

Dr. Meta Cramer

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RESEARCH PROFILE

I am an interdisciplinarily trained sociologist with a focus on the sociology of (social) sciences and social theory from a critical global perspective. My work centers on the governing of science and the inequalities within it. Currently, I am exploring the relationship of research evaluation regimes and the work practices of scholars, as well as disciplinary and regional publishing cultures — particularly as these are embedded within global inequalities and colonial legacies.

EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 09/2024 - present Senior Researcher at **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**
Robert K. Merton Center for Science Studies
Project: [Predatory publishing practices](#) (VW Foundation)
- 11/2020 - 08/2024 Research Fellow in Sociology at **University of Freiburg**
PhD Submission: October 2023, Supervisor: Prof. Boatcă
PhD Defence: November 2024 (summa cum laude, 1,0)
- 10/2018 - 10/2020 M.A. 'Social Sciences' at **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin** (1,0)
09/2019 - 12/2019 ERASMUS student at **King's College London, UK**
- 09/2014 - 09/2018 B.A. 'Sociology, Politics and Economics' at **Zeppelin University** (1,3)
09/2017 - 12/2017 Visiting student at **University of Oxford, UK**
04/2017 - 08/2017 Exchange student at **Reichman University, Israel**

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Cramer, Meta (forthcoming 10/2025) *Colonial legacies and global inequalities in the Anglo-Caribbean: Negotiating social knowledge production in research and career-making*. Bristol University Press. [Pre-Order here](#)

Under Review

Cramer, Meta & Reinhart, Martin *Governing Science through Evaluation: A Global Heuristic of Research Evaluation Regimes*. Preprint available [on zenodo](#)

Peer-reviewed Articles

Cramer, Meta (2024) *Lektionen aus der New World Group: Anglophon-karibische Sozialwissenschaften in den 1960er Jahren aus wissenschaftssoziologischer Perspektive*. in Santos, F.; Ruvituso, C. (Hrsg.) *Globale Soziologie. Vergessene Theorien, verflochtene Geschichten*. Springer VS.

https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-658-44022-0_4

Cramer, Meta (2024) *Lyrisches Theoretisieren kolonialer Herrschaft bei Trutz v. Trotha*.

in Annicker, F.; Armbruster, A. (Hrsg.) *Die Praxis soziologischer Theoriebildung*.

Springer VS. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-658-44055-8_4

Cramer, Meta (2023) *Colonial Scholars and Anti-Colonial Agents: Politics of Academic Knowledge Production Between the West Indies and London in the Mid-20th Century*. in *Sociology Lens* 36(2), p. 208–222; <https://doi.org/10.1111/johs.12417> (Open Access)

Cramer, Meta (2022) *Theorising the Caribbean against the grain. How West Indian social scientists established the Caribbean as a space of knowledge production in the 1950s.* in *Sociedade e Estado* 37(3) p. 835-859; [10.1590/s0102-6992-202237030004](https://doi.org/10.1590/s0102-6992-202237030004) (Open Access)

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Accepted talks

Transnationale Transitionsprozesse der globalen Wissenschaft, 42. *Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie*, Sektionsveranstaltung 'Aktuelle Perspektiven der Wissenschafts- und Techniksoziologie', Duisburg, Germany, 22.-26.09.25

Wer steuert die Wissenschaft? Forschungsevaluationssystem im internationalen Vergleich (mit M. Reinhart), 42. *Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie*, Ad-Hoc Gruppe 'Wissensinszenierung & Inszenierungswissen: Das Verhältnis von Wissenschaft und Politik in Transition', Duisburg, Germany, 22.-26.09.25

Given Presentations

Understanding the governance of science from a global perspective: A heuristic of research evaluation regimes (with M. Reinhart)

[Research Evaluation in Social Sciences and Humanities](#), Helsinki, Finland, 21.05.25

[Workshop: Inclusive Open Science - From Global Asymmetries to Pluriversal Design](#), Berlin, 14.07.2025

Predatory publishing practices: Paper tigers or actual threats from evaluation systems? (with D. Stephen)
Invited Talk [Robert K. Merton Center for Science Studies](#), Berlin, 08.01.25

Ontological Sovereignty and regional Sovereignty: S. Wynter's early Work and Education between London and the West Indies. "*Ida B. Wells, Anna J. Cooper, Sylvia Wynter, and Irene Diggs in the Construction of Intersectional Solidarities*", *invited panel organised by J.D. Vásquez* [119th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association \(ASA\)](#), Montréal, Canada, 12.08.24

Negotiation Zones of Knowledge: Theorising Colonial legacies and research and career-making in the South. [Inaugural British Journal of Sociology Conference 2024](#), [London School of Economics](#), London, United Kingdom, 16.04.24

Negotiation Zones of Knowledge: A sensitising concept of global social knowledge production *Invited Talk* [Seminaire "Vers des sciences sociales non-hégémoniques"](#), [Université de Paris-Cité](#), Paris, France, 23.01.24.

