

The First International Conference on Women's Studies
On the theme
Decolonizing Women's Voices Across Disciplines



Call for Papers

1st International Women's Studies Conference: Decolonizing Women's Voices Across Disciplines

Faculty of Humanities, Cadi Ayyad University of Marrakech, Morocco

April 10-11, 2025

The new millennium has willy-nilly witnessed the proliferation of women's voices across disciplines the globe over. Women have penetrated all domains and fields to write themselves beyond patriarchal norms and colonial legacies. In recent years, women of the Global South have started to enrich the debate on decoloniality, decolonial feminism as burgeoning approaches that challenge and critique the colonial and Western modernist narratives shaping women's experiences. "Decoloniality, in this sense, is wrapped up with re-existence; both claim a terrain that endeavors to delink from the theoretical tenets and conceptual instruments of Western thought. If 'another world is possible,' it cannot be built with the conceptual tools inherited from the Renaissance and the Enlightenment" (Mignolo 2011, 20). Building upon Walter Mignolo and Catherine Walsh's *On Decoloniality* and Maria Lugones's *Decolonial Feminism*, this international conference aims to engage in the debate around decolonizing feminism via critically examining and deconstructing its epistemologies and practices in women's multidisciplinary voices and via advocating 'the theory of difference'. Feminism, since its emergence, has always been entangled in and stemmed from 'the global, capitalist, colonial, modern system of power' or what Bell Hooks calls 'White-Supremacist Capitalist Patriarchy'. Hence, recently, there has been a

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growing recognition of the need to engage in critical conversations that challenge existing structures of power and dominance. Central to this discourse is the intersectionality of gender and colonialism, giving rise to the imperative for a decolonial feminist perspective. This perspective seeks to dismantle the embedded power dynamics rooted in colonial histories, advocating for an alternative paradigm of thought that emanates from women's different indigenous cultural roots and spaces.

In light of these considerations, we are excited to announce the call for contributions to an International Conference on Decolonial Feminism. This conference aims to bring together scholars, activists, and practitioners from across the globe to explore, discuss, and critically engage with issues related to decolonization, feminism, and their intersections. This conference hopes to scrutinise and redefine decoloniality, intersection, indigenous, and feminist theories. By so doing, it challenges colonial Eurocentrism as a discourse that has despised women while looking for alternative critical epistemologies.

Conference Objectives:

- **Defining the Decolonization of women's voices**
- **Promote Intersectional Understanding**
- **Examine Historical Legacies**
- **Highlight Indigenous Perspectives**
- **Challenge colonial and Eurocentric feminist biases**

We invite scholars, activists, artists, policymakers, and researchers from any discipline and field to engage with these questions. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- **Decolonial Feminist Theory**
- **Global Perspectives on Feminism**
- **Intersectionality and Identity Politics**

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- **Post-Colonial Feminist Activism**
- **Indigenous Feminisms**
- **Reclaiming and Redefining Spaces**
- **Colonial Legacies in Contemporary Policies**
- **Challenges and Opportunities in Decolonial Feminist Praxis**
- **Decolonizing the land and feminism**
- **Decoloniality, androcentrism, and women's writing**
- **Decolonial ecology, women's writing, and the Anthropocene**

Submission Guidelines

Format: The conference will be in-person only. There will be no virtual sessions. The official language of the conference is English.

Interested scholars are kindly asked to submit abstracts for 15-minute presentations (300-500 words) along with a brief bio (70-100 words) as a single Microsoft Word file (no PDF please) to the conference email address marrakech.decolonialityconf2025@gmail.com

Please include your full name, affiliation (including country information), abstract title, and email address at the top of the abstract file. The receipt of submissions will be acknowledged within 3 workdays.

Important Dates:

The deadline for abstract and short bio submission is Friday, November 15, 2024.

Peer-review accept/reject decision notification: Friday, December 20, 2024.

Full papers and presentation materials will be due on Thursday, January 23rd, 2025.

Draft program announcement: Wednesday, February 05, 2025.

Final program announcement: Thursday, February 13, 2025.

