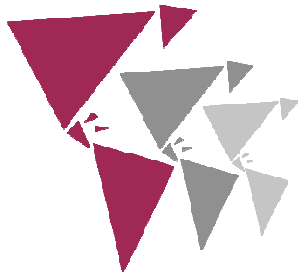


Call for Panels

Once again the regional working groups of the German Anthropological Association (GAA) - Indigenous North America, Mesoamerica, South America and Afro-America- are organizing a joint conference.

Future today/yesterday/tomorrow: Visions of future(s) in the Americas



**Zukunftsvision(en) in den Amerikas
Visiones de futuro(s) en las Américas
Visões de futuro(s) nas Américas**

June 12th - 14th 2019, University of Bonn

Throughout human history, our understanding of the future and future-orientated agency have been shaped by culture. The conference **Future today / yesterday / tomorrow: Visions of Future(s) in the Americas** will open the debate on the topic of "Future" as a field of research in the Humanities and in Cultural Studies. We want to discuss the diverse and complex forms and dimensions of "Future" across space and time in their material and immaterial forms of expression and discursive practices.

Prophecies and predictions; buildings and monuments that will only be finished in the future when their initiators will already be part of the past; the striving for the *Buen Vivir* "good life" in both present and future; or grave goods assuring a good life after death - they are all the results of perceptions of the future. Education and pedagogy are oriented towards and even change ideas about future societies. Future is linked to individual expectations of life, aspirations of well-being and healing, and notions of intergenerational as well as gender relations.

Future is expressed in art and craft, but also in dancing and music. Theater and literature often draw on a (fictional) future that is tied to the present and the past. This also concerns personal and collective memory. Histories that were documented for the future are found in archives and museums, in drawings, photographs and video documents. The future of indigenous languages in the Americas is relevant both with respect to their endangerment and revitalization, but also in the role as vehicles of culture-specific perceptions of time and space.

Strategies for maintaining political and economic power in precolonial and indigenous societies as well as in present-day nation states in the Americas are related to perspectives of the future. Equally revolutionary movements and dictatorships link their struggles to ideological and utopian visions of the future.

Currently, we are discussing questions of sustainability, asking how we should live today so that there will (still) be a future for humanity. We debate free trade agreements, migrations into an (un)stable future; all topics that may as well be informed by a better understanding of food production and trading in the precolonial era. What is the impact of colonial, post-colonial or even neo-colonial structures on visions of future in the Americas? What is the future of theories and research methods in the Americas? Which technologies will change - or have at specific points in time changed - the future? What will be the future of disciplinary research and our cooperation with people in the Americas in an increasingly interconnected world?

Inspired by these questions, we are welcoming panel proposals from a broad disciplinary, temporal and regional scope that address the cultural aspects and characteristics of future-oriented thinking and practice in the Americas. We would like to use the questions discussed at the panels to critically think about future relations and collaborations in research and teaching.

We are planning to have panels of 120 minutes duration per session (4-6 papers with/without discussant) and "short cut" panels in which speakers present statements of no more than ten minutes that are followed by discussions with the audience (120 minutes per session, max. 6 statements).



Panel proposals should include a title, an abstract of the panel theme (max. 200 words), three to five key words, as well as contact information and (a) short biography/-ies of the coordinator(s).

The conference will follow the "two-role-model", i.e. every participant may have a maximum of only two functions (e.g. panel coordinator and discussant or speaker).

Please send in your panel proposal (in English, German or Spanish language) **by October 10th of 2018** to our e-mail address: **americas2019@uni-bonn.de**.

The proposals will be selected in October of 2018. Panel coordinators will organize their own "call for papers".

We are looking forward to your visions of "Future(s)" in the Americas!

The Conference Team of the Department for Anthropology of the Americas

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