Circular academic mobility: Caribbean social scientists' moving between the University of the West Indies and metropolitan institutions [118th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association \(ASA\)](#), Philadelphia, USA, 21.08.23.

Building a Research Tradition Against the Grain: The Historical Development of Caribbean Social Sciences *Making Space. Thinking against the grain in historical sociology* [CHS Mini-Conference at the ASA Annual Meeting 2023](#), Philadelphia, USA, 17.08.23.

Epistemic sovereignty in the West Indies: The New World Group in the 1960s. *South-South Intellectual Exchanges: Networks, Actors, Theories, Impact; Session of RC08, History of Sociology XX ISA World Congress of Sociology*, 30.06.23, online.

Institutionalizing and Decolonizing Anglophone Caribbean Social Sciences 1950-1990: Four Generations of Transnational Knowledge Production. *Transnational Histories of Sociology; Session of RC08, History of Sociology XX ISA World Congress of Sociology*, 29.06.23, online.

Negotiation zones of knowledge: Colonial legacies, research and career making by Caribbean social scientists *Invited Talk* [Robert K. Merton Center for Science Studies](#), Berlin, 22.02.23

Colonial scholars and anti-colonial agents: Academic mobility between the West Indies and the British Metropole in the mid-20th century. *Bucerius Young Scholars Forum 'Histories of Migration'*. [German Historical Institute, Pacific Office, Berkeley, US](#), 10.-13.10.22.

Herausforderungen einer postkolonialen Soziologie der Wissensproduktion, 41. *Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie*, Sektionsveranstaltung 'Postkoloniale Perspektiven in der Kulturosoziologie', Bielefeld, Germany, 27.09.22 ("Challenges of a postcolonial sociology of knowledge production")

Decolonising the British Caribbean and its research in the 1960s: The 'New World Group' between activism and intellectualism. *Governing (by) expertise. The politics of social scientific knowledge production Workshop at ENS Paris-Saclay, France*. organised by IDHES ENS Paris-Saclay, CNRS and DFG-Network Political Sociology of transnational fields, 28.-29.04.22

Epistemic Injustice Put in Social Context: Practices of Social Knowledge Making in a Post-colonial Academic Order. *Thinking at the Border: Post- and decolonial theory and epistemic injustice*. Department of Education, University of Oxford, United Kingdom, 23.09.21 (online)

Theorizing the making of social knowledge and academic careers in the Global South. *HERSS Summer School 2021, 'Making Theory Work'*. [Leibniz Center for Science and Society \(LCSS\), University of Hannover, Germany](#), 08.09.21 (online)

Organisationswechsel. Universität(sformen) im Austausch von Studierenden. *Mitschriften. Formate universitärer Kritik*. Workshop organised by M. Lehmann, Toepfer Stiftung, 28.11.17, Gut Siggen, Germany

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Member of the ProFiL Programme (Berlin University Alliance)	since 07/2025
The Programme supports high-achieving women researchers pursuing a professorship	
DAAD Travel Grant for Congress Trips (Kongressreiseprogramm)	08.-13.08.2024
Travel grant as presenter at the 119th ASA Annual Meeting, Montréal, Canada	
DAAD Research Travel Grant for PhD Students	January- March 2022
Grant for fieldwork in the Caribbean, German Academic Exchange Service	
Best Presentation Award	September 2021
HERSS Summer School 2021, LCSS Hannover, Germany	
Scholar of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation	2016-2020
Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes	
Fellow of the interdisciplinary "College of Europe"	2018-2020
Working Group: Thinking Europe sociologically	
Book Prize of St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford	November 2017
awarded for "excellent work in sociology"	
Udo J. Vetter Scholarship for exchange studies	January 2017
Zeppelin University	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Who steers science? (with Lise Moawad)	10/2025 - 03/2026
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	
Introduction into classical sociological Theory	10/2024 - 03/2025
Potsdam University	
Introduction into Quantitative Methods and R (Instructor)	09/2016 - 12/2016
Zeppelin University	

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Language skills German (native), English (fluent, TOEFL: 113 (2020)), French (intermediate), Spanish (basic)
Software Skills R Studio, MaxQDA

SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

Co-Convenor (with M. Reinhart) *Wissensinszenierung & Inszenierungswissen: Das Verhältnis von Wissenschaft und Politik in Transition*. Ad-Hoc Gruppe auf dem 42. DGS Kongress, Duisburg-Essen, 22.-16.09.2025 ("Staging Knowledge, Knowledge of Staging: The relationship of science and politics in Transition")

Co-Convenor (with M. Boatcă) *Polarisierte Soziologie? Globale Wissenschaft, Wissenszirkulation und koloniale Vermächtnisse*. Ad-Hoc Gruppe auf dem 41. DGS Kongress, Bielefeld, 28.09.22 ("Polarized Sociology? Global academia, knowledge production and colonial legacies")

Co-Convenor (with C. Beckers) *Knowledge Production in Empires*. Working Group at the GRK 2571 Summer School, 19-21.09.22