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Publication Prospects:

A separate call for submissions will also be issued soon after the conference to invite full-text articles to be selected through a double-blind peer review for an edited collection of essays.

Fees:

It covers access to all conference sessions, conference materials, two lunches, and coffee breaks for two days. Accommodation is your responsibility.

Early Registration (by Thursday, February 13, 2025)

Faculty Member (Moroccan University Affiliation): 400 DHS

Faculty Member (Foreign University Affiliation): 100 EUR

Doctoral Students: 150 DHS

Late Registration (by Friday, March 7, 2025)

Faculty Member (Moroccan University Affiliation): 600 DHS

Faculty Member (Foreign University Affiliation): 150 EUR

Doctoral Students: 200 DHS

Conference venue: Day 1: Amphitheatre 6. (Opening and keynote address) Day 2: Conference room

Conference Date: 10-11 April 2025

Coordinators: Dr. Hanane El Aissi – Dr. Mohamed Louza -Dr. Bouchra Belgaid
marrakech.decolonialityconf2025@gmail.com

Conference Location: The conference will take place at the Faculty of Letters and Humanities Campus, Cadi Ayyad University, Marrakech, Morocco.

Travel: The campus is conveniently accessed through Marrakech Menara International Airport, within a 25-minute traveling distance (by taxi and shuttle service). Train service is also available to Marrakech from all major cities in Morocco.

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Accommodation: A list of recommended accommodation options will be announced by Friday, January 31st, 2025.

Meals: Lunch will be served at the university canteen on April 10 and 11 and will be included in the conference fee.

Ouarzazate Excursion (Optional): Subject to advance registration and extra payment (deadline and cost to be announced), a two-day sightseeing excursion to Ouarzazate will be organized as part of the conference social & entraining program.

For information about Cadi Ayyad University, please visit the university's official website: <https://flm.uca.ma>

We look forward to welcoming you to our international conference
April 2025 Marrakech, Morocco.

Hanane El Aissi - Bouchra Belgaid - Mohamed Louza
On behalf of the Organizing Committee

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Organizing committee:

Dr. Hanane El Aissi	Dr. Hassane Darir	Dr. Khalid Said
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Dr. Fatima-Zohra Iflahen	Dr. Rachid Ed-dali	Dr. Mounir Harraqi
Dr. Wissam Bitari	Dr. Mohamed Louza	Dr. Younnes Elkhadiri
Dr. Zahra El Aouri	Dr. Rachid Agliz	Dr. Mohsine Mahraj
Dr. Khadija El Hayani	Dr. Najib Slimani	Dr. Mohammed Saissi
Dr. Abdellah El Haloui	Dr. Mohamed Hammani	

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Dr. Michalak-Pikulska Barbara, Jagiellonian University, **Poland.**

Dr. Mohamed Laghdaf Cheikh Maoulainine. Delegate of Tourism in Ouarzazate-Tinghir and Zagora, **Morocco**

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Dr. Saissi Mohammed, FLSH, Cadi Ayyad University, Marrakech, **Morocco.**

Dr. Louza Mohamed, FLSH, Cadi Ayyad University, Marrakech, **Morocco.**

Dr. Wasi Md Alam, Senior Specialist, **India.**

Pawłowska Elżbieta, PhD, Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice, **Poland.**

Joanna Machnik Slomka, PhD. Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice, **Poland.**

Dr. Naibi Widad, Founder and Director of Ibn Batouta African Institute, **Benin.**

Muflichah Siti, Ph.D., Universitas Islam Negeri Antasari, **Indonesia.**

Magdiel Oliva-Córdova Luis, FLH, University of San Carlos, **Guatemala.**

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Dr. Yachoulti Mohammed, FLSH, Moulay Ismail University, Meknes, **Morocco.**

Dr. Bouknana Hajar, FLSH, Moulay Ismail University, Meknes, **Morocco.**

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Dr. Tribak Oifaa, FS, Moulay Ismail University, Meknes, **Morocco.**

Dr. Alami Merrouni Saad, FLSH, Mohammed V University, **Morocco.**

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