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Toolbox

Approaches to Decolonizing Anthropology

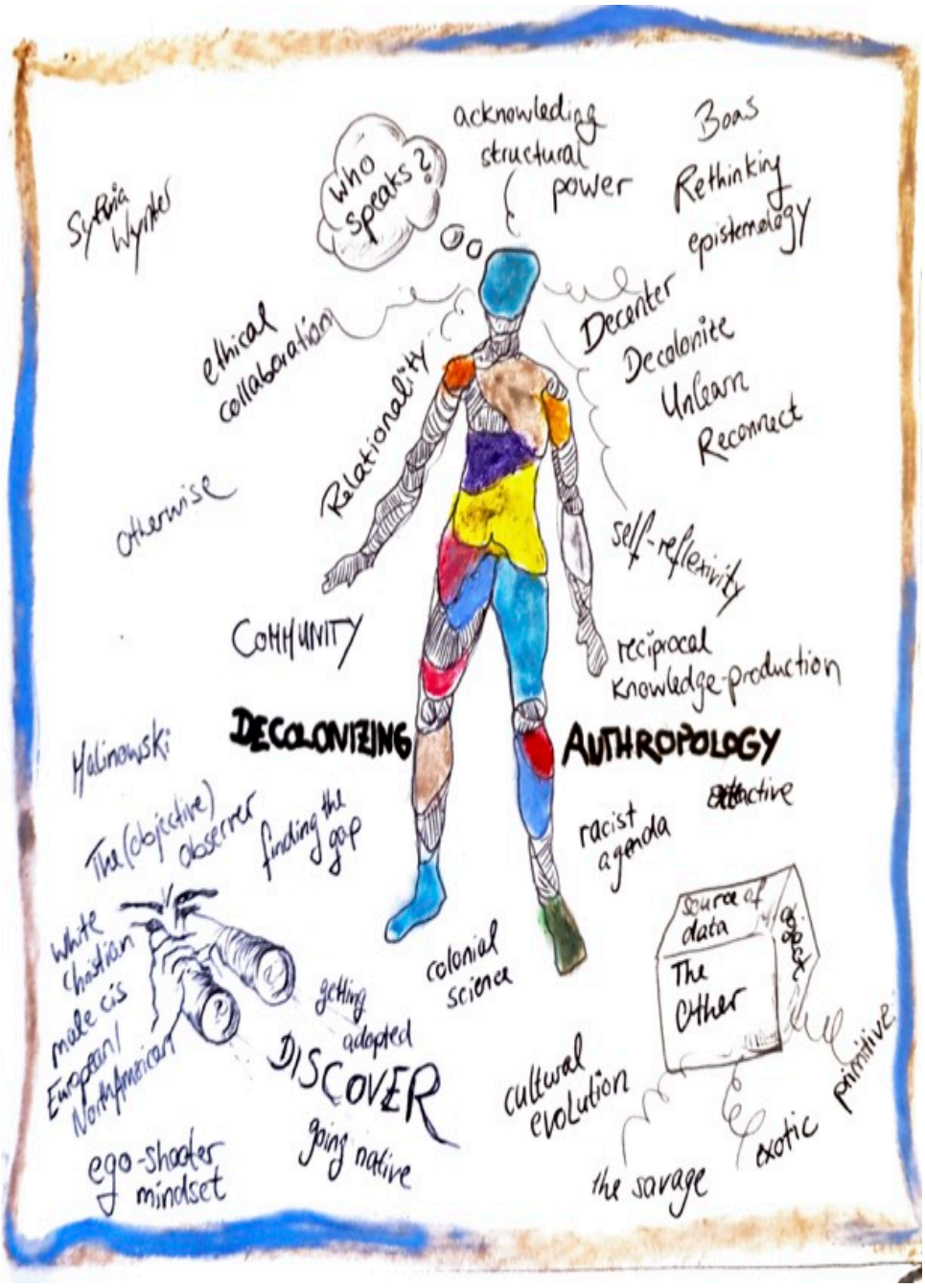
> "Decolonization, which sets out to change the order of the world, is, obviously, a program of complete disorder. But it cannot come as a result of magical practices, nor of a natural shock, nor of a friendly understanding. Decolonization, as we know, is a historical process: that is to say it cannot be understood, it cannot become intelligible nor clear to itself except in the exact measure that we can discern the movements which give it historical form and content."
>
> Frantz Fanon, The Wretched of the Earth, 36.[1]

