, and which we are consistently encouraged to pursue. Our aim is to contribute new thinking about collaboration and collective production that is both rigorous and generative; encouraging ally-ship, solidarity, support and political accountability to one another, and to the communities with which we work on the ground.

Track Classification: Colonial, Postcolonial and Decolonial Working Group