Grappling with the Global

The Challenge of Boundaries in History and Sociology

9th Annual Seminar of the BGHS | 13–15 July 2017, Bielefeld University
Welcome to the Annual Seminar 2017

Dear participants and guests,

We are pleased to welcome you at the 9th Annual Seminar of the Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS). Thank you for joining us in Bielefeld and enriching our conference with your exciting contributions and presentations!

The topic of this year’s Annual Seminar is Grappling with the Global: The Challenge of Boundaries in History and Sociology. Combining the expertise of young historians and sociologists, we attempt to highlight and question contemporary approaches that challenge the ongoing conceptual dominance of the nation-state. The conference schedule will revolve around global interconnections, challenges and crises. The contributions and presentations include discussions of the socio-economic implications of globalisation, international migration, as well as economic, political and religious entanglements and conflicts. By engaging with these topics, we aim to define and specify notions of “the global” in spatial, temporal, theoretical, and methodological terms. Furthermore, the conference seeks to engage doctoral researchers in an interdisciplinary discussion about approaches, methods and findings on globalisation, globalism, and globality within their field of study. Thereby we try to map out the importance of “the global” as an analytical category for historians and sociologists.

Our programme includes seven panel sessions on specific aspects and notions of the global such as, “Global Conflicts”, “Global Dimensions of Religion” or “Migration in a Globalising World”. Furthermore, we are looking forward to three keynotes delivered by distinguished international researchers, whom we wish to thank for their contributions: AHMET ÖNCÜ (Sabanci University, Istanbul), SASKIA SASSEN (Columbia University, New York), and DREW THOMPSON (Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson). We will also be joined by intermedia artist KARINA SMIGLA-BOBINSKI, who will be discussing her installation ADA, the artwork and key visual of this year’s conference.

We are looking forward to inspiring contributions, vibrant discussions, and a lively exchange of ideas for our 9th Annual Seminar!

Sincerely, the organising committee of the Annual Seminar 2017: BRITTA DOSTERT, JULIA ENGELSCHALT, LASSE BJPERN LASSEN, PINAR SARIGÖL, SEBASTIAN MATTHIAS SCHLERKA
Programme

Thursday, 13 July 2017
Room X-A2-103

08:30–09:00 a.m.   Arrival & Registration

09:00–09:30   Welcome & Introduction

Ursula Mense-Petermann, Director of the BGHS
Julia Engelschalt, Annual Seminar Organising Team

09:30–11:00   Keynote Lecture I

Ahmet Öncü (Sabancı University, Istanbul): Hakk or Right: A Veblenian Reflection on the Social Origins of Juridical Sensibilities in Western Europe and Turkey

Moderator: Pınar Sarıgöl

11:00–11:30   Coffee Break

11:30–01:00 p.m.   Panel I: Shock and Awe – Violent Conflicts and their Global Repercussions

Niko Rohé (Bielefeld): Turning a Local Conflict into a Global Hype – and Back Again: Foreign War Journalists in the Greco-Turkish War of 1897

Moran Zaga (Haifa): The Challenge of Boundaries in Syria: Past, Present and Future

Kei Takata (Duisburg-Essen): Escaping through the Networks of Trust: The U.S. Deserter Support Movement in the Japanese Global Sixties

Chair: Lasse Bjoern Lassen

01:00–02:30   Lunch

02:30–04:00   Panel II: Outside the Box – Reflecting the Global in the History of Ideas

Maria Iuliu Florutau (London): Transfers of Knowledge from Transylvania to the Netherlands in the Enlightenment: The Convergence of Ideas in József Fogarasi Pap’s Metaphysical Dissertation

Stefan Bargheer (Los Angeles): Military Intelligence and the Laboratory Research Method: The Rise of Comparative-Historical Sociology during World War II

Zoltán Boldizsárd Simon (Bielefeld): Is There a Global Subject of History?

Chair: Andrew Mitchell
04:00–04:30  Coffee Break

04:30–06:00  Keynote Lecture II

Room X-E0-001  SASKIA SASSEN (Columbia University, New York): Embedded Borderings: Making New Geographies of Centrality

Moderator: SEBASTIAN MATTHIAS SCHLERKA

07:00  Conference Dinner

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**Friday, 14 July**

Room X-B2-103

10:00–11:00 a.m.  Panel III: Globalism avant la lettre? Rethinking Empire

ADETIBA ADEDAMOLA SEUN (Grahamstown): “Tracks of Death”: A Global History of Railway and Malarial Mortality in Twentieth Century Africa

ADITYA RAMESH (London): Historical Sociology and the Making of the Nineteenth Century Environment: Debt and River Improvement in the British Empire

Chair: LASSE BJÖRN LASSEN

11:00–11:30  Coffee Break

11:30–12:30 p.m.  Panel IV: Faith Crossing Borders – Global Dimensions of Religion


ROUVEN WIRBSER (Bielefeld): From East Asia to Westphalia: The Global Cult of St. Francis Xavier and His Veneration in the Prince-Bishopric of Paderborn