> "(...) the ubiquity of 'decolonisation' in all areas of thought – from literature, linguistics and philosophy, to politics, economics, sociology, psychology and medicine – indicates that either the idea packs an explanatory and/or analytical punch like no other, or it has simply become a catch-all trope, often used to perform contemporary 'morality' or 'authenticity'."
>
> Olúfẹ́mi Táíwò, Against Decolonisation: Taking African Agency Seriously, 4.[2]

What does it mean to 'decolonize' – not as an event but a process, a *program of complete disorder*? Over the course of the winter semester 2023/24, the

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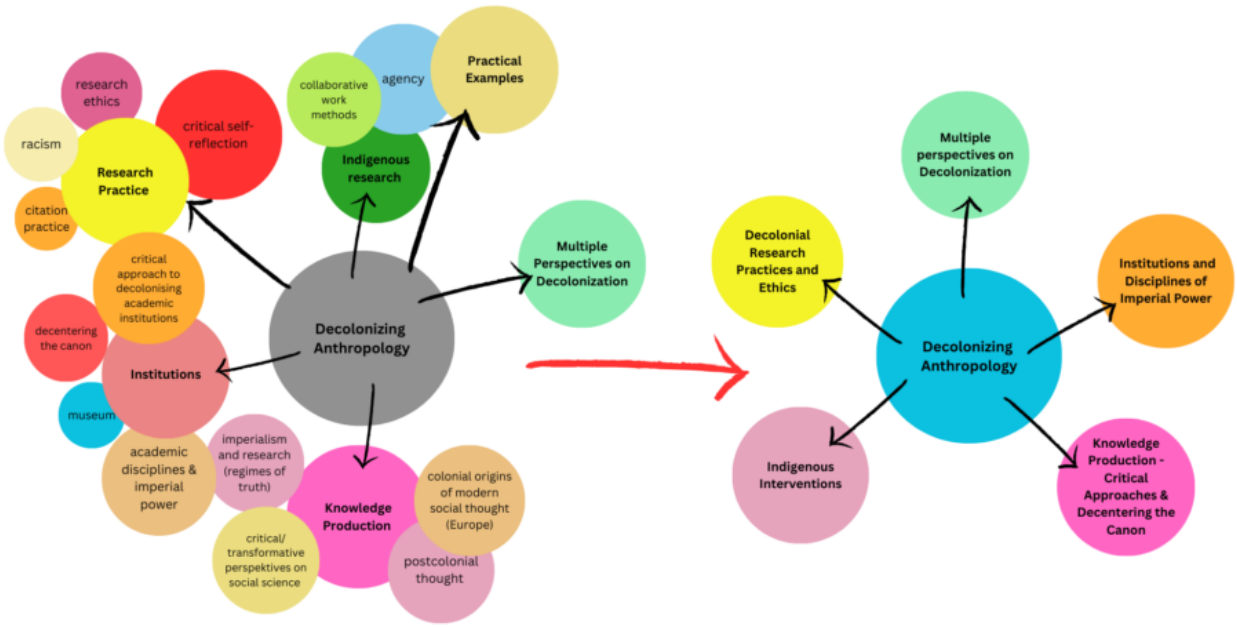
participants and speakers of the digital lecture series “Decolonizing Anthropology” have engaged with multiple perspectives and approaches to the decolonization of anthropology as a discipline, its research methods and ethics, and the institutions that produce anthropological knowledge.



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During these discussions, an abundance of books, articles, guidelines, and best practices were shared, which we want to make available here as an incomplete collection of tools that can grow and be revised throughout the second part of the lecture series in the summer semester 2024 and beyond. In an attempt to structure the various resources, we have categorized them into ***Multiple Perspectives on Decolonization***, ***Decolonial Research Practices and Ethics***, ***Indigenous Interventions***, ***Knowledge Production – Critical Approaches & Decentering the Canon***, and ***Institutions and Disciplines of Imperial Power***. Our process of categorization and mapping is visualized below.



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These categories do not serve as a break-down of what decolonization is. They are not static and often overlap. As the collection grows, we might have to adapt them. You are welcome to participate in this process and to suggest further resources in

the comments. Please register here to join the second part of the digital lecture series.

