

Translation k06e00

Hello and welcome to the sixth chapter in our diversity course. This chapter is called "Ethnicity, 'race', and the critique of racism" The chapter invites you to engage with racism and how it works, to learn about self-designations that are critical of racism, and to consider what the challenges and conditions are for critiquing racism. I would like to briefly introduce the speakers in this chapter so that you have an overview of what to expect in each episode.

In episode 1, Dr. Jule Bönkost from the Institute for Non-Discriminatory Education will give you an introduction to the topic of "structural racism". In this lecture, you will learn how racism as a form of discrimination works and what role prejudice plays in this. Furthermore, you will learn about essential modes of action of racism and how racism functions as a group formation process and construction of difference. Finally, Dr. Bönkost explains racism-critical self-designations as well as challenges and conditions for racism criticism, which of course we all ideally think about and speak about at all times.

In the second episode, Professor Dr. Karim Fereidooni from the Ruhr University Bochum presents his research on experiences of racism in classrooms and teachers' rooms under the title "Racism (Criticism) in the School System". In this contribution, you will learn about further practices of labels that are critical of racism in the migration society, deal once again with the difference between discrimination and racism and, together with Professor Fereidooni, consider the history of the emergence of biologicistic and culturalizing racism. Based on his research results, Professor Fereidooni highlights different practices of thinking, speaking and acting which are relevant to racism in the context of schools and addresses patterns of distancing that help ensure that racism is not addressed in schools in our society and in the global society.

We are also pleased to have succeeded in inviting Professor Dr. Rozena Maart from the University of Kwa Zulu Natal in Durban. There she is the Director of the Center for Critical Research on Race and Identity and she is an expert in the field of Critical Race Studies and Critical Whiteness Studies. We have conducted an interview with her on the topic of Critical Race and Critical Whiteness and how these things play out in society from the perspective of a Black scholar from South Africa.

Before you watch these episodes, here are some ideas for you to take with you and think about. Use this introduction to the topic to become aware of your own racist imprints and to critically question them. Observe consciously in your everyday life where you encounter racism, in thinking, speaking and acting practices, in short, see this chapter as an invitation to work on your critical attitude towards racism. And of course: don't let it scare you, but rather ask: What are everyday racisms, what are structural racisms, what are individual racisms? And this is how we are gradually approaching the critique of racism in Germany, and together we will continue to practice and continue the critique of racism in this way, and it is important that this also happens at university. Therefore, we invite you to pay special attention to racism and discrimination in our society and at our university.