

-CALL FOR PAPERS-

# Trans-Formations: Theorizing Class & Race in the 21st Century

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June 17, 2010-June 19, 2010  
University of Freiburg, Germany

The Department of North American Studies at the University of Freiburg and the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies announce a call for papers from (post)graduate students working with issues of class and race.

Marked as it was by 9/11, the Bush presidency, Hurricane Katrina, the financial meltdown, and the election and presidency of Barack Obama, the first decade of the new millennium has been a time of rapid change in American culture and society. The rise of postcolonialism and black/gender/ethnic studies was one of the most pertinent critical interventions in the late twentieth century. These new disciplines left an indelible mark on the fields of literary and cultural studies as they led to a fundamental rethinking of the concept of representation.

Working from the premise of the Aughts as a decade of transformations, this conference will present cutting edge research being done in an effort to further the reconceptualization of class and race in the new millennium. Scholars who shaped and are shaping the critical framework in this project will convene to share their current research. This conference aims, then, to define a new critical paradigm for theorizing race and class.

-FEATURED SPEAKERS INCLUDE -



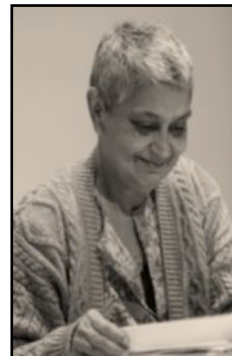
Henry Louis Gates



Melissa Harris-  
Lacewell



Gavin Jones



Gayatri  
Chakravorty Spivak



Chris Newfield

In the hope of fostering greater intergenerational dialogue between scholars, a (post)graduate research panel is scheduled for June 18, 2010. Participants will be given 15 minutes to present their research; questions will follow. Small travel grants (ca. €200) will be extended to those students chosen; accommodation will also be arranged. Graduate students working with literature, culture, history, politics, economics, sociology, and other applicable disciplines with a focus on race and class in contemporary American literature and culture are welcome to apply. Possible areas of focus may include, but are not limited to: Diaspora Studies, Poverty Studies, Critical Race Theory, Whiteness Studies, race and class in mass media/popular culture, depictions of race and class in visual culture, etc.

**Abstracts of no more than 500 words, accompanied by a CV, should be submitted by May 10, 2010 to [Freiburg.Transformations@gmail.com](mailto:Freiburg.Transformations@gmail.com).**

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