Multiple Perspectives on Decolonization

Jansen, Jonathan D., ed. 2019. *Decolonisation in Universities: The Politics of Knowledge*. Johannesburg: Wits University Press. https://www.cambridge.org/core/books/decolonisation-in-universities/8E7FB99752D7EEE9D2E616BB6EB62A40.

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The River & Fire Collective, 2021. 'The Fires Within Us and the Rivers We Form'. *Teaching Anthropology* 10 (4): 92–109. https://doi.org/10.22582/ta.v10i4.627.

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Tuck, E., and K. Wayne Yang. 2012. 'Decolonization Is Not a Metaphor'. In , 1:1–40. Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society 1. https://clas.osu.edu/sites/clas.osu.edu/files/Tuck%20and%20Yang%202012%20Decolonization%20is%20not%20a%20metaphor.pdf.

Decolonial Research Practices and Ethics

Burman, Anders. 2018. 'Are Anthropologists Monsters? An Andean Dystopian Critique of Extractivist Ethnography and Anglophone-Centric Anthropology'. *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 8 (1–2): 48–64. https://doi.org/10.1086/698413.

Castillo, Rosa Cordillera A. 2022. 'The Past, Present, and Future Entangled: Memory-Work as Decolonial Praxis'. In *Decolonial Enactments in Community Psychology*, edited by Shose Kessi, Shahnaaz Suffla, and Mohamed Seedat, 253–71. Community Psychology. Cham: Springer. https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-75201-9_13.

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Fleschenberg, Andrea, Ahsan Kamal, Rosa Cordillera A. Castillo, Sarah Holz, and Abida Bano. 2023. *Negotiating Research Ethics in Volatile Contexts, Part II*. Vol. Vol. 54 No. 1. International Quarterly for Asian Studies. https://hasp.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/journals/iqas/issue/view/1172.

Fleschenberg, Andrea, Kai Kresse, and Rosa Cordillera Castillo, eds. 2023. *Thinking with the South: Reframing Research Collaboration amid Decolonial Imperatives and Challenges*. 1st ed. Zmo-Studien 44. Boston: De Gruyter. https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110780567/html?lang=en.

Göpfert, Mirco, ed. n.d. 'Seminar Zu "Rassismus in Der Wissenschaft" - Herausforderung Der Vorbereitung Und Durchführung Rassismuskritischer Feldforschung'. BA- und MA-Studierende der Ethnologie/Sozial- und Kulturanthropologie an der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt.

https://etherpad.wikimedia.org/p/rassismuskritische_Feldforschung.

'The Anti-Oppression Network – Safer Space Policies for Working Together'. *The Anti-Oppression Network* (blog). https://theantioppressionnetwork.com/resources/saferspacepolicy/.

Indigenous Interventions

Chilisa, Bagele. 2020. *Indigenous Research Methodologies*. Second edition. Los Angeles London New Delhi Singapore Washington DC Melbourne: SAGE. https://dokumen.pub/qdownload/indigenous-research-methodologies-2nbsped-1483333477-9781483333472.html.

Collaborative Indigenous Research Digital Garden

De Beer, Josef. 2019. *The Decolonisation of the Curriculum Project: The Affordances of Indigenous Knowledge for Self-Directed Learning*. Cape Town, South Africa: AOSIS. https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://library.oapen.org/bitstream/id/1dee70a8-3332-4f77-ac77-62459bef544b/978-1-928523-18-5.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwjr06L3i5eFAxUn-AIHHazAC5oQFnoECBEQAQ&usg=AOvVaw24EBkFNfbxQxxmhnpllxHI.

MAI Journal: A New Zealand Journal of Indigenous Scholarship

Rubis, June Mary. 2020. 'The Orang Utan Is Not an Indigenous Name: Knowing and Naming the Maias as a Decolonizing Epistemology'. *Cultural Studies* 34 (5): 811–30. https://doi.org/10.1080/09502386.2020.1780281.

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hiwai-smith-decolonizing-methodologies-research-and-indigenous-peoples.pdf.

Knowledge Production – Critical Approaches & Decentering the Canon

Bhambra, Gurminder K. 2014. 'A Sociological Dilemma: Race, Segregation and US Sociology'. *Current Sociology* 62 (4): 472–92. https://doi.org/10.1177/0011392114524506.

Boatcă, Manuela. 2013. '"From the Standpoint of Germanism": A Postcolonial Critique of Weber's Theory of Race and Ethnicity'. In *Political Power and Social Theory*, edited by Julian Go, 55–80. Emerald Group Publishing Limited. https://doi.org/10.1108/S0198-8719(2013)0000024009.

