

DAVO-Arbeitskreis Postkoloniale Perspektiven
DAVO Working Group Postcolonial Perspectives

Postcolonial theory calls on all scholars to critically question how and by whom knowledge is produced in academic institutions. Especially in Near and Middle Eastern Studies, a critical engagement with the colonial tradition of the discipline is overdue. It is not enough to rename degree programs from "Oriental Studies" to "Near and Middle Eastern Studies", a deeper engagement with the colonial and orientalist continuities of the discipline is needed, if we as scholars of the Global North are to research and teach about the WANA region (West Asia and North Africa).

The working group would like to facilitate an exchange between academics with a de-colonial claim and jointly reflect on how a critical examination of their own positionality and colonial heritage can take place within institutions. In addition, approaches to de-colonizing teaching and research methods will be discussed.

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