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Summer School: How to do race in migration studies in Europe

**Organized by the Amsterdam Centre for European Studies (ACES)/
Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence**

To be held at the University of Amsterdam, 22-25 June 2020

Convenors: Silvia Aru, Saskia Bonjour and Polly Pallister-Wilkins

We invite PhD candidates and advanced research master students to apply for this Summer School by 15 February 2020.

Migration studies has a race problem. In the social sciences more broadly, race has been gaining significance as an analytical category. Critical race theory and other forms of theorizing race, racism and racialisation are increasingly influential, and calls to decolonise knowledge production by activists/scholars find more and more fertile ground. In migration research however, race remains marginal. The field of migration studies has been historically constituted by methodological whiteness, leading to race's near invisibility in critical discussions around migration. This invisibility is perhaps stronger than elsewhere in continental Europe, where rejection of racism has resulted in political and scholarly reticence to use the concept of "race". This elision sees discussions of race absent from many of the central questions animating migration studies today concerning why people migrate; how they migrate; migration processes and pathways; and political and public attitudes towards migration. In policy terms, race continues to animate discussions around migration either explicitly such as in the cases of Brexit, the Hostile Environment and the Windrush Scandal in the UK, or through its absence in say the new European Commissioner for 'Promoting Our European Way of Life' under which EU migration policy now falls. Important questions also remain unasked regarding how race intersects with categories such as gender, sexuality, and class in migration practices and politics. This summer school aims at bringing together early career scholars working on race and its relation to migration (broadly defined) with more senior scholars and practitioners to explore how to do race in migration studies.

The Summer school will consist of lectures and discussions with senior scholars; intensive feedback sessions where we discuss participants' work; and exchanges with practitioners. Confirmed speakers include [Sinan Cankaya](#), [Darshan Vigneswaran](#), and [Betty de Hart](#).

There is **no participation fee**. The organizers **reimburse up to €500** for travel and accommodation costs for a maximum of 10 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.

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 8 June** will be admitted. Participants should expect to spend a further 40 hours reading literature and papers in preparation for the summer school.

Please apply to participate in the summer school by **submitting an abstract by 15 February 2020** to s.a.bonjour@uva.nl. 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:

- 15 February : deadline for submission abstracts
- 1 March: notification of acceptance or rejection
- 8 June : deadline for submission full paper
- 22-25 June: summer school