

4th June

“Skeiv norsk historie”

Boklansering for Skeive linjer i norsk historie frå norrøn tid til i dag» av Hanne Marie Johansen

Time: 21:00-22:00

Place: Litteraturhuset i Bergen

Historian and author Hanne M. Johansen talked about her brand new book with Sigrid Sandal at "Regnbuehuset".

[Read more about the book here \(in Norwegian\).](#)

15th May

“The Design Politics of the Passport”

Open seminar with Mahmoud Keshavarz

Time: 13:15-15:00

Place: SKOK, Parkveien 9

In this seminar Keshavarz will present his latest work *The Design Politics of the Passport: Materiality, Immobility and Dissent*. It is an interdisciplinary study of the passport and its associated social, political and material practices as a means of uncovering the workings of what Keshavarz calls 'design politics'. It traces the histories, technologies, power relations and contestations around this small but powerful artefact to establish a framework for understanding how design is always enmeshed in the political, and how Politics can be understood in terms of material objects.

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Spring 2019

Events and activities at the Centre for Women's and Gender Research (SKOK)



UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN



16th January

“Neurosexism, Neurofeminism and the Limits of Neuroplasticity”

Open seminar with Claus Halberg

Time: 13:15-15:00

Place: SKOK, Parkveien 9

In this talk, Halberg speaks of some of the limitations of this strategy that Neuro-feminists themselves have pointed out and explores an alternative, more philosophical route to a critique of neurosexism by targeting its conceptual underpinnings regarding the nature of brain function as such.

Abstract: "Neurosexism" is a term coined by feminist cognitive scientist and science writer Cordelia Fine as a descriptor of how sexist (i.e., gender-essentialist) assumptions continue to inflect contemporary research on sex differences in brain and behaviour. A considerable amount of the "neurofeminist" critical response to this paradigm during the last decade has involved some kind of mobilisation of the concept of neuroplasticity, i.e., of the established fact that brain structure, circuitry and function are subject to modulation in response to the vicissitudes of experience. In this talk, I speak to some of the limitations of this strategy that neurofeminists themselves have pointed out and explore an alternative, more philosophical route to a critique of neurosexism by targeting its conceptual underpinnings regarding the nature of brain function as such.

21st February

“Post-socialist Gender Troubles: Sexual Minority Politics and Experiences in Poland and Post-Yugoslav Space” Open seminar with Joanna Mizielińska and Bojan Bilic

Time: 10:15-12:00

Place: SKOK, Parkveien 9

Mizielińska and Bilic talked about Queer families in Poland and LGBT activism in the Post-Yugoslav Space. Professor Randi Gressgård moderated.

21st February

Prøveforelesning: Nadzeya Husakouskaya

Time: 16:30-17:15

Place: Aud. B, Sydneshaugen skole

Nadzeya Husakouskaya held prøveforelesning for ph.d.-graden over oppgitt emne torsdag 21. februar.

Opgitt emne:

"Challenges for feminist mobilisations after socialism".

22nd February

Disputas: Nadzeya Husakouskaya

Time: 09:30-13:00

Place: Aud. B, Sydneshaugen skole

Tittel på avhandlingen:

"Problematising the transgender phenomenon: sexual geopolitics and Europeanization in contemporary Ukraine"

Opponentar:

1. opponent: Joanna Mizielińska, Polish Academy of Sciences
2. opponent: Bojan Bilic, University of Lisbon / University of Bologna

Leiar av komitéen er Kari Jegerstedt, Universitetet i Bergen

Settedekan Christine M. Jacobsen vil leie disputasen.

25th February

“Migration, History and the Question of Voice”

Open seminar with Knut Graw

Time: 13:15-15:00

Place: SKOK, Parkveien 9

Knut Graw er forsker og sosialantropolog ved Universitetet i Leuven. Spesialfelt inkluderer tema som religion, migrasjon og minoriteter. Han har gjort feltarbeid hovedsaklig i Gambia og Senegal. Seminaret ble arrangert av forskerne i WAIT-prosjektet.

