

---

## “Postcolonial Theory and Matters of Location”

**Public Podium Discussion with**  
**Eduardo Mendieta (Stony Brook, USA), Soumaya Mestiri (Tunis, Tunisia),**  
**Noémi Michel (Geneva, Switzerland), Robert Nichols (Berlin, Germany),**  
**Raj Pandey (London, GB), Robbie Shilliam (London, GB)**

One of the main distinguishing features of postcolonial theory is its sustained critical reflection on matters of location. Postcolonial political and social theory is produced in, and reflects upon, a multiplicity of locations and contexts all over the world. Furthermore, due to its focus on colonial entanglements and interconnections, it is often transnational in scope. So how does location matter in this field? The podium assembles scholars working in and on very distinct locations to think about matters of context and positionality in post-colonial theory.

**When: July 20, 2015 (Monday), 6 pm**

**Where: Institute of Social Sciences, HU Berlin**  
**Universitätsstraße 3b, Room 002**

---

### Public Lecture

## “The Limits of Historiography” Prof. Sanjay Seth (Goldsmiths, London)

This paper argues that history-writing is not the recreation of a past that is always-already there, lying mute and waiting for the historian to give it voice, but is instead a code or genre or technology, one which constructs the past in ways that make it amenable to representation through the code of history. Enquiring into the elements which constitute the code of history, the paper concludes by considering whether this code is adequate to representing non-Western pasts.

Sanjay Seth is Professor of Politics at Goldsmiths, University of London, where he is also Director of the Centre for Postcolonial Studies. He has written extensively on post-colonial theory, social and political theory, and modern Indian history. He is the author of *Marxist Theory and Nationalist Politics: The Case of Colonial India* (Sage 1995), *Subject Lessons: The Western Education of Colonial India* (Duke UP 2007 and OUP India 2008) and editor of *Postcolonial Theory and International Relations: A Critical Introduction* (Routledge 2013).

**When: July 21, 2015 (Tuesday), 6 pm**

**Where: Institute of Social Sciences, HU Berlin**  
**Universitätsstraße 3b, Room 002**

[ina.kerner@sowi.hu-berlin.de](mailto:ina.kerner@sowi.hu-berlin.de), [www.sowi.hu-berlin.de/lehrbereiche/divpol](http://www.sowi.hu-berlin.de/lehrbereiche/divpol)

Beide Veranstaltungen werden gefördert aus Mitteln des Zukunftskonzepts der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
im Rahmen der Exzellenzinitiative von Bund und Ländern