



In English and Spanish

TOPICS

Decolonial economics in the americas

Decolonial Consumption.

MAKE YOUR OWN NON - CAPITALIST ECONOMY:

Methods in Theory and Practice for Creating
Decolonial Diverse Economies in the Americas.

Sharing Seeds of Practice from El Cambalache

Online Workshop

Bootcamp Workshop in Decolonial Methods for Creating Social, Solidarity and Non-Hierarchical Economies

This workshop will be provided by El Cambalache from its Department of Decolonial Economies.

El Cambalache is a moneyless economy project located in San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas and is made by and for women and everyone we know. In El Cambalache everything has the same value. Here people exchange things they no longer need for things, skills, knowledge and mutual aid that people want to share. El Cambalache was founded in 2015 and is based on anti-systemic and anti-capitalist values essential to local social movements.

For more information see our documentary: Inter-Change Value (2016) <https://vimeo.com/159060233>

More information about the workshop program and other details will be shared in the coming weeks. Please contact Dr. Erin Araujo at cambalach@autoproduzioni.net and taller@cambalache.casa with questions.

THIS COURSE FOCUSES ON FORMING LOCAL NON-CAPITALIST PROJECTS AND RESISTANCE

WE NEED OTHER ECONOMIES

Over the past year, we have experienced a significant global change in our lives around the development of COVID-19 and the government responses to curb the virus. People living precariously on a daily basis, suffering economic, social and legal marginalization, have been put even more at risk from disease, hunger, lack of remuneration and violence. In many parts of the majority world, people have been imprisoned and/or experienced violence for taking to the streets to seek improvements in their wellbeing, freedom from domestic violence, and other reasons that bring them into public spaces. Now, more than ever it is necessary to make non-capitalist economies, to recognize that our Americas are rich in the practices and knowledge of other age-old economies. Now is the time! Let's get to work and recuperate our economies!

THIS COURSE WILL COVER

- Methods and analyses for creating decolonial economic projects.
- El Cambalache as a contemporary example of an anti-capitalist and non-hierarchical project.
- Investigating the economic history(s) of the Americas. These history(s) have been attacked and made invisible by the coloniality of capitalist power. We will focus on how to apply a decolonial perspective and practice to research within community and academic spaces.
- Practicing consumption from a decolonial perspective.

FOR WHOM?

The practice, research and theories of non-capitalist economies included in this course were developed by and for all of us in order to bring about social change. For this reason, it is designed for people interested in creating, practicing and collectively researching noncapitalist economic projects to be carried out in their places of residence or research. Everyone is invited to participate – women, indigenous people and LBGTIQ++ are especially invited.

COURSE PRESENTATION

Decolonial economic geography begins with participatory action research in non-Western, non-hierarchical economic practices. When studying decoloniality we sometimes find it difficult to move from theory to practice. Have you thought about starting a non-capitalist economic project, but don't know where to begin? Have you asked yourself how to use participatory action research to start a social and/or solidarity economy project? Are you interested in "commoning" and "communitarity"? Do you want to do decolonial economic research but don't know how to engage in local, indigenous and/or non-Western economic practices in the context of an economic project?

During the last 500 years through the present, indigenous and non-European peoples, slaves and descendants of slaves have been historically denied equal access to participation in the capitalist economy through mechanisms of coloniality.

The capitalist economic system values neither nature nor most of our knowledge and skills. Over the last five centuries people around the world have not accepted that their way of being is to be poor, they have not sat down to simply lament their situation. In terrible circumstances of slavery and oppression, where many people were dispossessed of their property, they were denied access to money and some forms of property by colonial and post-colonial governments, yet these people created diverse and creative networks of exchange and coexistence, which have enabled their survival throughout history and across the world.

These economies have been largely ignored because they were and still are mostly women's economies. Silvia Federici has shown that while capitalism developed, women in Europe and the Americas were systematically denied access to the money economy for centuries. As we know from the diverse economies literature, there is much more to the economy than just capitalism. By understanding and practicing these types of noncapitalist activities we can decrease our dependence on money and increase our autonomy by resisting the capitalist economic system.