Abstract:

Anonymity is one of the most salient features of migration today and in the past. Concentrating on an individual account of migration from before the highly mediatized boat arrivals of West African migrants in Europe, this talk attempts to understand some of the dynamics and motivations underlying the recent history of migration between West Africa and Europe. By focusing on an individual narrative, the seminar aims at developing a perspective that may allow us to grasp the individual dimension of migration as well as the historical nature of the border regimes governing individual migration trajectories, addressing questions of both, history and voice. Connecting fields of bodily experience, subjectivity and politics alike, the question of voice emerges as an important site to think about the complex interplay of historical, subjective and gendered dimensions of migration and its underlying social realities

5th March

“Reproduksjon i statens tjeneste?”

Den årlige SKOK- debatten

Time: 19:00 -21:00

Place: Hans Hauge, Litteraturhuset I Bergen

Årets SKOK-debatt tok for seg statsministerens oppfordringer til norske kvinner om å få flere barn og debatten i etterkant.

Bør norske kvinner føde flere barn? Gjelder det alle, eller bør staten legge til rette for at noen får flere og andre færre? Hvilke problemer ville dette løse, og ser problemene annerledes ut fra et globalt bærekraftsperspektiv? Bør retten til abort innskrenkes for å unngå 'sortering'? Spørsmål knyttet til biologisk og sosial reproduksjon, barnefødsler og familieliv, har preget den hjemlige politiske debatten i det siste. At slike spørsmål kommer i fokus i perioder med store sosiale og kulturelle omveltninger er velkjent fra kjønnsforskningen. Spørsmål om kontroll av kvinners fruktbarhet oppstår også ofte i tilknytning til grensekonflikter, etno-nasjonalistiske og imperialistiske prosjekter. Men hvilken betydning har disse debattene i dagens Norge? Hva er det egentlig som står på spill?

I panelet satt Guro Korsnes Kristensen, Mette Løkeland og Espen Gamlund.

Guro Korsnes Kristensen er sosialantropolog og forsker på likestilling, integrering og familieliv. Bland annet har Kernes Kristensen forsket på migrasjon og reproduksjon som biopolitikk i Norge.

Mette Løkeland er utdannet gynekolog, er nettredatør for norsk gynekologisk forening og en aktiv samfunnsdebattant. Selv omtaler hun seg som gynekolog, feminist, målmenneske og EU-motstander. Løkeland har debattert spørsmål om abort, kvinnehelse og reproduksjon lenge før Solberg sin kontroversielle nyttårstale.

Espen Gamlund er førsteamanuensis i Filosofi ved Universitetet i Bergen. Han er særlig opptatt av etikk, moralfilosofi, politisk filosofi og en særlig interesse for anvendt etikk. Tidlig på nyåret fikk Gamlund oppmerksomhet med sitt innlegg i debatten om Solbergs nyttårstale, der han hevdet at statsministerens oppfordring reduserer kvinner til fødemaskiner som skal redde velferdsstaten.

11th March

“SKOK Master-Relay 2019”

Interdisciplinary seminar for MA- students

Time: 09:00-15:00

Place: SKOK, Parkveien 9

All master students working with gender, theoretically or thematically, in their dissertations are welcome to this interdisciplinary seminar. SKOK's master-relay is an all- day seminar with presentations and discussions. Participants will receive and give constructive critic across fields in order to strengthen their knowledge and dissertation projects. The seminar is also a great opportunity for MA- students to form useful contacts across disciplines and to receive input from professionals at SKOK.

21st March

“The patriarchal management of what to keep and what to give of oneself in the making of Lebanon's diasporic modernity”

Open seminar with Ghassan Hage

Time: 14:15-16:00

Place: Department of Social Anthropology, room 843, Lauritz Meltzer's Building

Professor Ghassan Hage presented his paper "The patriarchal management of what to keep and what to give of oneself in the making of Lebanon's diasporic modernity".

