

International Workshop on Fractions, Crises, and Exclusions. Researching social and traditional media in polarised time

The workshop will take place online Friday 4th November 10.00-12.00 (GMT) and 11-1pm (CET).

Organised by: Anne Ganzert, Media Studies, University of Konstanz, Katharine Tyler, Social Anthropology, University of Exeter, Laszlo Horvath, Politics, Birkbeck College London, Imke Henkel, Film, Media and Cultural Studies, Birkbeck College, London, Susan Banducci, Politics, University of Exeter

Overview of the event

This workshop brings together researchers from interdisciplinary backgrounds within the social sciences, arts and humanities to discuss methodological and theoretical approaches deployed to explore questions of inequality, polarisation, and discrimination in social and traditional media. For example, we are interested in the modes and user practices of ostracizing or exclusions online, as well as the diverse ways in which differing publics engage with social and/or traditional media. We are also concerned with how media analysis provides an avenue to explore broader questions of identity, inequality and discrimination, including for example, questions of polarization, culture wars, nationalism, racism, xenophobia, sexism and gender-based violence, ageism, homophobia, trans-phobia, and class division in these often turbulent social and political times. In addition, we will discuss how social and traditional media offers a space to connect people and create communities of belonging or inhibit certain connections and communal processes.

Crucially, we want to discuss how can we study the media in times of social and political crisis? For example, what research methodologies and approaches are most useful and insightful? How do digital tools, computational, ethnographic, quantitative and artistic approaches shape our research? And what are the biases and ethical issues that may arise in studying the media?

We invite each participant to give a short (5 min) presentation of their current work (case study, open questions, and methods) provoked by an image that captures an aspect of their research. We will give plenty of space for in-depth discussion, facilitated through some guiding questions.

Presentation Schedule

Please be prepared to talk about your work for no longer than 5 minutes. You can use PowerPoint if you would like. We will have a 15-minute discussion after 3 presentations. Time is tight so please keep to time. Thank you!

10.00 (GMT); 11.00 (CET) – Welcome and introduction: Anne Ganzert and Katharine Tyler

10.05- 10.35 (GMT); 11.05-11.35 (CET)

- 1) Lea Hellmueller, City University
- 2) Imke Henkel, Birkbeck, College London
- 3) Sebastian Ludwicki-Ziegler, University of Stirling

15 minutes of discussion

10.35– 11.05 (GMT); 11.35-12.05 (CET)

- 4) Elizabeth Ablett, University of Exeter
- 5) Josh Blamire, University of Wolverhampton
- 6) Julie van Zijl, University of Exeter

15 minutes of discussion

11.05- 11.35 (GMT); 12.05-12.35 (CET)

- 7) Natalie-Anne, University of Loughborough
- 8) Susannah Crockford, University of Exeter
- 9) Laszlo Horvath, Birkbeck College, London

15 minutes of discussion

11.35 – 12.00 (GMT); 12.35-1 pm (CET)

- 10) Anna Kalina
- 11) Anne Ganzert, University of Konstanz

Discussion and wrap up