

THE INSTITUTE OF THE HUMANITIES AND GLOBAL CULTURES
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

PRESENTS

GLOBAL SOUTH: A COLLOQUIUM

(AN INITIATIVE FUNDED BY THE ANDREW W. MELLON FOUNDATION)

The idea of the ‘Global South’ can be traced to the Brandt Report of 1980, which posited a divide between countries of the North and South according to technological development, GDP, and standard of living. A cultural genealogy of the term stretches back even further to the 1955 Africa-Asia Conference in Bandung, Indonesia, which inaugurated ‘Third World’ collaborations, decolonization movements, and heralded a sustained engagement with the postcolonial as an historical epoch.

Notwithstanding these specific genealogies, ‘Global South’ today appears as an unsettled and unsettling frame from which to contemplate the world. Some think of it as a post-Cold War era replacement for the ‘Third World’ (and so primarily covering Africa, Latin America, South and Southeast Asia, but not Europe, America and the Mediterranean worlds), while others use it synonymously with the idea of underdevelopment and deprivation wherever these are found. Yet others see it as a ‘frontier in the unfolding history of neoliberal capitalism’ and a window from which to grasp the conditions of intelligibility of our global present: historical, cultural, aesthetic, political, environmental, biomedical and technological. The antinomy with the more privileged Global North persists both in the domain of political economy and in culturalist perceptions of a decolonial reinvention and invigoration of non-Western lifeworlds.

As will be obvious from the above, the concept ‘Global South’ has varied inflections across the disciplines. An economist’s understanding of it does not converge with that of a historian or a literary scholar or even that of a media specialist. At the same time, the paradigmatic force of the term is not in doubt, one that makes intelligible larger constellations of meaning beyond the specific historicity of its origins in a postcolonial and post-Cold War world. The Global South currently exists at the confluence of and tension between systems of knowledge and ways of conceptualizing space, habitations, cultures, aesthetics and political economy. Our colloquium will explore the many dimensions of this concept – philosophical, historical, political, spatial and aesthetic - as they inform contemporary scholarship.

PART 1: THE HISTORY OF AN IDEA

WEDNESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2016

4:00 – 4:15: Welcome by Co-Directors of the Global South Lab, *Nau Hall 101*
Debjani Ganguly and Christina Mobley

4:15 - 6:00 p.m.

KEYNOTE

Nau Hall 101

Keynote: Laurent Dubois, “Afro-Atlantic Genealogies of the Global South”
(History and Romance Studies, Duke University)

Introduction by Christina Mobley (History, University of Virginia)

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

RECEPTION

Colonnade Club

THURSDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2016

Thursday's events will take place in the Global South Lab, Wilson 142

9:00 a.m.

Coffee and Pastries

9:30-11:30 a.m.

SEMINAR 1: CIRCULATIONS AND SCAPES

Fahad Bishara (History, University of Virginia)

"Re-centering the Bazaar: Paper, Finance, and Economy in the Global South"

Karin Pallaver (History and Cultures, University of Bologna)

“People without Pockets? Currency circulation and colonial monetary policies in East Africa and the Western Indian Ocean”

Murad Idris (Politics, University of Virginia)

“Genealogies and Disseminations of Political Scripts: Texts, Histories, Moralities”

Chair: Juan Obarrio

11:30-1:00 p.m.

LUNCH

1:00-3:00 p.m.

SEMINAR 2: THINKING HAITI

Marlene Daut (English and Woodson Institute, University of Virginia)

“South of Haiti: Caribbean Intellectuals and the Atlantic World.”

Robert Fatton (Politics, University of Virginia)

“Haiti: Whither the Global South?”

Christina Mobley (History, University of Virginia)

“The Haitian Revolution and the Global South”

Chair: Laurent Dubois

3.00-3.30p.m

COFFEE BREAK

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

PLENARY PANEL: “SOUTHERN THEORY”

Nau 101

Introduction: Debjani Ganguly (Director, IHGC, University of Virginia)

Sarah Nuttall (Literary and Cultural Studies, Director of WISER, University of the Witwatersrand)

Juan Obarrio (Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University, and San Martin, Buenos Aires)

Moderator: Ian Baucom (Buckner W. Clay Dean of Arts & Sciences, University of Virginia)

6:00-7:30 p.m.

RECEPTION

Nau 101

FRIDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2016

Friday's events will take place in the Global South Lab, Wilson 142

9:00 a.m.

Coffee and Pastries

9:30-11:30 a.m.

SEMINAR 3: SPACE AND CARTOGRAPHY

Max Edelson (History, University of Virginia)

“Seeing Like an Early Modern State: Mapping the Edges of the British Atlantic World.”

Sandhya Shukla (English, American Studies, University of Virginia)

“Reimagining the Global in Harlem Locality”

Sheila Crane (Architecture, University of Virginia)

“A View from Somewhere: Cartographic Imaginaries, Planetary Urbanisms & the Global South”

Chair: Anupama Rao (Columbia University)

11.30-1.00

LUNCH

PART 2: AESTHETICS AND CULTURE

1:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.: **SEMINAR 4: HEMISPHERIC AND OCEANIC PERSPECTIVES**

Anna Brickhouse (English, University of Virginia)

"From Lima to Lisbon: Catastrophe, Critique, and the Global South"

Anne Garland Mahler (Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, University of Virginia)

"The (New) Global South in the Age of Global Capitalism: A Return to the Tricontinental"

Maya Boutaghou (French, University of Virginia)

"Comparative Literary Routes and Seas: Archipelago as a Method"

Chair: Debjani Ganguly

3.00-3.30PM

COFFEE BREAK

4:00-5:30 p.m.

PUBLIC LECTURE: *NCH 236*

Keynote: Jahan Ramazani (University of Virginia)

"Poetry, the Global South, and the Migration of Form."

Introduction: Debjani Ganguly

7:00 p.m.

Dinner for conference participants

Venue: *MAYA, 633, W. Main Street*

SATURDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2016

Saturday's events will take place in the Global South Lab, Wilson 142

9:00 a.m.

Coffee and Pastries

9:30-11:30

ROUND TABLE: GLOBAL SOUTH AND THE LIMITS OF POSTCOLONIALISM

Mukoma wa Ngugi (Cornell University)

Pashmina Murthy (Kenyon College)

Duncan Yoon (University of Alabama)

Manav Ratti (University of Maryland)

Mrinalini Chakravorty (English, University of Virginia)

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. **LUNCH**

12:30 p.m.- 2:30 p.m. **SEMINAR 5: GLOBAL SOUTH AND VISUAL AESTHETICS**

Zahid Chaudhary (Princeton University)
“Abstraction Revisited”

Rochona Majumdar (University of Chicago)
“A Cinema of Hunger”

Samhita Sunya (University of Virginia)
“Singing Tongues: South-South Cinematic (Non) Alignments”

Travis Workman (University of Minnesota)
“Postcoloniality and the Melodramatic Mode in Cold War Korean Film”

Chair: Mrinalini Chakravorty

2:30- 2.45 p.m. **COFFEE BREAK**

2.45-3.30p.m. Reading by V.V. Ganeshanathan

4.00-6.00 p.m. **PUBLIC LECTURE: NCH 236**
Keynote: Tsitsi Jaji (English, Duke University)
“Where Next? The Global South Out West”

Introduction: Mrinalini Chakravorty
Closing Remarks: Debjani Ganguly