PLANNING WORKSHOP: CONNECTED HISTORIES OF FREEDOM IN THE LONG 20th CENTURY

Friday, March 9, 2018 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
10 Sachem Room 105
Yale University

Through this day-long planning workshop, participants will organize and discuss the implementation of a conference tentatively planned for Spring 2019 focused on the histories of emancipatory projects in the long 20th century. We are currently accepting applications for participation in the workshop. Relevant points of research for the conference include: the unprecedented rise of national and anti-imperial movements across colonized spaces, the worldwide emergence of communist, socialist and labour movements, the growth of women’s movements, movements to secure civil and political rights for minorities and people of color, and later international human rights movements.

This workshop seeks to bring together graduate students working on these themes using the transnational lens. We see these histories as connected, mutually constitutive and dialoguing with each other. In this workshop, we seek to challenge older geographies, specifically inviting projects who rethink new ways to connect the history of the global south to that of Europe and North America. In this way we are taking our cue from the new imperial historiography which seeks to bring colony/metropole in the same analytic framework. But we are equally interested in emphasizing lateral connections within and across Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Caribbean. We are also interested in reimagining the global and debating the analytic strength and limitations of paradigms such as the global south/global north, metropole/colony and discussing the possibilities of alternatives.

Possible themes for discussion may include:

1) Intellectual genealogies of revolutionary and counter-revolutionary ideas and their transmission across space and time
2) Nodes, Networks and Hubs of Transnational/Trans imperial Activism
3) Gender and Internationalism/Gendering Internationalism
4) Nationalism and its alternatives: Pan-Arabism, Pan-Asian, Pan-Americanism, Pan-Africanism
5) Transnational histories of the right/counter-revolutionary/conservatism
6) Histories of repression and policing
7) Social and Urban Histories of Internationalism
8) Mapping International Connections: Prospects and possibilities from Digital Humanities

The workshop will be divided into two sessions: The first, “Thinking the Transnational,” will discuss methodologies, research questions and research agendas. Particularly we aim to discuss lacunas in current literature. In the second session, “Writing the Transnational” we work through the problems of writing transnational histories, discuss strategies of organizing and think about the
possibilities of conversing with other disciplines and fields. These will be followed by a final agenda setting meeting to lay the blue print for a future conference.

We invite graduate students to submit 300 word proposals, marked for either of the two panels. We particularly invite dissertation prospectuses, works in progress and early drafts. Please submit your proposals to vale.ghconf.2018@gmail.com with the subject line ‘Planning Workshop 2018’ by January 29th 2018.