



TRANSNATIONALIZING DEINDUSTRIALIZATION STUDIES

Deindustrialization & the Politics of Our Time (DePOT) Thematic Conference

Bochum, Germany, May 12-14, 2022

Special thanks to DePOT's Ruhr Partners: Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum; Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (German Trade Union Confederation); Fritz-Hüser-Institut; Institute for Social Movements, Ruhr-Universität Bochum; LWL-Industriemuseum/Westphalian State Museum of Industrial Heritage; RVR - Regionalverband Ruhr; and the Ruhr Museum

THURS, MAY 12 - Institute for Social Movements, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

9:00-9:15 WELCOME

9:15-10:15 OPENING KEYNOTE:

Alice Mah, Warwick University, United Kingdom. "Planetary Industrial Ruination and Just Transformations."

BREAK

10:30-12:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 1: Rethinking Deindustrialization

Chairperson: Marion Fontaine, Sciences Po - Paris.

1. Fred Burrill, Cape Breton University, Canada. "Divisions of Labour, Uneven Development, and Lumpenization: Bringing Marxist Political Economy Back into the Study of Deindustrialization."
2. Steven High, Concordia University, Canada. "The Radical Origins of the Deindustrialization Thesis: From Dependency to Capital Mobility and Community Abandonment."
3. Matthew Stallard, UCL, United Kingdom. "Inventing and Re-inventing the Black Countries."

4. Antoinette Holm & Erik Eklund, Australia. “Querying the Categories: deindustrialisation and re-industrialisation in two Australian resource regions.”

Session 2: The Politics of Industrial Closure

Chairperson: Petra Dolata, University of Calgary, Canada.

1. Nicky Stubbs, University of Bath, United Kingdom. “Recoveries built on what? The enduring effects of the interregnum.”
2. Louise Miskell and Hilary Orange, Swansea University, Wales. “Incremental Closures: Problematizing the Last Shift.”
3. Manuela Vinai, University of Turin - University of Aix-Marseille, Italy/France. “Deindustrialization in Italy. The case of the textile district of Biella.”
4. Pim Huijnen and Gertjan Plets, Utrecht University, Netherlands. “Left in the cold. A machine learning approach to map changing discourses around the fossil fuel heritage in the Netherlands, 1950-1990.”

12:00-1:00 LUNCH (provided)

1:00-2:30 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 3: Deindustrializing Cities

Chairperson: Sean O’Connell, Queen’s University-Belfast, Northern Ireland.

1. Patrick Cooper-McCann and Andrew Guinn, Wayne State University, USA. “Deindustrialization and Neighborhood Decline in Metro Detroit, 1900-2020.”
2. Seth Schindler, University of Manchester, United Kingdom. “Deindustrialization in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania: From ‘production city’ to ‘consumption city’ and the rise of rentierism.”
3. Yonca Erkan, Kadir Has University, Turkey. “Coerced Deindustrialization of Haydarpasha under Neoliberal Politics: Codes of Subjugation, Spatial Transformation, Activism and Industrial Heritage.”
4. Maria Beatriz Andreotti, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil. “Contemporary Reappropriations of the Tamanduateí Neighborhoods - São Paulo, Brazil.”

Session 4: Experiencing Deindustrialization

Chairperson: Jackie Clarke, University of Glasgow, Scotland.

1. Sophie Rowland, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom. “The Deindustrial Body: Understanding Deindustrialisation as an Embodied Experience.”
2. Franco Bonomi Bezzo and Anne-Marie Jeannet, University of Milan, Italy. “Withering participation in ‘left behind’ places? The effect of community deprivation on individual political and civic membership.”
3. Natalie Thomlinson, University of Reading and Florence Sutcliffe-Braithwaite, UCL, United Kingdom. “Memory, deindustrialisation, and gender in coalfield communities in Great Britain.”

4. Christoffer Holm, Åbo Akademi University, Turku, Finland. “‘Don’t bet on the steel industry’: Steelworkers’ experiences of structural change and the view on the global after industrial loss.”

BREAK

2:45:4:15 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 5: Worker Displacement and Resistance

Chairperson: Pascal Raggi, Université de Lorraine, France.

1. Stefan Moitra, Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum, Germany. “Precarious Empowerment. Struggles against Closure as Catalysts of Politicization.”
2. Edda Nicolson and Paul Barnsley, University of Wolverhampton, “Fighting with Feeling in the British Steel Industry 1977 – 1992.”
3. Lauren Laframboise, Concordia University, Québec, Canada. “‘La grève de la fierté’: Resisting deindustrialization in Montréal’s garment industry, 1977-1983.”
4. Amber Ward, University of St. Andrew’s, “Exploring Categories of Race, Ethnicity and Community in the Deindustrialising Coalfields of Fife, Scotland.” [This paper will likely be moved to another session when holes develop in the program]

Session 6: Political Economy of Deindustrialization

Chairperson: Greg Wilson, University of Akron, USA.

