



UNIVERSITÄT  
BAYREUTH



**Intersectionality – Contentions, Translations and Transformations.**  
**International School of the Doctoral College for Intersectionality Studies**

13<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> February 2025, University of Bayreuth

Coordinated by PhD candidates of the Doctoral College on Intersectionality Studies in  
Bayreuth (PKIS)

**Call for Applications**

The Doctoral School for Intersectionality Studies (Promotionskolleg für Intersektionalitätsstudien, PKIS) invites engaged scholars and activists to its first International Spring School. Established in 2022, the PKIS is Europe's first Doctoral School and research hub exploring intersectionality. With our spring school, we want to create a space for collective learning, embrace and expand Intersectionality as a critical tool of analysis and practice in our context and beyond. The Spring School will take place from 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 on the campus of the University of Bayreuth.

Against the background of ever-growing social conflict and economic divides, and an increasing threat through right-wing populism that contributes to climate catastrophe, social injustice and discrimination, intersectional critique seems more needed than ever. We want to scrutinize Intersectionality as a tool for analysis and resistance in challenging times. In which ways can frameworks of Intersectionality studies address socio-economic questions (Crenshaw, 1989; Bannerji, 1995, 2011; Nüthen, 2017; Bohrer, 2019; Hill Collins, 2019)? If we follow Patricia Hill Collins' (2019) assertion that Intersectionality should be considered a critical social theory, to what extent can it be rethought, aiming at radical change? How can Intersectionality, both as a critical political practice and as a tool for critical analysis, become a 'travelling theory' (Said, 1983, 2001; Salem, 2018)? In other words, considering the powerful work Intersectionality has done for Black Women's struggle in the US context, could Intersectionality be employed as a tool for political and academic intervention to promote reforms of the existing social and political system in other spaces? Hence, we center engaged critical discourse within the field of Intersectionality that allow us to contest, expand, and examine it along the following central contentions:



1. Intersectionality as political intervention and Intersectionality as a critical social theory
2. Translations and Contentions: Intersectionality as ‘traveling theory’
3. Operationalization(s) of intersectional theories, methodologies and empirical research

Throughout our Spring School, we aim to create a space to work and think together along these fault-lines of intersectional scholarship, the social struggles the concept is embedded in, and the multiple systems of oppression it aims to analyze and change. Based on our discussions, we plan the publication of an edited volume.

## How to participate

We ask scholars and activists who want to participate in our Spring School to hand in a written abstract (about 500 words) of your proposed contribution along with some details about yourself and your (institutional) affiliation. Contributions may have the form of 90 minutes workshop formats, reading sessions, or (shorter) inputs on specific topics along the questions raised in our call for participation.

You can apply via [events.pkis@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:events.pkis@uni-bayreuth.de) **until 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2024**. Please consider the following application form.

## Bibliography

- Bannerji, H. (1995) *Thinking through: essays on feminism, Marxism and anti-racism*. Toronto: Women’s Press.
- Bannerji, H. (2011) ‘Building from Marx’, in Mojab, S. and Carpenter, S., *Educating from Marx*. Palgrave Macmillan. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1057/9780230370371.0007>.
- Bohrer, A.J. (2019) *Marxism and intersectionality: race, gender, class and sexuality under contemporary capitalism*. Bielefeld: Transcript (Philosophy).
- Crenshaw, K. (1989) ‘Demarginalizing the intersection of race and sex: A black feminist critique of antidiscrimination doctrine, feminist theory and antiracist politics’, *u. Chi. Legal f.*, p. 139.
- Hill Collins, P. (2019) *Intersectionality as critical social theory*. Durham: Duke University Press.
- Nüthen, I. (2017) ‘Solidarity comrade – That’s what I would call real intersectionality’, *Feministische Studien*, 35(2), pp. 287–298. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1515/fs-2017-0031>.
- Said, E.W. (1983) ‘Traveling theory’, in *The World, the Text, and the Critic*. Cambridge, UK Medford, MA: Harvard University Press, pp. 226–247.
- Said, E.W. (2001) ‘Traveling theory reconsidered’, in *Reflections on Exile and Other Literary and Cultural Essays*. London: Granta Books, pp. 436–452.
- Salem, S. (2018) ‘Intersectionality and its discontents: Intersectionality as traveling theory’, *European Journal of Women’s Studies*, 25(4), pp. 403–418. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1177/1350506816643999>.



## Application form for participation at the Spring School "Intersectionality - Contentions and Translations" (13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> February 2025, Bayreuth)

Please use the following questions to guide your application. We will get back to you as soon as we have received all submissions and can develop a better picture of the participants' contributions.

Name
Pronouns
University/organizational affiliation and/or activist background (if any)
Please tell us briefly about yourself, including your positionality and background. (max. 200 words)
Please also let us know about your motivation to join this Spring School, your specific topics of interest that relate to our call of participation and what you hope to work on during these days. (max. 300 words)
The Spring School will be organized around panel discussions and working group sessions, where we are asking associated members of the PKIS to coordinate these. At the same time, we want to build this Spring School together with you and are asking participants for contributing in form of workshops or other formats, like reading sessions or giving inputs to specific topics. Do you want to apply as a facilitator of one of these workshops for a specific topic? If so, please describe your proposal here. (max. 500 words)
We are hoping to offer as much financial support for all participants in form of stipends as we can. This can include travel bursaries to and accommodation in Bayreuth. Please indicate if you can cover your own travels and organize your own stay because that allows us to be more flexible in supporting more people to participate in the Spring School.
Do you need childcare during the Spring School? If so, could you give us details for what times and how old your kid(s) is/are.
Is there anything else that you want to mention that would need to participate at the Spring School?