

Decolonization in Contemporary Science and Research: Unveiling Histories, Challenging Practices

Content

The concept of decolonization has gained significant attention and momentum in recent years across academic, social, and political spheres. Decolonization extends to various aspects of society, including culture, education, politics, and economics. It involves dismantling hegemonies, power hierarchies, and knowledge systems. Through critical examination and action, this course seeks to raise awareness of the challenges and complexities in doing decolonial research and practices; to uncover the colonial legacy of many top-down research methods, approaches, institutions, and processes; and to give a number of practical concepts and tools to begin the journey towards decolonization. The course will revolve around three of the most important aspects of decolonization in the academic landscape: research collaboration, knowledge production and dissemination, and curricula and research institutions.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Understand the history and the challenges of colonisation and decolonization.
- Be familiar with different concepts and tools for decolonization, and critical thinking regarding practices and publications.
- Be able to assess colonization patterns in their scientific and research collaboration processes, and institutions.
- Be able to reflect on own motivations and privileges, and act towards decolonization.

Preparatory assignment

You will receive an awareness assessment tool upon the confirmation of your participation to the course. Please send your self-assessment using the tool to onintsoa.andriamihaja@unibe.ch and medinat.malefakis@nadel.ethz.ch until March 14, 2024 at 09:00 a.m. In case somebody does not submit, this person's participation is cancelled, and the place will be offered to participants on the waitlist.

Individual Feedback

Participants are expected to draft their own guidelines towards decolonization at individual and institutional level and will receive detailed individual feedback on these.

Trainers	<u>O. Ravaka Andriamihaja</u> , PhD; <u>Medinat Malefakis</u> , PhD
Target Group:	Doctoral and post-doctoral students of all fields interested in the topic of decolonization.
Language:	English
Nr of Participants:	15
Dates	4 th , 11 th , and 25 th April 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Location	University of Bern, Hochschulstrasse 4, Main Building, April 4 th : room 117, April 11 th & 25 th : room 104
ECTS	0.5 (15h workload, 12h in class, 3h homework + preparation)