Interpreting Intersectionality: Analyzing Gender and Its Intersections in Feminist Research

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Dubravka Zarkov, Institute for Social Studies, Den Haag
Ilse Lenz, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

24. und 25. November 2006, 10:00-17:00 Uhr
MSZ (Multi Media Support Zentrum), 02/3

In this workshop, we will be developing strategies for analyzing how gender intersects with other categories of difference – for example, ‘race’/ethnicity, class, sexuality and more. Drawing upon the work of several ‘intersectional’ theorists, we will discuss why it is important to analyze the operations of these categories in specific cultural and social contexts, focusing on how they are mutually constitutive as well as how the dominance of one category can mask the operation or interdependence of other categories. We will discuss how intersectionality can provide a useful critical tool for feminist research as well as what its limitations are. The workshop will involve reading texts about intersectionality as well as some “hands on” analysis of intersectionality using film material and examples brought in by participants. The teachers will provide examples of how they have dealt with intersectionality in their own research.

All participants will be expected to attend all sessions, do the readings and assignments, and actively participate in class discussions.

Veranstaltungsprogramm:
Friday, 24. November 2006

10.00-12.00 Introduction to course; getting acquainted; a short sketch of how intersectionality emerged as perspective in gender studies; discussion of texts

Read:


12.00-12.30 Break

12.30-13.30 Lecture: Ilse Lenz

“Intersectionality and Practices of Equality/Inequality in Modern Societies”
13.30-14.30 Lunch

14.30-18.00 Film: “Billy Elliot” + discussion

Afterwards Dinner at Clochard, Uni-Center Bochum (voluntarily)

Saturday, 25. November 2006

Homework: Bring in an example of an event, a topic, a problem, or a debate which seems to be only or primarily about gender. It can be something you read in a newspaper or magazine, saw on TV or in a movie, or read in the course of your studies. Write down why you chose it and why you think it is a particularly good example for a gender analysis. In class, we will re-read these examples intersectionally in small groups and discuss how this changes or elaborates our initial analysis.

10.00-11.30 Lecture: Dubravka Zarkov

   Dividing Lines: Masculinity, sexuality, ethnicity and violent conflict

Read:


11.30-13.00 Analyzing homework in small groups

13.00-14.30 Lunch (Uni-Center)

14.30–15.45 Lecture: Kathy Davis

   Cutting lines: masculinity, sexuality, ethnicity, and cosmetic surgery

Read:


15.45-17.00 Discussion: small groups report, conclusions and caveats, evaluation

Anmeldung: Bis 17. November 2006 unter: silke.bode@rub.de

Weitere Informationen:
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