

Half-day workshop

Title: Decolonial Community Psychology Discourses: Unearthing its Roots and Co/Re-creating Routes

Abstract: To continue our movement to trace decolonial community psychology discourses, this workshop aims to unearth decolonial roots and co/re-creating decolonial/anti-colonial routes. In prior biennial and international conferences, we have led interactive reflexive dialogues with participants on de/colonial discourses in psychology. We continue this project, as an intervention, process, and praxis, to foreground and elaborate on decolonial community psychology orientations (Fernández, Sonn, Carolissen, & Stevens, 2021). This session seeks to further these transnational conversations. The guiding questions will include: How does community and other applied psychologies, and psychology practitioners across varied positionalities reflect, engage and orient their praxis and the discipline toward the decolonial turn, specifically a decolonial standpoint?

Grounding our proposal in a decolonial standpoint in community psychology (Reyes Cruz & Sonn, 2011), we will engage participants in reflexive dialogues to contest hegemonic colonial power and instead work toward transformative justice. Building on prior transnational collaborations with colleagues, in this session we will invite attendees to engage in the decolonial turn via reflections to the following questions:

- How does race, whiteness, and racism alongside coloniality circulate and manifest in your life, context/location?
- How do you engage with or understand decolonization/decoloniality from your own positionalities and/or locations?
- How does decolonial work diverge/converge with other critical projects evident in community and applied social psychology?

By engaging these questions our session will contribute to disciplinary decolonization with the goal of orienting it toward decolonial liberatory critical praxes. We will co-develop parallels to the four prior decolonial orientation described in Fernández et al (2021): Generating knowledge With and from Within, Sociohistorical Intersectional Consciousness, Relationships of Mutual Accountability, and Unsettling Subjectivities of Power/Privilege. We are intent in (re)centering critical community psychology within the Indigenous and Majority World epistemologies and cosmologies/cosmovisions.

References

Fernández, J. S., Sonn, C. C., Carolissen, R., & Stevens, G. (2021). Roots and Routes: Toward Decoloniality Within and Outside Psychology Praxis. *Review of General Psychology*, 10892680211002437.

Reyes Cruz, M., & Sonn, C. C. (2011/2015). (De) colonizing culture in community psychology: Reflections from critical social science. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 47, 203–214.