

Call for Paper

PhD and Junior Researcher Seminar (In-person)

Critical Approaches to Studying Race and Migration in Finland and Neighbouring Regions

Venue: University of Turku, Faculty of Law
[Calonianskuja 3](#)

24 November 2023

Convenors: Dionysia Kang (Åbo Akademi University), Aleida Luján Pinelo (University of Turku), Daniela Alaattinoglu (University of Turku)

Workshop description and aim:

Against the backdrop of climate change and far-right turns in both Europe and worldwide, critical scholarship and strategies are urgently needed to tackle racism, and increasingly fatal and dehumanising migration regimes that are presumed to stop global majority migrants from entering and remaining in more affluent states of the global minority. Across the world, unprecedented legal measures, such as the removal of citizenship and the weakening principle of non-refoulement through pushbacks is increasingly seen. Migrant and racialised workers continue to be under-protected and exploited in, for instance, food systems, gig industries and sex work. Ethnic profiling, housing and workplace discrimination, hate crimes and speech remain rampant in the Nordics. These phenomena are not only driven by racist and colonial ideology and structures, they also lead to racialised outcomes.

This seminar calls for papers that examine the ways in which laws are experienced, in Finland and neighbouring states, that perpetrate and/or act as strategies to counter racist migration structures. Foregrounding race — as an analytical frame for structures underlying differentiated material reality — that intersects with multiple forms of oppression such as class, gender, disability, etc., this seminar acts as a space for researchers to critically contextualise and identify convergence of different structural mechanisms perpetrating different racial realities for migrants.

This event aims to strengthen the research community of PhD and early career researchers who are working on critical migration and race research for peer feedback and networking. It includes a public keynote lecture by Dr Johanna Leinonen (Diakonissalaitos), seminar for participants to introduce their work and gather feedback. Meals are provided as a way to provide networking opportunities for participants.

Who is this workshop targeted at?

This seminar targets early career researchers, particularly PhD researchers, working on legal and/or socio-political and everyday structures that foster migration and racial regimes primarily in Finland, and neighbouring regions. This seminar welcomes abstracts from researchers in fields such as (but not exclusively): critical migration studies, critical race studies, critical border studies, law, human rights, sociology, gender studies and social work. The convenors encourage scholars who are marginalised and in precarious positions who are working on related themes to submit an abstract.

Requirements for participation:

If a participant's abstract is accepted for this seminar, they are required to submit a work-in-progress (3-10 pages) 2 weeks before the workshop for peer feedback. It may; for instance, be an article, chapter, idea or concept piece that the participant is working on. They should also include a short description of their goals for participating in the seminar.

By participating in this seminar, every participant is committed to providing critical and constructive feedback to two other participants' submitted work. Each submission is assigned to two peer reviewers to comment on their submission. Preparation of feedback should be ready before the seminar day. As such, it is important for every participant to submit their work-in-progress punctually.

During the seminar, each participant will have 10 minutes to introduce their work, and 20 minutes of discussion and comments from the two assigned reviewers and other participants. Participants should strive to provide constructive, critical, and respectful comments to their assigned peers in the spirit of community care and reciprocity. Acknowledging the time constraint, participants are also encouraged to utilise breaks and mealtimes to interact respectfully with other participants or get one another's contacts, with consent, to continue peer support beyond this seminar.

How to submit an abstract?

Abstract (max. 250 words) should be submitted on this [form](https://survey.abo.fi/lomakkeet/15787/lomake.html) (<https://survey.abo.fi/lomakkeet/15787/lomake.html>) by 22 September 2023.

***Important dates:

- Abstract submission deadline: 22 September 2023
- Notification of acceptance: 6 October 2023
- Submission of work: 10 November 2023
- Seminar date: 24 November 2023

Travel support:

After notification of abstract acceptance, participants whose abstract are accepted and are based outside Turku should inform the organisers if they need travel support (e.g. being in precarious situations, lack institutional support). As the available sum is small, **participants should first seek financial support from their own institutions.**

No. of participants: Max. 12

Contact person: Dionysia Kang, dionysia.kang@abo.fi (for matters related to paper submission and programme content)/ Aleida Luján Pinelo, aleida.a.lujanpinelo@utu.fi (for financial-related matters and claims)

Tentative programme

08.55-09.00: Welcome

09.00-10.00: Public Keynote Lecture

10.00-10.15: Break (Provided by organiser)

10.15-12.15: Paper discussion session 1 (4 papers)

12.15-13.15: Lunch (Provided by organiser)

13.15-15.15: Paper discussion session 2 (4 papers)

15.15-15.30: Break (Provided by organiser)

15.30-17.30: Paper discussion session 3 (4 papers)

17.30-18.00: Closing and final thoughts/Future plans

After 18.00: Dinner (Main course provided by organiser)