

Amsterdam Summer School: The Coloniality of Migration Politics in Europe

How do colonial legacies shape migration politics in and around contemporary Europe? How do we trace continuities and discontinuities between colonial governance of mobility and present day border regimes in and around Europe? In past colonial governance and contemporary migration and citizenship politics, states negotiate and (re)produce national politics of belonging through social categories such as sexuality, gender, class, religion, dis/ability, nationality and age. Then as now, a wide range of actors - including media, educational institutions, and civil society organisations - participate in producing and contesting these politics of belonging.

Questions surrounding colonial dis/continuities in migration and citizenship politics have become increasingly central to scholarship on migration, mobility and citizenship over the past decades. However, critical engagement with how colonial dis/continuities have impacted and shaped migration aspirations and trajectories, migration governance, as well as political and public attitudes towards migration, has historically been missing in European migration scholarship. Traditionally, the field of migration studies in continental Europe has been constituted by methodological whiteness, resulting in a scholarly blindspot for the role of race and coloniality in the regulation and study of migration.

How do scholars empirically, conceptually and theoretically research colonial continuities, while simultaneously being attentive to discontinuities? The UvA summer school *The Coloniality of Migration Politics in Europe* invites PhD researchers to critically explore legacies and dis/continuities of coloniality in citizenship- and migration politics in Europe. In a series of workshops, lectures and intensive feedback sessions, participants will critically engage with the legacies of (methodological) whiteness and racism in migration studies, dis/continuities between colonial mobility governance and contemporary migration politics, as well as tackle their own positionalities and roles in knowledge production systems.

The summer school provides a broad platform for reflection, through a co-creation workshop with The Refugee Academy (VU), a positionality workshop with Dr. Laura Kapinga, Dr. Rik Huizinga and Dr. Reza Shaker (University of Groningen, Utrecht University & Leiden University), alongside lectures by prof. Rosalba Icaza Garza (Erasmus University Rotterdam) and Dr. Joe Turner (University of York). The summer school includes excursions around Amsterdam, allowing participants to engage with questions of coloniality and migration in a multitude of settings, beyond academia.

For whom:

PhD researchers (interested in) working on the coloniality of migration politics in Europe

Acceptance is conditional upon submitting a full paper draft (6000-9000 words) no later than 1 August 2023.

When & Where:

Monday 28 August – Thursday 31 August 2023, University of Amsterdam (UvA)

Conveners:

Saskia Bonjour (UvA), Silvia Aru (University of Turin), Sonja Evaldsson Mellström (UvA), Eline Westra (UvA)

This Summer School is supported by the Amsterdam Centre for European Studies Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence, as well as by the [Strange\(r\) Families Project](#).

Costs

There is no participation fee. The organizers reimburse up to €500 for travel and accommodation costs for a maximum of 8 accepted participants from outside Amsterdam. Those who would like to be considered for reimbursement should state this in their application, and confirm that they are unable to raise sufficient funds from their home institution.

Workload

Since discussion of work in progress is a crucial feature of this summer school, only participants who submit a full paper (6000-9000 words) by 1 August will be admitted. Participants should expect to spend a further **40 hours** reading literature and papers in preparation for the summer school.

How to apply

Please apply to participate in the summer school by submitting an abstract by 27 February 2023 to silvia.aru@unito.it. Your abstracts should be 350-500 words and state the theme, question and methodology of the paper you intend to discuss in the Summer School. In addition, your abstract should briefly explain your motivation for participating in the Summer School. Please also note whether you would like to be considered for a 500 euro travel grant. We will select candidates based on the quality of their abstracts.

