



The Making of Blackness Fall Seminars

Organized and led by

Rubén Bracero Salvat (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

Erica Feild-Marchello (University of Oxford)

Jehbreal Muhammad Jackson (Columbia University)

Andrea Rueda Herrera (Universidad Pablo de Olavide)

September-December 2024. Via TEAMS.

Attendance is open to all. Request links at makingofblackness@gmail.com

Programme



26 SEPTEMBER

4pm-5.15pm (Barcelona time, GMT+2)

Persistent Questions

This will be a recap session in which we take up questions that arose consistently over the course of the 2024 MoB seminars. We will pay special focus to the problems posed by racialized terminologies and take steps toward developing an in-house document that helps us think through our own choices regarding terminologies alongside a reflection on our own stakes in scholarship on race and Blackness. The following readings are recommended:

- Sarah Derbew, *Untangling Blackness*, “Note on Nomenclature,” XIII-XV.
- [“Writing about Slavery? Teaching About Slavery?”](#)

25 OCTOBER

5pm-6.15pm (Barcelona time, GMT+2)

Reading Race – Time

When can we talk about race? This session features three readings that present different arguments regarding the study of race and Blackness in premodernity. With focuses on Greek Antiquity, medieval Europe, and early modern West Africa, they challenge frequently held positions regarding where and when it is possible to talk about race and challenge smooth connotations of race with skin color. The following readings are recommended:

- Sarah Derbew, *Untangling Blackness*, Intro (1-25)
- Bruce Hall, *A History of Race in Muslim West Africa*, Intro (1-25)
- Geraldine Heng, *The Invention of Race in the European Middle Ages*, “Inventions/Reinventions” (15-27, or through the whole chapter to 54)

Programme



20 NOVEMBER

5pm-6.15pm (Barcelona time, GMT+1)

Works-in-Progress II

Guillermo Pupo Pernet (University of Arkansas),
"Black Matter: Assegai in Provincia de Venezuela"

In this session, Guillermo Pupo Pernet will present a chapter of his dissertation, regarding the knowledge of African spears and their representation in travel literature, paintings and maps. He will show us how that knowledge continued to be practiced in Venezuela in the 18th century through archives, highlighting the importance of studying the connection between text and image.

5 DECEMBER

4pm-5.15pm (Barcelona time, GMT+1)

Works-in-Progress III

Miguel Ángel Rosales

"He venido para llevarte a casa", A Documentary Film around "el hombre negro de Banyoles"