1. Lachlan MacKinnon, Cape Breton University, Canada. “Transnationalizing the Stanfieldian Model: Industrial and Economic Development in Post-war Canada and Europe .”
2. Valentina Fava and Giovanni Favero, Università Ca’ Foscari, Venice, Italy. “A Connected History of Business and Working Class Communities: The Westen Group factories.”
3. Dimitry Anastakis, University of Toronto, Canada. “Pioneering Transnational Automotive Deindustrialization: The Case of the Bricklin Car Company, 1973-5.”
4. Indranil Chakraborty, Concordia University, Québec, Canada. “Abandoned Labour: Stories of Laid-off Sears Workers and Retirees.”

BREAK

4:30-5:30 KEYNOTE:

Gilda Zazzara, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy. “Not all of Gaul has been conquered”: Resisting the politics of deindustrialization from the village.

FRIDAY MAY 13 - Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum.

9:00-9:15: WELCOME

9:15-10:15: KEYNOTE:

Stefan Berger, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, ‘Promoting Agonistic Memory through Industrial Heritage – Global Perspectives’

BREAK**10:30-12:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS****Session 7: Transnational Industrial Heritage Politics**

Chairperson: Jana Golombek, LWL-Industriemuseum /Westphalian State Museum of Industrial Heritage.

1. Brian Rosa, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, “Monumentalizing the Periphery: Deindustrialization, Redevelopment, and Industrial Heritage Conflicts in Barcelona.”
2. Gertjan Plets and Christian Wicke, Utrecht University, Netherlands. “Towards a Tripartite Model of Memory Politics: Remembering the Industrial Age in the Anthropocene.”
3. Stefan Backius, Karlstad University, Sweden. “How did the idea of the post-industrial society affect the voices of individuals and communities? The Case of the Swedish rural industrial region of Bergslagen”.
4. Constanze von Wrangel, Institute for Social Movements, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany. “The Politics of Industrial Heritage in the Ruhr Area: A Participative Process?”

Session 8: Traces, Heritage, and Material Culture

Chairperson: Olaf Schmidt Rutsch - LWL-Industriemuseum /Westphalian State Museum of Industrial Heritage.

1. Gulnur Cengiz, Newcastle University, United Kingdom. “Sunderland the City of Change.”
2. Elise Hodson, Aalto University, Finland. “The value of ‘made here.’ Products, place myths and global production - voices from Ontario’s last shoe factory.”
3. Kacper Leśniewicz, SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Warsaw, Poland. “Symbolic Boundaries of Working Class in Postindustrial Cities.”
4. Matias Kaihovirta, Åbo Akademi University, Finland. “Early lived experiences of de-industrialization in the North: the historical case of the Swedish-speaking working in class in Finland as ‘the first victims’ of de-industrialization in the Nordic countries.”

12:00-1:30 LUNCH (PROVIDED) & TOUR OF MUSEUM**1:30-3:00 CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS:****Session 9: Writing Deindustrialisation Workshop**

Facilitated by Tim Strangleman, University of Kent, UK, and Sherry Lee Linkon, Georgetown University, USA.

Session 10: Artifact and Material Culture Workshop

Facilitators: Rebecca Dolgoy and Emily Gann, Ingenium National Museum, Ottawa, Canada.

BREAK

3:30-5:00 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 11: The Music and Film of Deindustrialization

Chairperson: Iuditha Balint, Fritz-Hüser-Instituts für Literatur und Kultur der Arbeitswelt

1. Keith Gildart, University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom. “Of Hopes, Dreams, and Tombstones: Northern Soul and the soundscape of deindustrialisation in 1970s Britain.”
2. Andrew Perchard, Northumbria University, United Kingdom. “Deceived and then punctured”: Work, Class and Music in Deindustrializing Scotland.”
3. Piyusha Chatterjee, Concordia University, Québec, Canada. “Through a smudged lens: Deindustrialisation and the politics of loss in films from South Asia.”
4. Mikkel Jensen, Aalborg University. “Deindustrialization Narratives across the Atlantic: A Transnational Take on Danish and American Media Texts.”

Session 12: Creating with the remnants of the past: Artistic practices in/ of deindustrialized urban spaces

Chairperson: Nora Küttel, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany.

1. ‘Art on the edge of open-cast lignite mining. A three-stage approach to artistic research practice’ Eva Nöthen, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt; Lea Bauer, Leipzig University, Germany.
2. ‘More than blight and trash – Artistic practices of seeking, finding, and recycling material in Detroit, USA’ Nora Küttel, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany.
3. “Study of Post-industrial Traces: Ghost Places, Affected Cultures and Ecological Systems.” Clara Casian, Concordia University
4. How to Rust (short essay film) Julia Yezbick, Oakland University, USA.

Juliette Passilly and Alex Hubert, UQAM, Québec [titles to come] will be woven into the programme.

SATURDAY MAY 14

ALL DAY TOUR OF INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE IN THE RUHR ORGANIZED BY REGIONAL PARTNERS. More information to come.

NOTE: For DePOT project members, our Ruhr meetings begin on Monday May 9-Tuesday May 10 with the DePOT Summer Institute which will showcase the work of emerging scholars. There is a separate Call for Papers for that event. On Wednesday May 11, the project will have its Annual Assembly and a half-day of regional programming in Dortmund (open to all).