To participate in this workshop, we ask the participants to share current and future projects to discuss and develop during our activities. There will be collective talks about the frameworks and possible steps to design and carry out methodologies for a project of feminist, solidarity and decolonial economies. Expect readings before and during the workshop, as well as writing activities.

This workshop covers literature from hybrid economies, decolonial territorialization, decolonial feminism, decolonial economics, diverse economies, and communality.

TOPICS:

- Diverse Economies in the majority world of the Americas.
- Decolonial economies in the majority world of the Americas.
- Feminisms in the majority world of the Americas
Autonomous movements and their practices.
- Collective participatory methodology.
- Creating practices.

CALENDAR:

- Saturdays 10 am to 12 pm, CST (UTC -6), Americas and Europe.
- Tuesdays 6 pm to 8 pm, CST (UTC -6), Americas and Oceania.

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
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28	29	30	31				21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			

January 22 and 25:

Introduction to the workshop .

January 29 and February 1:

Sharing the Cambalachera Seed: The theory and practice of El Cambalache.

February 5 and 8:

Methods for Creating Decolonial Economic Theory and Practice

February 12 and 15:

Decolonial Consumption.

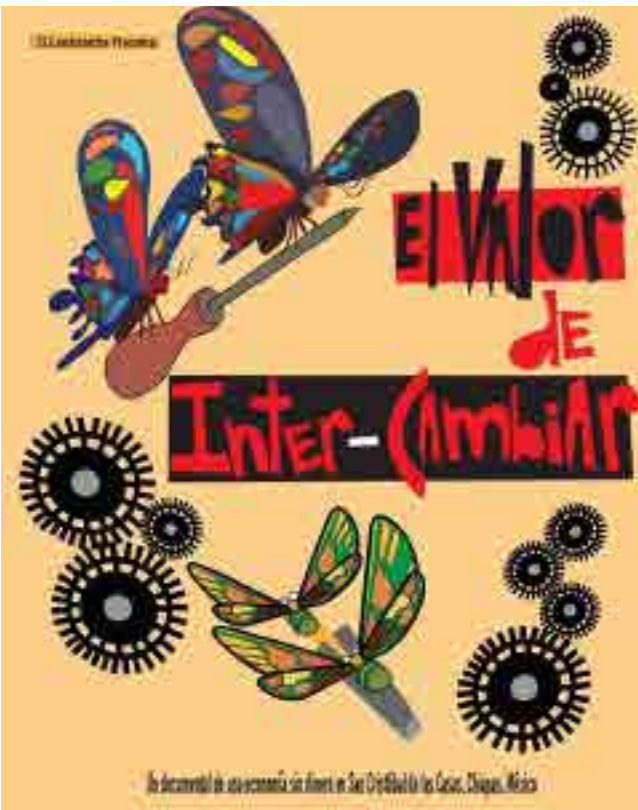
February 19 and 22:

Decolonial Diverse Economies in the Americas

February 26 and March 1:

Closing of the workshop

Note: each module that makes up the workshop will have ONE LIVE SESSION, which will be held at TWO DIFFERENT TIMES per week, in order to adapt to the DIFFERENT SCHEDULES of our participants. Everyone is welcome to choose the day and time that is most convenient for them, or to participate in both sessions live if they wish and if possible. All of our sessions will be recorded and shared with all workshop participants.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

January 22 and 25:

Welcome and introductions with workshop participants and workshop facilitators. Explanation of the dynamics of the workshop.

SHARING THE CAMBALACHERA SEED: THE PRACTICES AND THINKING OF EL CAMBALACHE.

Facilitated by the El Cambalache collective

January 29 and February 1:

El Cambalache is a moneyless economy project, generated by and for women and their communities in San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. We are going to share our experiences, challenges, and learning throughout the process of forming the project. Chat with us about our non-hierarchical project and let's build tools that will allow us to dismantle capitalism.

Setting Roots. We will talk about our project El Cambalache, the history of how it was generated and its collective, feminist, non-hierarchical philosophy. We will share: How, when, and why did it come about? What is our practice of living-doing-feeling-thinking-creating-care?

