The Americas is a *sui generis* space where there is and there has been a multiplicity of interactions between the actors and groups that compound it.

For a time, the dominant approach of its study was based on fixed blocks or regions, namely North America and Latin America. However, during the last decades, different political, social and epistemological crises have shown that this dual approach is not enough to explain the phenomena that take place in the region. Thus, Inter-American Studies emerge as a possible answer to this crisis by changing and broadening the approach with which they are discussed in order to somehow try to face the intellectual, political and cultural movements and fluctuations that go beyond borders formally and arbitrarily established.

However, this process of constant entanglements faces a problem: lack of entanglements. Therefore, it is equally important to ask ourselves in which way these disconnections are created and how they play a critical role in the space of the Americas.

The congress aims to generate discussion and diffusion spaces for young researchers as well as to create a space to question how these social, political, rhetorical, and narrative connections, as well as disconnections, work in relation to the systems of knowledge created in the continent. By taking this into account, the Congress will be divided into three sections:

**Narrative - Linguistics**

In an economic, social, political and cultural crisis, it is critical to analyze the different processes of interrelation, encounter, and connections that take place in the Americas. The narrative production that results from these relations –understood in a broad sense as literature, linguistics, film, video, visual arts, performances, photography- show more complex, heterogeneous and contradictory facets. The cultural and media actions and devices that work under these circumstances provide an important potential of resistance and reveal the negotiation opportunities beyond national identity and ethnic or esthetic borders that are strictly delimited. In this section, presentation proposals that question and analyze these relations, the reflections these situations have in cultural productions, the entanglements between narrative and crisis, difficulties of narration, and the contribution that these devices provide to clarify or create more questions about the current reality in the Americas will be accepted.

**Politics and Society**

Many factors make the Americas a space where the political projects and the crisis and its relation to culture have gained a particular and specific nature. Colonialism, revolutionary movements, dictatorships, local political ideologies, indigenous movements and their fights, as well as failed revolutionary projects, to name a few, are factors that have obliged the Inter-American political way of thinking to create categories and conceptualizations that are able to discuss the region and its particularities. Presentations that discuss these issues and their possible or impossible connections through the lens of the diverse disciplines that entangle in the area studies will be accepted.
(Inter)-American Thinking

The systems of knowledge in the Americas were established as the first globalized laboratory of hybridization. The frequently mentioned encounter between Europeans and Indigenous people; the application of different colonial models, and the different crises and their different solutions applied by each group, have had as a result, a development of systems with different systems of knowledge that created deep connections and disconnections in the Americas. This section aims to point out the entanglements of systems of knowledge within the Americas or with paradigms from different parts of the world; hence, presentation proposals that seek to emphasize the disconnections among the different ways of thinking in the Americas and its possible causes will be accepted.

Application process

The call is specially opened for Master and Ph.D. students of related areas; however, every researcher and/or social actor that would like to participate is welcome.

The abstracts should be individual and cannot exceed 300 words. They can be sent in German, Spanish, English, and Portuguese until February 15th, 2018 to the email address congresobielefeld2018@gmail.com. They should have the author’s name and academic affiliation. On March 5th the selected abstracts will be informed via email.

After the congress, a special edition of the electronic journal “Fiar-Forum for Inter-American Research” of the International Association of Inter-American studies will be published with the most distinguished presentations.

For more information:

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