

# Exploring Epistemic Violence



Filmstill from "Halfmoon Files", © Philip Scheffner 2006  
<http://halfmoonfiles.de/en>

**workshop on February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016, 9.30 am – 18.00 pm**

Queen Mary University of London  
Arts Two building, room 2.17 (entrance via campus)

## THEMATIC SCOPE

---

While the notion of epistemic violence is well-known in post- and decolonial studies, it is still relatively absent in IR, Peace and Conflict Studies, Political Philosophy and other fields of knowledge that deal with issues of political violence. This workshop discusses the supposedly simply question of what epistemic violence actually is.

How can we frame it as a concept, and how can we approach phenomena that we would describe with that notion? How can we discern a post- and decolonial concept of epistemic violence from or link it with other wide understandings of violence, such as structural, symbolic, discursive, visual violence etc. that stem from a Eurocentrist tradition of thought? From a post- and decolonial point of view, should we give up common and narrow concepts of violence altogether or can we find plausible ways to link them with a thicker concept of epistemic violence? In which ways would it change our analyses of direct and physical political violence, if we developed a theory of epistemic violence?

The workshop will cultivate an explorative, egalitarian and creative atmosphere. Participants will read all papers in preparation of the workshop, prepare a presentation and openly interact with each other during the day. Papers are not presented by the authors themselves, but by another participant and vice versa. After presentation, the whole group will discuss the paper. The author steps in for comments and clarifications in the last part of the session. A final plenary discussion will sum up central issues, eventually sketch further prospects of cooperation and exchange, and allow to evaluate the process.

sponsored by the CPD (colonial/postcolonial/decolonial) group at  
BISA (British International Studies Association)

organised by

**Dr. Claudia Brunner**

Centre for Peace Research and Peace Education, Alps-Adriatic-University of  
Klagenfurt, Austria

**Dr. Robbie Shilliam**

School of Politics and International Relations, Queen Mary University of London, UK



Centre for Peace Research  
and Peace Education



## SCHEDULE

---

09:00 – 09.30	arrival
09.30 – 10.00	introduction to topic, context, method and participants of the workshop
10.00 – 10.45	Aoileann Ní Mhurchú presents paper by Rolando Vázquez: <b>Relational Temporalities: From Modernity to the Decolonial</b>
10.45 – 11.00	break
11.00 – 11.45	Eleonora Roldán Mendívil/Matthias Hinkelmann present paper by Claudia Brunner: <b>Why Peace Studies Need a Better Understanding of Epistemic Violence</b>
11.45 – 12.30	Ane Kirkegaard presents paper by Sophie Künstler: <b>Being (put) on the ‘Outside’ or the ‘Edge’ – Thoughts on the Relation Between Epistemic Violence and (De-)Subjectivation</b>
12.30 – 13.00	lunch (on-site)
13.00 – 13.45	Robbie Shilliam presents paper by Aoileann Ní Mhurchú: <b>Epistemic Justice and/in IR: What Does it Mean to ‘Listen’ or ‘Hear’ Voices and Experiences of Those Located at the Intersection of Global/Local Relations?</b>
13.45 – 14.30	Claudia Brunner presents paper by Ane Kirkegaard: <b>Conflict-Induced Student Migration and Mobility and the Internationalisation of Higher Education in Sweden</b>
14.30 – 14.45	break
14.45 – 15.30	Rolando Vázquez presents paper by Eleonora Roldán Mendívil/Matthias Hinkelmann: <b>When Research on Epistemic Violence Becomes Violent. Towards a Dialectical Materialist Critique</b>
15.30 – 16.15	Sophie Künstler presents paper by Robbie Shilliam: <b>The Aims and Methods of Liberal Education: Notes From a Nineteenth Century Pan-Africanist</b>
16.15 – 16.30	break
16.30 – 18.00	final discussion, group work and plenary

## PARTICIPATION

---

It is possible to attend the workshop without presentation, but expected to have read the papers in advance in order to enhance a fruitful discussion. If you want to join, please contact [claudia.brunner@aau.at](mailto:claudia.brunner@aau.at) before February 19<sup>th</sup> 2016, thank you!