



2021 TSCHUDI LECTURE AND SSLAS WORKSHOP

virtual conference

May 7th - 8th, 2021

Race and racism

with keynote lectures by
Marta Casaús Arzú
Aline Helg



Universität
Zürich^{UZH}

Latin American Center Zurich

swissuniversities



It is well established today that *race* is a social construct, a social classification based on phenotype that artificially divides people into distinct groups according to certain physical characteristics. However, to a fairly great extent it still governs the distribution of risks and opportunities in our societies. Although ethnicity reflects cultural heritage, race measures a societally imposed identity and the consequent exposure to societal constraints associated with that particular identity. This allows us to situate racism from the perspective of the construction of nation-states and to analyze it not only as an ideology of difference and inequality, and not only as a form of domination and oppression between classes or ethnic groups, but also as a logic of extermination and exclusion. Ultimately, as a technology of power.

As Marta Casaús Arzú has put it, racism is the generalized and definitive valuation of differences –biological or cultural, real or imaginary– to the advantage of one group and to the detriment of the other, in order to justify an aggression and a system of domination. Racism is, thus, a historical-structural element that began with the conquest and colonization of the Americas, and was then imbued within the structure of the dominant classes, constituting a core aspect of their ideology even today. Conversely, it has shaped and triggered numerous forms of both resistance and management of the construction and representation of otherness within the groups historically marked by a process of racialization.

The 2021 Tschudi Lecture and SSLAS Workshop organized by the Latin American Center of the University of Zurich will examine not only the origins and development of racism and the idea of race in Latin America, but also their persistence today and the social struggles against them.

Public virtual event via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://uzh.zoom.us/j/63108314449?pwd=M1hycEVjSkRTdFpubWRMVM9BYUI1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 631 0831 4449

Passcode: 983720

2021 TSCHUDI LECTURE AND SSLAS WORKSHOP Race and racism

Friday, May 7th

16:00 – 17:30 2021 Tschudi Lecture

16:00 – 16:15 Welcome and opening remarks by Prof. Dr. Johannes Kabatek (UZH)

16:15 – 17:00 Keynote Lecture

Del racismo histórico-estructural al genocidio en Guatemala

by Prof. Dr. Marta Casaús Arzú (UAM)

Moderated by Prof. Dr. Adriana López-Labourdette (UZH)

17:00 – 17:30 Open discussion

Saturday, May 8th

14:00 – 15:30 Interdisciplinar panel session with junior researchers

14:00 – 14:30 Dr. Chiara Barbieri (UZH): "Racism and representation in genetic and bio anthropological studies". Moderated by Dr. Tomás Bartoletti (ETH Zürich).

14:30 – 15:00 Julián Míguez (UZH): "¿Limpi@s de toda (mala) raza? Una globalización de procedimientos para determinar la descendencia". Moderated by Dr. José Cáceres (UZH).

15:00 – 15:30 Clara Guardado (UZH): "Memoria y Justicia en el posconflicto de El Salvador: circulación de objetos como narrativas en resistencia". Moderated by María Ordóñez (UZH).

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 17:00 Keynote Lecture SSLAS 2021

En torno al mito de la democracia racial en América Latina

by Prof. Dr. Aline Helg (Université de Genève)

Moderated by Prof. Dr. Valeria Wagner (Université de Genève)

16:30 – 17:00 Open discussion

17:00 – 17:15 Coffee break

17:15 – 17:45 Regímenes de Desigualdad y Afrodescendencia

Presentation of the book *Entre el Atlántico y el Pacífico Negro. Afrodescendencia y regímenes de desigualdad en Sudamérica* (recipient of the LASA Premio Iberoamericano Book Award 2021)

by Dr. Rocío Vera (Lateinamerika-Institut, Freie Universität Berlin / Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin)

Moderated by Dr. Rocío Robinson (HSG)

17:45 – 18:00 Closing remarks by Prof. Dr. Yvette Sánchez (HSG) & Dr. Rocío Robinson (HSG)