

XX Factory of Ideas

Advanced doctoral school in ethnic and African studies

Theme: The New Era of Extremes: New forms of populism, extremism and identity formation - a transcontinental perspective.

Date: August 26- September 6, 2019

Place: Centre of Afro-Oriental Studies (CEAO), Salvador, Bahia, Brazil

The Factory of Ideas will hold its twentieth edition in 2019. In our next edition, our intensive and advanced course aims at stimulating the debate and analysis of the surge of new and exaggerated forms of populism. It will pursue it through a progressive South-South as well as South-North dialogue. These forms to make politics and exercise power present themselves as absolutely new and anti-political, and hint at radical reforms of both the socio-economic and cultural-religious-educational sort. They oppose outright previous projects aimed at reducing poverty as well as extreme and durable inequality, as well as more conventional narratives based on class. To the latter vision of society mostly centred on forms of “mosaic emancipation” or “identity welfare”, they oppose new us-them confrontations centred - mostly - on lifestyle, religious belief, celebration of family life or nationhood. It is urgent to investigate how the new populist governments affect and possibly alter the structure of inequality, the process of identity and class formation of subaltern groups and the building of broader types of collective identities. Which are winners and the losers in these process? In doing this we need to scrutinize the context of various countries where this is taking place (India, Philippines, Colombia, US, Brazil, countries in Europe and so forth). We also need to focus on the traditional or new means and technologies that are deployed (social media, church pulpits, flash mobs etc.) plus identify the various codes and registers in use (religion, politics, the production of culture and discourse leading to violence against strangers/foreigners and/or LGBT people).

Our aim is inviting respected scholars that investigate this that we call “the new era of the extremes” in countries such as India, Colombia, US, South Africa, Italy, Philippines and Brazil. Our provisional program will be completed soon:

Colombia: Eduardo Restrepo (Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá)

Mozambique/ Switzerland: Elísio Macamo (Universidade de Basileia)

Italy: Marco D´Eramo (Il Manifesto)

Philippines: Aries Aruguay (University of the Philippines Diliman).

Brazil: Rosana Machado (Federal University of Santa Maria).

Other scholars from Brazil and abroad might be invited.

Each of them will give classes in intensive fashion, for a total amount of 68 class hours, which correspond to four credit in the Brazilian Graduate Education system.

Up to 60 graduate students and postdocs will be selected through an international selection process. The will be mostly from Brazil and the rest of Latin America. Up to fifteen vacancies will be reserved for students from Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. An important component of the Factory of Ideas is the discussion in small groups, under the leaderships of one or two of the lecturers, of the students´

research project, Students are advised to present their project, dissertations or theses in paper format. The students will receive four credits for successfully attending the course.

On occasion of its twentieth edition we will also hold a one day panel with a selected number of our former students that are now professors in various universities. The aim of the panel is to scrutinize this twenty years' experience and envision the future of our project and South-South network. Such reflection is especially relevant in the light of the dramatic change that one can anticipate in the politics and funding of higher education and academic life in our countries.

Classes and debates will be held in Portuguese, English and Spanish, and will be thoroughly recorded and broadcast on line. An edited format the recording of the course will be later made available for all the graduate programs that partner in the organization of the Factory of Ideas. A reading packet will be made available in PDF format to the selected students.

An edited selection of the papers presented by the lecturers and the students will be published in a special issue of the journal *Mediações* of the University of Londrina (UEL).

A special effort will be made for guaranteeing the presence of students who benefit from affirmative action measures, native Americans, descendants of maroon communities and LGBT activists, because all of them in their research are exposed and vulnerable to tension and aggression. Students based in minor and less central universities are especially welcome.

There is no tuition fee and the students will be advised as to inexpensive accommodation and restaurants.

The call for the course and the time schedule of the selection process will be published by February 15 in our website www.fabricaideias.ufba.br as well as in the sites of our partners.

Organization:

Graduate Program in Ethnic and African Studies (Posafro) at the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA); Graduate Programs in Anthropology and Sociology at UNICAMP; Graduate Program in Public Policy at the Federal University of Maranhão (UFMA)

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