

The Swiss Graduate School of Latin American Studies

(Former ProDoc Latin America)

invites you to the Workshop

“Prácticas, discursos e imaginarios de lo natural en América Latina” “Practices, discourses and imaginaries of the natural in Latin America”

University of Bern (Building UniS, Room B-102)

December 9th - 10th 2016



In recent decades, profound changes in the environmental system have turned ecology into an important topic that transveres the public debate in politics, economy and culture in Latin America. This debate seeks not merely to highlight and make accusations about persistent issues such as contamination problems, industrial extraction, transgenic agriculture, etc., but also to promote alternative solutions and forms of implementation. All these environmental discourses and practices are to be seen in the context of an historical and particular relationship of Latin America with nature. In that relationship, both the discursivity of the natural as well as its representation through utopian, apocalyptic, Edenic, toxic and sexualized stories and landscapes have been essential. Given that nature, despite its immediacy, always comes mediated through a system of ideas and iconographies, we would like to also take into consideration the historical and cultural frameworks, the forms of mediation, and the rhetorical devices in which the notions of the natural are inserted. In this context, the workshop “Practices, discourses and imaginaries of the natural in Latin America / Prácticas, discursos e imaginarios de lo natural” offers a space for an interdisciplinary meeting between researchers on Latin American environmental practices and politics, and the narratives and representations of the natural on a cultural level.

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