

The Swiss School of Latin American Studies (SSLAS)
PhD Workshop
“Going Digital in Latin America”

University of St.Gallen – The SQUARE, Room Gallus 11-0111

Friday, January 13, 2023

Saturday, January 14, 2023



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More people in Latin America and the Caribbean are connected to the Internet than ever. Latin America seems to be in an accelerated path toward digitization in a post pandemic era. New technologies can be seen all across the social sciences, in media, journalism, education, and government. Nevertheless, going digital poses many challenges for the region and could even amplify other inequalities, including an increased technological divide, lack of access in rural areas, and the non-inclusion of the informal sector. In the job market, for example, very few workers have proficiency in the use of digital tools and a large share of adults have little or no computer experience. Hence, a digital transformation in Latin America could be an opportunity to not only address inequalities, corruption, and weak governance, but also to spur sustainability and innovation. In this SSLAS, we hope to take a closer look at digital cultures and cultural production, including new media, and electronic art and literature. We will also analyze the present and future of e-journalism as well as inquire how digital technologies can influence government institutions and democracies. Additionally, we will ask how new technologies are used in farming, the mining industry, or to combat child vulnerabilities.

SSLAS PhD Workshop organized by the
Centro Latinoamericano-Suizo
de la Universidad de San Gallen (CLS-HSG)

Friday, January 13, 2023

- 14:00 – 14:15 Opening Remarks
PD. Dr. Matias Dewey and Dr. Rocío Robinson (Universität St.Gallen)
- 14:15 – 15:30 *“Culturas digitales – Algunos hilos del arte digital y electrónico en América Latina”*
Prof. Dr. Thea Pitman (University of Leeds / Society for Latin American Studies)
Moderated by Dr. Rocío Robinson (Universität St.Gallen)
- 15:30 – 16:45 *“Back to basics of journalism: the rise of digital native media in Latin America”*
Prof. Dr. Ramón Salaverría (Universidad de Navarra)
Moderated by Dr. des. Omid Alizadeh (Universität St.Gallen)
- 16:45 – 17:00 *Coffee Break – The SQUARE Cafeteria*
- 17:00 – 18:00 *“Datified extractivism: reflections on the double extractive frontier in contemporary extractivist spaces in Latin America”*
PhD Student Marianna Fernandes (IHEID)
Moderated by PhD Student Lucas Figueroa (IHEID)
- 18:00 – 19:00 *“Navigating in a context of exclusion: the role of internet and social media in the life of teenagers living in care institutions in Brazil”* Online
PhD Student André Cardozo Sarli (Université de Genève / University of Virginia)
Moderated by Dr. Melina Teubner (Universität Bern)
- 19:30 *Dinner – Restaurant Gentile, Vadianstrasse 14, 9000 St.Gallen*

Saturday, January 14, 2023

- 09:00 – 10:00 *“Instituciones participativas, tecnologías digitales y crisis democráticas”*
PD. Dr. Yanina Welp (IHEID)
Moderated by Dr. Elena Rosauero (Universität Zürich)
- 10:00 – 10:50 *“Block by Block”* Online
James Delaney (Founder and Managing Director of BlockWorks)
Moderated by Prof. Dr. Yvette Sánchez (Universität St.Gallen)
- 10:50 – 11:20 *Coffee Break – Cafeteria Library Building*
- 11:20 – 12:30 *“Design Thinking for Social Scientists Workshop”*
Dr. Egle Thomas (Strategic Consultant / Innosuisse Coach)
- 12:30 – 13:00 *“Combining artificial intelligence and the digital with the analogue for inclusive education in Brazil”*
Dr. Andrin Pelican and Marco Cocuzza (Co-Founders Herby / Universität St.Gallen)
Moderated by PostDoc Fernanda Abreu Silva (IHEID)
- 13:00 – 13:30 *“Digital farming, invisible farmers: global mergers and smallholders in Latin America”* Online
Dr. María del Pilar Ramírez Gröbli (Universität Bern)
Moderated by PhD Student Óscar Mauricio Bohórquez (Universität St.Gallen)
- 13:30 Announcements and Closing Remarks
Prof. Dr. Yvette Sánchez and Dr. Rocío Robinson (Universität St.Gallen)
- 13:40 *Lunch*