

Environmental (In)Justice and Ecological Solidarities

Lehrerfortbildung / Teacher Training Workshop

as part of

32nd Annual Conference of the Association for Anglophone Postcolonial Studies (GAPS) Goethe University Frankfurt, 26-29 May 2022

Organizers: Jun. Prof. Dr. Roman Bartosch (Cologne) and Dr. Pavan Kumar Malreddy (Frankfurt)

The *Fridays for Future* movement is one of the greatest current challenges for teachers and educational policy-makers alike as it has ushered in debates on intergenerational (in)justice, which UNICEF defines as “the idea that present generations have certain duties towards future generations.” Such duties have always been part and parcel of educational practices; but what happens when “climate change raises particularly pressing issues, such as which risks those living today are allowed to impose on future generations, and how available natural resources can be used without threatening the sustainable functioning of the planet’s ecosystems”? The concept of environmental (in)justice raises similar questions: how do social inequalities among existing generations, geographies, and national cultures impact on the ways we understand climate change to be a singular threat to a humanity that was never singular or universalistic?

In following up on these questions, this Teacher Training workshop explores what school education means when the future looks increasingly bleak, and when future generations must pay the price to subsidize the values and comforts of the current generation. Teachers, educators, and researchers are routinely subject to these ethical, intellectual, if not existential dilemmas both within and outside of their vocational circuits, and the workshop will invite them to join co-creative and productive conversations about how to tackle them. In line with the overall conference theme, the workshop asks how we, as educators, respond to our students, or those at the receiving end of the action against global warming on questions of environment or intergenerational justice? What sort of political, affective, and ethical solidarities are required to advance intergenerational, environmental, and international justice, and which texts and media help us articulate these complex problems of our time?

The workshop features two 90-minute sessions for schoolteachers and educators. The first session introduces key

concepts and theoretical texts on solidarities as well as various conceptions of justice, practical exercises, and examples (from India, Nepal, Nigeria to the Arctic) on how to translate theoretical impulses for an advanced classroom setting. The second session takes up some of the challenges faced in current classrooms, including moral injury and eco-anxiety, violence, and racism, and presents key ideas from academic research in short inputs that invite extended discussion and collaboration on potential ways of addressing these challenges.

Friday, 27th May, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Part I: Concepts, Texts, and Research Transfer
Instructors (tentative)**

Dr. Pavan Kumar Malreddy (Frankfurt)/ Kathrin Bartha, PhD (Frankfurt)

Prof. Dr. Kylie Crane (Rostock):
Environmental Justice I

Prof. Dr. Johannes Riquet (Tampere):
Environmental Justice II

Dr. Ana Sobral (Zurich):
Postcolonial Approaches to Environmental Justice

Friday, 27th May, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Part II: Contesting Solidarity: Key Challenges in the Classroom

Jun-Prof. Dr. Roman Bartosch/PD Dr. Julia Hoydis (Cologne):
Intergenerational Eco(In)Justice

Dr Elizabeth Gilbert (Cologne):
Places We Don't Want to Go: Literature, Violence, and the Intercultural Classroom

R. Wambui Kamande (Krefeld):
Racism and White Privilege