

MODES OF BEING SOUTH: Territorialities, Affects, Powers

**Universidade Federal Fluminense (UFF/Brazil)
Graduate Program in Communication (UFF/Brazil)
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Niterói, Rio de Janeiro - Brazil
October, 03-05, 2017**

Call for papers:

As the Brazilian geographer Milton Santos has suggested when proposing modes of rethinking the territory problematic, it is the use rather than “the territory itself which makes it an object of social analysis” (2008). The conference “Modes of Being South: Territorialities, Affects, Powers” to be held at Federal Fluminense University (UFF) during October 3-5, 2017, examines the “uses of territory” as a central contribution to a reflection on politics, aesthetics and systems of power(s), which — with the help of the media, including cinema and literature — are emplaced within a broader territory we have come to call the “Global South.” Understanding the “Global South” less as a category that can be clearly delineated and instead as an “ex-centric” location (Comaroff, 2012) that calls into question the “world dis/order” (Levander and Mignolo, 2011) our conference will attend to three key concepts: territorialities, affects, and powers. Our main aim is to think through the processes and modes of production of the “Global South” as an extended location. In a broader sense, the notion of territory entails a physical dimension as much as a symbolic one. Thus we call for approaches that consider materiality and agency (events, social movements, institutions, technologies etc.) in conjunction with enunciation processes embodied in printed, audiovisual and cybercultural systems of expression (literature, the press, cinema, television, music, social networks etc.), that through aesthetic and cultural expressions give access to multiple territorialities. Located at the interface of materiality, technology, politics and the production of meaning and sense, this multidimensional approach promises to elucidate a corresponding multiplicity of territories and territorialities. The conference seeks to problematize how these territories and territorialities act on and against “exhausted geographies” (Rogoff, 2000), especially which affects are mobilized and put into circulation. In that way, the conference provokes a concerted reflection on these “territorialities of the south” as “worlds that create themselves to express contemporary affects, in relation to which the existing universes have become obsolete” (Rolnik, 1989). Around these territorialities – which are predominantly experienced, produced and imagined in fragmented, discontinuous and heterogeneous forms – the conference will stimulate a discussion that conceptualizes the Global South itself as a territory implicated in permanent processes of conflict, dispute and refutation.

“Modes of Being South: Territorialities, Affects, Powers” is part of the project “Literary Cultures of the Global South” (DAAD, Germany), a transnational research

project that UFF is developing in collaboration with the Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen. Besides the Program of Post-Graduate Research in Communication (PPGCOM), the project includes, among other affiliated universities, the participation of researchers from UNAM (Mexico), WITS (South Africa) and JNU (India).

Presentations should be organized in the following theme strands:

1. Diaspora and migratory movements
2. Corporalities
3. Cartography as territorialities and a method of thinking territorialities
4. Political and aesthetics practices of territorialization and deterritorialization
5. Multiterritorialities as modes of being
6. Precarious territories and modes of resistance

If you're interested in submitting a proposal, please send a 250 word abstract (Word document), by the deadline of February, 28, 2017, to:

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Programa de Pós-graduação em Comunicação da Universidade Federal Fluminense

Proposals should include the following information: title of the presentation, thematic strand, name of participant, academic affiliation and grade and email.

Papers should be original and written in either Portuguese or English. Presentations are limited to no more than 20 minutes.

Scientific Committee

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