

Workshop

Knowledge Production in and about Africa: Intersections of Moralities and Higher Education

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Organizers:

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Abstract

This conference aims to create an interdisciplinary forum for joint reflection on the ways in which knowledge production in and about Africa intersects with moralities in institutionalized educational fields. The focus will be directed (but not limited) to private colleges and universities connected to religious agendas, highlighting the epistemological premises and the cultural conditions and historical trajectories involved in the interplay between moralities and educational approaches.

The participants in the conference are invited to share their insights vis-à-vis the nexus of knowledge, moralities, and formalized education and highlight how these fields co-constitute each other in multiple relational processes. How does the encounter between different forms of knowledge production and knowledge regimes in higher educational settings give rise to the construction and negotiation of diverse moral practices and how do ways of communicating, practicing and negotiating moralities play out in establishing (authoritative) knowledge?

The innovative character of this conference theme lies in its focus on the relationality of moralities and knowledge production in educational settings. Exploring the multiple moralities that have emerged and continue to emerge in processes of knowledge production in a variety of formal educational contexts, including “religious” and “secular” education, or its hybrids allows us to foreground relational and reflexive processes in the production of multiplicity.

The conference constitutes an endeavor to advance new theoretical approaches to the study of multiplicity in critical African Studies, acknowledging Africa not only as a site of active and productive engagements with a globalized world, but also as a constituent part of it.