

JUST FUTURES

Fri, Feb. 17th 10 am – 7 pm

BRITISH AND IRISH STUDIES ROOM
NORLIN LIBRARY, CU BOULDER

This year's **Conversations in the Mountains** brings German studies scholars in conversation with scholars doing related work informed by critical race studies and gender studies. Articulations of more just, progressive, even revolutionary futures long relied on narratives of progress that have been profoundly challenged within German studies, queer studies, feminist studies, and ethnic studies. **Just Futures** examines what possibilities are articulated in literature, film, art and activism for transformations of the present for more just futures in the face of re-imaginings of the human, of the relationships that criss-cross the globe, and of complex temporalities.

KEYNOTE, 2:00 PM

FATIMA EL-TAYEB

THE EUROPEAN REFUGEE CRISIS, NEOLIBERAL RACIAL CAPITALISM AND QUEER OF COLOR ACTIVISM

Department of Literature, University of California San Diego

Author of:

- *Undeutsch: Die Konstruktion des Anderen in der postmigrantischen Gesellschaft*
- *European Others: Queering Ethnicity in Postnational Europe*
- *Schwarze Deutsche: Der Diskurs um »Rasse« und nationale Identität 1890-1933*

The “European refugee crisis” – referencing less the plight of millions trying to leave military and economic warzones than the inconvenience their arrival is causing the European Union – dominates debates across the continent. The EU is presented as an island of stability and prosperity surrounded by chaotic regions: a Middle East succumbing to radical Islam, a permanently underdeveloped Africa, and an aggressive Russia threatening the continent’s East. The crises originating in these regions are now reaching Europe, which needs to find imminent solutions to overwhelming challenges. This convenient narrative ignores Europe’s culpability, not only in allowing the situation to escalate, but also in creating many of its sources. This talk contextualizes European reactions to the crisis, which are rapidly becoming hostile and punitive, within a post-Cold War rewriting of the continent’s past and present that combined post-fascist and post-socialist narratives into a western capitalist success story, but completely ignored the aftereffects of colonialism. The analysis employs a queer diasporic perspective, centering Europe as a postcolonial space.



For more information, contact the
Department of Germanic and
Slavic Languages and Literatures
at GSLL@colorado.edu or (303)
492-7404.

Futures and the Fantastic, 10:00

Power and the Possible:
Indigenous Futurisms,
#NoDAPL, and the Art of
Negotiation
*Danika Medak-Saltzman,
University of Colorado Boulder*

Blackness after the Future:
New Collectivities in Digital
Diasporas
*Peggy Piesche, University of
Bayreuth*

Feminist Futures, 11:30

Digital Feminisms and
Feminist Futures
*Carrie Smith-Prei, University of
Alberta and
Maria Stehle, University of
Tennessee Knoxville*

Mobile Feminism in
Speculative Times: US,
Turkey, Germany
*Pinar Tuzcu, University of
Kassel*

Future Visualities, 3:15

Refugees and Roma in
Germany: The Politics of
Intimacy and the Future
*Beverly Weber, University of
Colorado Boulder*

Kashmiri Pasts, Kashmiri
Futures
*Deepti Misri, University of
Colorado Boulder*

Roundtable, 6:00

Hazel Gates Woodruff
Cottage
Scholar-Activism and the
Politics of the Future
*Bianca Williams, Willi Lempert,
Vanessa Roberts, Teresa
Montoya
University of Colorado Boulder*