

## **Fringe Science and Threadbare Knowledge**

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To approach the presumed margins of science, scholars have employed manifold metaphors. Often times these are organized in bipolar terms, such as center-periphery or metropolitan-provincial. Others, however, focus on amalgams and composites between different realms (e.g. pidgins, hybrids) as well as unequal relations and hierarchies entailed in these constellations (e.g. asymmetrical translations, underlying grammars).

In this workshop we propose to build upon such approaches by exploring the different ways in which “Fringe Science and Threadbare Knowledge” may serve as a complementary metaphorical realm to think about the presumed margins of science – be they geographical, temporal, epistemological, institutional or other. We suggest that the notion of dis/entangled knowledge threads offers a new relational view on scientific practices. While knowledge threads intertwine and ravel to create durable fabrics, they also trail off or become unstable and threadbare at various sites. On the one hand, the metaphorical realm of “Fringe Science and Threadbare Knowledge” puts into focus attempts to mark, embellish and strengthen scientific webs and bord(u)ers. On the other hand, it allows for the possibility that science frays and frazzles not only at the ‘margins’ but also at the presumed core of its tapestry, where powerful entanglements may gradually disintegrate and dissolve, or rip and tear.

The aim of this interdisciplinary workshop is thus to collect empirical case studies on science’s multiple fringes from within and outside presumed centers. We ask participants to trace the entanglements and disintegrations of knowledge threads and address their resilience or flimsiness. By way of accumulation we hope to test the conceptual possibilities that the metaphorical realm of “Fringe Science and Threadbare Knowledge” may open for a novel relational understanding of scientific practices.

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