



# Critique In/Of Anthropology?

ACADEMIC YEAR 2018/19

A subseries of the Wednesday Seminars of the

## Department for Social and Cultural Anthropology

Wednesday 17.00, HS C, NIG, Universitätsstraße 7, 1010 Wien, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Is social/cultural anthropology a critical science and in what sense if so? Is its task epistemological, ontological or genealogical? Should ethnography feed into an anthropology of critique interested in logics of justification and contestation, or is critique rather a project that takes up and enables resistance by our interlocutors? What do each of these mean for the development of theory and the practice of ethnography?

The talks within this series will circle around questions of the meaning, ethics and position of critique in anthropology.

For more on our general program see:

<https://ksa.univie.ac.at/institut/veranstaltungen/wednesday-seminar/>

For more on our lecture series contact:

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**24.10.2018 Richard Rottenburg**

(University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg)

**Critique, post-foundationalism and the need to do the right thing**

How we can know what the right thing to do is, and how could we ever agree on it? This is the burning question in light of the diminishing number of issues that permit relativist answers.

**12.12.2018 Jeanette Edwards**

(University of Manchester)

**The body, beauty and botox: revisiting the 'awkward relationship' between feminism and anthropology**

Since Marilyn Strathern identified the relationship between anthropology and feminism as awkward, the practices of anthropology have changed a great deal. Is the relationship still awkward?"

**27.03.2019 Didier Fassin**

(Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton)

**Blow Up. Ethnography as Exposure**

Based on long-term research conducted on the police and in a prison, the lecture will discuss three main dimensions of the exposure involved in ethnographic work.

**03.04.2019 Julia Eckert**

(University of Bern)

**The truth in our politics, the politics in our truths**

Ethnography carries a notion of truth that relies on the fundamental assumption that we can understand each other. We need to explicate this notion of truth to give force to our critique.

**May 2019 Ghassan Hage**

(University of Melbourne)

**The critique of tone and the tone of critique**

Intellectual critiques can fill people with hope and they can deflate them. This paper focuses on how 'the tone' of critique contributes to this energizing/deflating process.