Chair: PINAR SARIGÖL

12:30–02:00  Lunch

02:00–03:00  Panel V: Behind the Scenes – Staging the Global in the Political Arena

LAIA PI FERRER (Tampere): Looking at Others in National Policymaking: The Case of Portugal and Spain in the Recent Economic Crisis

MELINDA HARLOV-CSORTÁN (Eötvös): UNESCO World Heritage: Connecting Local to Global in One Cultural System

Chair: BRITTA DOSTERT
03:00–04:00  Coffee Break

04:00–05:30  Keynote Lecture III

Drew Thompson (Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson):
*Naming Mozambique’s Dead Photographs*

Moderator: Julia Engelschalt

05:30–06:00  Coffee Break

06:00–07:30  Artist Talk on the Conference Key Visual

Room X-E0-002  Karina Smigla-Bobinski (Munich): *ADA – Grappling with the Globe*

Moderator: Britta Dostert

Karina Smigla-Bobinski: *ADA* (2010) – Analogue interactive installation/kinetic sculpture
Saturday, 15 July

Room X-B2-103

10:00–11:00 a.m.  
**Panel VI: Inside Moloch – Dissecting the Globalised City**

**Baptiste Colin** (Paris): *Beyond the Phenomenological Global Reading: Introducing a Global Perspective. Squatting as a Way to Link Scales and Boundaries*

**Arturo Diaz Cruz** (Mexico City): *Assembling the Scales: Ethnographic Reflections on the Study of the Economic and Political Regimes in the Local Order*

Chair: **Sebastian Matthias Schlerka**

11:00–11:30  
Coffee Break

11:30–1:00 p.m.  
**Panel VII: Transcending Identities – Migration in a Globalising World**

**Ping-Heng Chen** (Heidelberg): *“Those who fit in with our place”: The Emergence of a Racial Discourse on East Asian Immigration in Late 19th-Century Guatemala*

**Shiwei Chen** (Singapore): *One Hundred Years of Transnational Migration in the North Korean-Chinese Borderland: Race, Nation and Formation of Boundaries*

**Jalin Christina Wu** (Louvain): *The Location of the Global: Anecdotal Histories of Diasporic Identities in Colonial Southeast Asia*

Chair: **Kristoffer Klammer**

01:00–02:30  
Lunch

02:30–03:30  
**Roundtable Discussion: Grappling with the Global**

Moderator: **Sabine Schäfer**, Executive Manager of the BGHS

03:30  
End of Conference
The Poster

A transparent plastic globe filled with helium and air and spiked with charcoals floats across a white-walled room – a globe that looks like a virus seen through a microscope. The charcoals draw black scratchy traces on the walls as soon as the globe touches them. This globe is part of an analogue interactive installation called ADA created by the artist Karina Smigla-Bobinski. The visitors of the installation may move the large balloon and thereby contribute some new lines and points to a bigger drawing with an unclear creatorship. Thus, the whole room becomes the canvas of a unique picture created by different cooperating actors. Although the installation ADA is repeatable, the emerging drawing on the contrary is not.

ADA is the key visual of the conference poster of the 9th Annual Seminar, as symbolising a haptic manner of “Grappling with the Global”. ADA shows us the importance and the effect of cooperation and interaction that are both needed to perform upcoming tasks and challenges of a globalised world. But ADA is even more than that – therefore, we are delighted that the artist, Karina Smigla-Bobinski, will point out further connections between ADA and our conference topic on Friday, 14 July, at 6 p.m. in lecture hall X-E0-002.

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Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS)

The Bielefeld Graduate School in History and Sociology (BGHS) is an institution providing a structured doctoral degree programme in history and sociology at Bielefeld University. It adopts an international orientation, is open to all topics covered by the disciplines involved, and thrives on interdisciplinary exchange. It is one of two projects at Bielefeld University funded as part of the Excellence Initiative by the German Federal and State Governments since 2007.

The Annual Seminar

Every year doctoral researchers of the BGHS convene a conference – the Annual Seminar – inviting graduate students in both disciplines from all over the world to come to Bielefeld and discuss their dissertation projects in an interdisciplinary peer environment. The conference promotes exchange between young scholars across disciplines and creates an international platform for the presentation of current research projects. The preceding eight Annual Seminars addressed the following topics:

2016: Done with Eurocentrism? - Directions, Diversions, and Debates in History and Sociology
2015: Structures and Events - A Dialogue between History and Sociology
2014: A New Social Question or Crisis as Usual? Historical and Sociological Perspectives on Inequalities
2013: Work in a Globalising World: Gender, Mobility, Markets
2012: Control’s other Sides – Contemporary and Historical Perspectives
2011: From Time to Space? Current Conceptual Challenges in History and Sociology
2010: Dynamics and Change
2009: End of Messages? The State of the Dialogue between History and Sociology

www.uni-bielefeld.de/bghs