

Imperial Legacies: Caribbean Genealogies of Racialization Across Disciplines

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The *Imperial Legacies: Caribbean Genealogies of Racialization Across Disciplines* conference analyzes the ways in which the Spanish imperial logic of the colonial period laid the groundwork for a racial, cultural, political, and aesthetic order that has shaped Caribbean societies up to now. The project articulates a theory of the Caribbean by explaining how the Spanish colonial legacy imposed its own epistemological framework to understand and explain the “new world”, while also looking at indigenous discourses and practices offering counter-hegemonic alternatives of apprehending the world and combating colonialism. Most specifically, this symposium seeks to identify how Afro-Caribbean communities offer subaltern philosophical and political tools to reimagine novel ways of militancy. The project aims to analyze complex articulations between aesthetics and political procedures, asserting that their combined effects can lead to the most effective material critique. The goal is to study modes of political activism that are able to transcend essentialist notions of subjective agency, by looking instead at the ways in which affect structures our political relation to the world. Finally, a key objective is to identify subaltern practices leading to political transformation in ways that reconceptualize the notion of militant agency. The project methodology proposes the analysis of racializing discourses, that is, language practices that classify and discipline people, objects, places, and practices into social categories marked as inherently dangerous or Other. Of special interest are the legitimized forms of racism that are not explicitly discriminatory, but which covertly reproduce and reinforce practices that keep augmenting the gap between those who belong, and those who are marginalized.

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