



Online Departmental Seminar

“Our stories are only sold through pain”:

Unlearning colonial legacies of education in a securitized space

This talk engages sociolinguistically with practices of *unlearning*, that is, practices where teachers aim at disengaging students from particular forms of talk, ideologies, and embodied dispositions. Theoretically, I draw from Global South intellectuals who have theorized about unlearning racial and gender domination. Empirically, my talk builds on linguistic ethnographic fieldwork that I have done in the Complexo do Alemão favelas (neighborhoods built by residents) in Rio de Janeiro. I will more specifically unpack an educational experience that I followed in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic in Brazil. For six months, I attended the Faveladoc, a documentary-making workshop offered by Raízes em Movimento, a local NGO formed by favela activists. The talk builds a case study centering on a class on “gender, segregation and culture” that Joice Lima, a Black female social scientist from the favela, taught to young residents of Complexo do Alemão. Taught on May 13, 2021, just a week after the Police of Rio de Janeiro killed 29 people in a raid in the Jacaré Favelas, the class was a collective construction, led by Joice Lima, about what it is to inhabit a gendered and racialized body in a securitized space. From an ethnographic perspective, I will present an analysis of the minutiae of interaction during this class, in order to unpack a situated, negotiated and collective construction of critical tropes aimed to “unlearn” legacies of colonialism that are echoed in gender and social relations.

FRIDAY

22 March 2024

10:00 - 11:00 am

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ILP: 1 unit

(Intellectual and Entrepreneurship Development)



Zoom link

<https://lingnan.zoom.us/j/94616710574?pwd=Wm5jUTRLbGVl1g4NUoxNDduRldTQT09>

Meeting ID: 946 1671 0574

Passcode: 35511659