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Connell, Raewyn. 2007. *Southern Theory: The Global Dynamics of Knowledge in Social Science*. Cambridge: Polity. https://dokumen.pub/qdownload/southern-theory-the-global-dynamics-of-knowledge-in-social-science-9781741753578.html.

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Go, Julian. 2016. *Postcolonial Thought and Social Theory*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=

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Iroulo, Lynda Chinenye, and Juliana Tappe Ortiz. 2022. 'Dear German Academia: What Is Your Role in African Knowledge Production?' *Africa Spectrum* 57 (1): 72–82. https://doi.org/10.1177/00020397221085982.

Mignolo, Walter D. 2007. 'DELINKING: The Rhetoric of Modernity, the Logic of Coloniality and the Grammar of de-Coloniality'. *Cultural Studies* 21 (2–3): 449–514. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09502380601162647

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Steinmetz, George. 2023. *The Colonial Origins of Modern Social Thought: French Sociology and the Overseas Empire*. Princeton Modern Knowledge. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press. https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9780691237435/html?lang=de#contents.

Institutions and Disciplines of Imperial Power – Museums

Assilkinga, M., L. Breuer, R.T. Fossi, A. Gouaffo, Y. LeGall, Y.K. Matchinda, F.M.C. Refem, et al. 2023. *Atlas der Abwesenheit: Kameruns Kulturerbe in Deutschland*. Ed. Bénédicte Savoy, Andrea Meyer, and Albert Gouaffo. Berlin: Reimer. doi.org/10.11588/arthistoricum.1219

Folga-Januszewska, Dorota, Martina Lehmannová, Jasna Gaburová, Elke Kellner, and Paweł Jaskanis, eds. 2019. *Museums and Identities: Planning an Extended Museum*. Muzeologia, vol. 20. Warsaw: Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów. https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjSh6SWt8uEAxUeQvEDHYIFCjwQFnoECBMQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsklep.wilanow-palac.pl%2Fpl%2Fp%2Ffile%2F77ac081ffc156f0eb00d555ed6fda990%2FMuseums-and-Identities.-Planning-an-Extended-Museum-ebook.pdf&usg=AOvVaw1TW11Cvyvszvts1KzUfwBA&opi=89978449.Kazeem, Belinda, Charlotte Martinz-Turek, and Nora Sternfeld. 2009. *Das Unbehagen im Museum: postkoloniale Museologien*. Schnittpunkt, Band 3. Wien: Verl. Turia + Kant. https://www.schnitt.org/_media/books/schnittpunkt_3_Unbehagen_im_Museum.pdf.

Oswald, Margareta von. 2022. *Working through Colonial Collections: An Ethnography of the Ethnological Museum in Berlin*. Leuven: Leuven University Press. https://library.oapen.org/handle/20.500.12657/58949

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Institutions and Disciplines of Imperial Power – Universities

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Barnett-Naghshineh, Olivia, and Antony Pattathu. 2021. 'Introduction to the Special Issue Decolonizing Anthropology: Race, Emotions and Pedagogies in the European Classroom'. *Teaching Anthropology* 10 (4): 1–16. https://doi.org/10.22582/ta.v10i4.638.

Castillo, Rosa Cordillera A., and Hansjörg Dilger. 2022. 'Ethics as Embodied Practice: Reflexivity, Dialogue and Collaboration – in Conversation with Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Dilger'. *International Quarterly for Asian Studies* Vol. 53 No. 4 (December): 505-518 Pages. https://doi.org/10.11588/IQAS.2022.4.20796.

Hammana, Zouhair, and Victoria Louisa Klinkert. 2021. 'Glitching the University Machine'. *Teaching Anthropology* 10 (4): 36–46. https://doi.org/10.22582/ta.v10i4.621.

Shahjahan, Riyad A., and Clara Morgan. 2016. 'Global Competition, Coloniality, and the Geopolitics of Knowledge in Higher Education'. *British Journal of Sociology of Education* 37 (1): 92–109. https://doi.org/10.1080/01425692.2015.1095635.

Footnotes

[1]Fanon, Frantz. The Wretched of the Earth. New York: Grove Press, 1963.
[2]Táíwò, Olúfẹ́mi. Against Decolonisation: Taking African Agency Seriously. London:

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