Abstract:

The patriarchal management of what to keep and what to give of oneself in the making of Lebanon's diasporic modernity

In this paper I begin by arguing that migration and diasporic culture are not 'the result' or 'an offshoot' of Lebanon's capitalist modernity, rather diasporic culture is the culture of Lebanese modernity.

Like all modernities it involves a splitting of the subject between a driven self and a homely self; in the case of diaspora it is a self entangled with the transnational capitalist

market and capitalist values and a self yearning for home and to protect what it considers most valuable about itself from this market. This can be a painful split of the self, and in some instances it can be dealt with through a splitting of the married couple rather than a splitting of the self.

In this process it is men who aim to monopolise the possession of what is worthy of being kept and what can be allowed to be given away. The paper examines ethnographically how this logic is integral to the making of diasporic culture.

Short bio

Ghassan Hage is professor of Anthropology and Social Theory at the University of Melbourne, Australia. He has held many visiting professorships around the world including at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris, University of Copenhagen, University of Amsterdam and Harvard. His research interests include: Critical Anthropological Theory; Comparative nationalism, colonialism and racism; The work of Pierre Bourdieu; The anthropology of the Palestinian question; and The anthropology of Lebanon and the Lebanese diaspora. His more recent works includes *Alter-Politics: Critical Anthropological Thought and the Radical Imagination* (2016), and *Is Racism an Environmental Threat?* (2017)

The event was organized by IMER, SKOK and Dep. of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen.

14th May

“Reading seminar on the Holberg Prize Laureate Paul Gilroy’s texts”

Time: 14:15-16:00

Place: SKOK, Parkveien 9

Center for Women’s and Gender Research organized a discussion about some of Gilroy’s writings.

[Paul Gilroy](#) is Professor in American and English literature at King’s College, London, and winner of the Holberg Prize 2019.

Paul Gilroy is one of the most challenging and inventive figures in contemporary scholarship. His work has influenced, and, in some cases, reshaped several fields and sub-fields, including cultural studies, critical race studies, sociology, history, anthropology and African-American studies.

[Read more about Gilroy and the Holberg Prize.](#)

14th June

“Open seminar with world-renowned queer researcher Jack Halberstam”

Time: 14:15-16.00

Place: Sydneshaugen skole, Auditorium Q, Sydnesplassen 9

Jack Halberstam is Professor at Department of English and Comparative Literature and the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Columbia University.

The talk will amplify some of Halberstam’s critical thinking about temporality and politics. Presenting three examples of “exit routes” from the current formulation of politics and violence, he offers a new vision for unbuilding the world.

Title of the talk: On Dereliction, Destitution and the Unbuilding of the World

“For so long we have proposed considering the politics of this or the politics of that – the politics of transgender, the politics of sex, the politics of performance, the politics of resistance – what if politics itself, as a concept and a framework is not the solution but the problem. In other words, what if this need to legitimate everything via the political as we currently understand politics (activities associated with governance) is part of the problem in that it leads only to certain kinds of projects — the propulsive projects that engage making, doing, being, building, becoming, knowing, declaring, proposing, dealing, moving and so on. At the same time, this definition of the political disallows other projects that involve unbuilding, unmaking and destitution and declares these to be violent and worthless. Using three examples of “exit routes” from this current formulation of politics and violence, I offer a new vision of unbuilding the world”.

From Halberstams web page:

Halberstam is the author of six books including: *Skin Shows: Gothic Horror and the Technology of Monsters* (Duke UP, 1995), *Female Masculinity* (Duke UP, 1998), *In A Queer Time and Place* (NYU Press, 2005), *The Queer Art of Failure* (Duke UP, 2011) and *Gaga Feminism: Sex, Gender, and the End of Normal* (Beacon Press, 2012) and, most recently, a short book titled *Trans*: A Quick and Quirky Account of Gender Variance* (University of California Press). *Places Journal* awarded Halberstam its Arcus/Places Prize in 2018 for innovative public scholarship on the relationship between gender, sexuality and the built environment.

The seminar was open for all, but one needed to sign up.