Key dates:

- 27 February : deadline for submission abstracts
- 6 March: notification of acceptance or rejection
- 1 August : deadline for submission full paper
- 28-31 August 2023: summer school

Confirmed lecturers:

- **Dr. Joe Turner (York University)**

Joe's research focuses on the organisation of violence in Northern liberal states, specifically how border regimes reproduce structural, epistemic and bio-

physical violence. In his work, he explores how post metropolises like Britain function as postcolonial states, and how border regimes in such spaces are structured by imperial and colonial histories and hierarchies of human value. In this way, he is interested in how the knowledge and practice of borders, citizenship and mobility form a central role in colonial/global systems of international politics. Joe is co-author of *Migration Studies and Colonialism* (2021).

- **Prof. dr. Rosalba Icaza Garza (Erasmus University Rotterdam)**

Rosalba's research lies at the intersection of global politics, feminisms and decoloniality. Interconnecting these strands, her academic work has generated rigorous societally engaged analyses of global politics and epistemic justice in development studies. Thematically, it reflects her long-term fascination for understanding the productive learning tensions that emerge when communities organize across borders to resist multiple intermeshed oppressions along lines of gender, race/ethnicity, class, age/generation, sexualities, and body capacities. She has conceptualized such responses as 'social struggles as epistemic struggles' (Icaza and Vazquez 2013).

- **Dr. Laura Kapinga, Dr. Rik Huizinga & Dr. Reza Shaker (University of Groningen, Utrecht University & Leiden University)**

Laura Kapinga works as a researcher and lecturer at the department of Social Sciences of the University College Groningen, the Netherlands. Rik Huizinga is a researcher and lecturer affiliated with the Department of Human Geography and Spatial Planning at the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands. Together with Reza Shaker, postdoctoral candidate at the department of Social Sciences, Leiden University, they developed a method to reflect more critically on one's positionality and situated knowledge by discussing potential biases in a group: positionality meetings. During the summer school workshop, Laura, Rik and Reza will discuss their experiences using this method, familiarize you with the idea of positionality meetings by practicing them yourselves and offer concrete guidelines to continue using positionality meetings after the summer school.

- **Alexandra Greene and Fabian Holle (VU Amsterdam)**

Alexandra Greene (she/her) has an interdisciplinary background informed by research-creation, intersectional feminist practices, and a humanities education. Since 2019, she is a PhD candidate in the Department of Sociology at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. Her research is embedded within the NWO-VICI project *Engaged Scholarship and Narratives of Change*, led by professor dr. Halleh Ghorashi. Her research explores the practice of solidarity across difference in the context of the migrant justice movement in California. She also designs and organizes a course on research-creation that explores critique, care and collaboration through creative practice. Fabian Holle

(they/he) is a PhD candidate in the department of Sociology at VU Amsterdam and part of the research project: *Engaged Scholarship and Narratives of Change*. They graduated as a theatermaker at the HKU (University of the Arts Utrecht) in 2004. They worked with directors and choreographers, co-founded theater collective Ponies (2005–2015) and performed in drag. In 2020, they completed a Master in Sociology (cum laude) at VU Amsterdam. They won the 2020 ARC-GS MA Thesis Prize (Amsterdam Research Centre for Gender and Sexuality at UvA). Fabian is currently co-creating and co-facilitating LIMBO, a collaboration between queer refugee artists, the Amsterdam art institution Framer Framed and Refugee Academy (expertise lab within VU Amsterdam).

Provisional schedule

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday 28/08	-	13.00 Arrivals 14.00-17.00 Workshop on positionality and knowledge production with dr. Rik Huizinga, dr. Laura Kapinga and dr. Reza Shaker	Welcome Dinner
Tuesday 29/08	10.00-12.00 Paper feedback session I	13.00-15.00 Lecture by Joe Turner 15.30-17.30 Workshop on co-creation of knowledge at the crossroads of academia, activism and the arts with Fabian Holle and Alexandra Greene	Free
Wednesday 30/08	10.00-12.00 Paper feedback session II	13.00-15.00 Lecture by Prof. Dr. Rosalba Icaza Garza 15.30-17.30 Activity t.b.d.	Free
Thursday 31/08	10.00-12.00 Paper feedback session III 12.00-13.00 Closing Lunch	-	-