Syllabus GEO432

**Gender, Work and Space: Inequalities in the Neoliberal City**

Autumn semester 2015, Thursdays 10:15-12:00, plus excursions

**Language**
Depending on the language abilities of the participants, the course will be taught in English, German or a combination of German and English, so that everyone can participate.

**Course Content**
The seminar course GEO432.1 “Gender, Work and Space” offers an in-depth examination of inequalities in today’s neoliberal cities. In weekly seminar sessions, we discuss texts and develop a theoretical understanding of neoliberalism, gender, and other dimensions of inequality. Transferring the theoretical debates to practice, we explore diverse working contexts in the neoliberal city.

In the exercise course GEO432.2, we work in teams of three and develop an excursion module, in which the discussed phenomena can be experienced in the city of Zurich. The individual modules are then assembled to a two-day excursion, which takes place on December 3rd and 4th.

**Course Aims**
Module participants acquire an in-depth understanding of gender relations, inequalities, and how they play out in different work contexts in the neoliberal city.

Participants are acquainted with a number of theoretical approaches to neoliberalism, work, gender, and inequality as key fields of knowledge in economic geography.

Participants know the didactical tools to develop and lead a high-quality excursion.

**Examination**
Half of the mark is awarded for the essay on a topic of the seminar, which is written in an exam setting (in 60 minutes) on December 17th at 10 a.m. The other half of the mark evaluates the concept, the execution and the documentation of the excursion module.

**Teaching Team**
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**Course Materials**
All course materials will be available for download on OLAT at the start of the semester.
GEO432 Course Programme

Part 1: The making of the neoliberal city

17.09.  The entrepreneurial city

24.09.  Neoliberal urbanism

Part 2: Analysing gender and other categories of difference

29.09.  Excursion: How working class women lived at the beginning of the 20th century.
Tuesday! Excursion start: 5 p.m. at Werdplatz, excursion end: 7 p.m. at Helvetiaplatz

08.10.  Gender studies and intersectionality

15.10.  Institutional reflexivity
  *Connell Robert 2000: Der gemachte Mann: Konstruktion und Krise der Männlichkeit, Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften, 87-107. (German translation)

22.10.  Masculinities
  *Butler Judith 1991: Das Unbehagen der Geschlechter. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp, 7-10, 22-24, 190-191 & 205-208. (German Translation)

* Choice of readings depending on language abilities of course participants
05.11. **Materiality and Affect**

**Part 3: Working in the neoliberal city**

09.11. Deadline: Submission of excursion concepts (minimum one page of text)

12.11. 8 to 10 a.m. Individual feedback on excursion concepts

12.11. **The uncanny alliance of feminism and neoliberalism**

19.11. **Work identities and the global financial crisis**

24.11. **Guest lecture: Prof. Dr. Geraldine Pratt**, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
*Filipino migrant labour, testimonial theatre and transnational public engagement*
Tuesday, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

26.11. **Seminar guest: Prof. Dr. Geraldine Pratt**, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

03.12 & 04.12. **Excursion: Inequalities in neoliberal work contexts**
Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

10.12. **Seminar guest: Dr. Almut Bachinger, Johannes Kepler Universität Linz, Österreich**

**Part 4: Examination**

17.12. **Essay** (one-hour essay on the topics of the seminar)

08.01. Deadline: Submission of excursion documentation (minimum two pages of text)

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