

# TRANSLATING RACE

COLT 511 \* Spring 2021 \* Mondays 2 – 4:50 pm

Professor Olivia C. Harrison



Mohamed Rouabhi, *All Power to the People!*, Théâtre Le Colombier, March 2014

What would it mean to “translate” race? Can one compare heterogeneous experiences of racialization from one imperial formation to the next? Is it possible to account for contemporary notions of racial, cultural, and religious difference by studying the emergence of the modern conception of race more than five centuries ago? How does one translate the concept of race across languages? This seminar will trace the genealogy of intersecting notions of race across imperial formations and analyze the ways in which these notions have been “translated” across languages and (post)colonial contexts. Readings include Bartolomé de las Casas, Arthur de Gobineau, Aimé Césaire, Frantz Fanon, Edward Said, Hélène Cixous, and Jacques Derrida.

This seminar is an elective for the [Graduate Certificate in Translation Studies](#), and is open to students in adjacent PhD programs. Knowledge of other languages is a plus but is not required.