



Workshop with Floya Anthias, Thursday, 20th of June 2013

Room 09, Container 2 (between University library and the new Seminar building), University of Cologne

Timetable:

11:00-12:30 Presentation followed by Discussion

12:30-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-15:30 Open Discussion with Questions and Answers (also about Research Projects)

15:30-16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:00-17:00 Final Discussion

Description:

In this workshop, I will be exploring some of the ways in which belonging is conceptualised within current discourses and practices of integration, diversity and citizenship in the European context and how these jeopardise democratisation and equalisation of the 'other', particularly the racialisised or migrant other. The role of culturalisation and hierarchisation is discussed in this process.

I will also discuss some of the ways in which constructs of identity and belonging found in current political discourses as well as academic formulations, in different ways, assume an essential figure who is constructed in a binary way- ie as either/or- in relation to

identity and belonging. I make a distinction between claims, attributions and intersubjective processes in relation to identity and belonging, pointing to some of the politicised aspects of these as well as their role in social boundary making.

For preliminary reading (see attachment to the e-mail):

Beyond integration: Intersectional issues of social solidarity and social hierarchy by Floya Anthias (chapter in *Contesting Integration, Engendering Migration*, edited by Floya Anthias and Mojca Pacnik, Palgrave 2013 –forthcoming).

In this paper I maintain that contemporary discourses of integration and diversity are boundary and hierarchy making, and reproduce the very exclusions that they purport to deal with. Using the example of the UK, I show how current uses of diversity and integration share a culturalisation of social relations (forestalling concerns with structures of inequality) and posit hierarchical difference (signalling good and bad difference), which stigmatises particular social categories, requiring their elimination either through exclusion or assimilation. Some of the 'diverse' can become assimilable but some are regarded as incapable, a danger or threat, deviant and deficient. Finally, the paper explores insights from intersectionality, and other approaches that assist in moving beyond the boundary and hierarchy making of diversity and integration discourses and policies.

Please register by sending an E-mail to info-kla@uni-koeln.de also sending questions you want to discuss until Thursday 13th of June.