

Workshop

***Universalism and Realism – Underlabourers for a Postcolonial Theory of Narration?*
with Prof. Satya P. Mohanty (Cornell)**

June 5, 2013, 2-6 pm

Forschungsstelle für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsgeschichte, Rämistr. 64, 8001 Zurich, room 015

Realism and universalism are commonly not seen as positive points of reference in postcolonial theory. In contrast to this, Satya Mohanty argues that some forms of realism can be of help for postcolonial theories of narration. According to him, the same applies to universalism that can serve as an important resource for a non-essentialised thinking about identity.

In the workshop we will discuss these claims with Satya Mohanty on the basis of some extracts of his writings. In doing so, we will also look at the relations between narratology and epistemology that are at the centre of his theoretical approach.

Satya Mohanty is author of *Literary Theory and the Claims of History* (1997), editor of *Colonialism, Modernity and Literature* (2011) and co-translator of Fakir Mohan Senapati's *Six Acres and a Third* (2005). He is one of the founders of the 'Future of Minority Studies Research Project' in the US and has developed, with Linda Alcoff, Michael Hames-Garcia and Paula Moya, a 'post-positivist realist theory of identity'.

Please register (f.kappeler@gmx.de) until May 27, 2013.

Organized by Florian Kappeler and Urs Lindner. Supported by the SNF Sinergia Project [Imitation - Assimilation - Transformation](#) and the [Graduate Center »History of Knowledge«](#).