Sprouting Cambalaches. We will deepen our exploration into the dynamics, self-construction in communality, mutual aid, togetherness and wellbeing that are necessary for creating noncapitalist and non-hierarchical economic projects. These are the ways that we generate El Cambalache from day to day.

Watering, Care and The Harvest. We travel to the heart of the collective; we will show you how our internal processes work, how we work around obstacles, how we make decisions in consensus, how we value exchange, and the challenge non-hierarchical work so that you may expand these practices in your own work. How can you apply what you have learned in your context? Have your seeds germinated? Let's get to know your what germinates. Do you think we can continue to sow, care for, water and fertilize them?

METHODS FOR CREATING DECOLONIAL ECONOMIC THEORY AND PRACTICE

Facilitated by Erin Araujo.

February 5 and 8:

We will study the fundamentals of decolonial economics from the basics, through thinking about: What is decoloniality? What does a decolonial perspective towards economics encompass? There will be readings and videos in the study of diverse economies within decoloniality to link the two bodies of praxis and theory. What are the steps to recover our economies? In this topic we will discuss how to begin to form an effective method for generating creative and inclusive economic research projects that break with the conventional practices of hierarchical research methodologies.

DECOLONIAL CONSUMPTION.

Facilitated by Elena Morúa, Maira Pino and Guadalupe Díaz Hernández

February 12 and 15:

Do you know what you consume? How it is produced?: Experiences in the food and textile field, in communities and in urban areas. We will share the experiences of the Koltamba Collective, an organization made up of 20 families of Tzeltal origin, who are coffee producers from the highlands of the state of Chiapas. We will share information about their agro-ecological work, their organization, and their vision of a network of mutual support. Examples of collectives and self management networks of family and local solidarity economy.

The Koltamba (mutual aid) Do you know how what you eat and what you wear is produced? Experiences of mutual aid networks and how they are interwoven. The invisible path for consumers: we will talk about the processes of collective work from obtaining inputs, to producing of the products, and what this implies for the consumer, as well as the formation of self-managing, anti-capitalist and non-hierarchical solidarity networks. Weaving practices and realities. Reflections on consumption and Koltamba (mutual aid). We will share some practices of how we live decolonial consumption from our contexts and resources. We will also include the

experiences and/or projects of participants and how they relate to what they saw during the course.

DECOLONIAL DIVERSE ECONOMIES IN THE AMERICAS.

Facilitated by Erin Araujo.

February 19 and 22:

We will talk about the great diversity of economies in the Americas that exist at the same time as capitalism. Much of the majority world in the Americas has low access to money. This low access to money also reduces people's participation in the capitalist economic system, which in response has generated a wide range of alternative, non-capitalist, economic networks – these include mutual support, autonomous governance, exchange, barter, tequio, minga, gifting, group savings, and many other ways to live well and overcome precarity.

CLOSING OF THE WORKSHOP

February 26 and March 1:

Closing of the workshop where participants will be able to share reflections, thoughts, comments and suggestions.

IMPORTANT DATES

Closing date: December 6, 2021
Delivery of results: December 15, 2021
Sessions: January 22 to March 1, 2022.
Saturdays 10 am to 12 pm, CST (UTC -6), Americas and Europe.
Tuesdays 6 pm to 8 pm, CST (UTC -6), Americas, Asia and Oceania.

****SPACE IS LIMITED****

COSTS

Cost for participants from countries with high access to money (in US dollars)

\$500 - \$350 Solidarity price for well employed participants or collectives who want to participate with a single contribution. This price is suggested for people who have some kind of funding for their professional development or can afford it because of their high salary level. This price contributes some support to other people, with less economic possibilities of work, so that they can pay less.

\$350 - \$200 Students and participants who can afford it because they have access to some type of financing or are collectives that want to participate through a single contribution.

\$200 - \$80 Students, grassroots activists and participants who have little access to money.

Cost for participants from countries with low access to money (in Mexican pesos):

\$5,000-\$3,500 Solidarity price for well-employed participants or collectives who want to participate with a single contribution. This price is suggested for people who have some kind of funding for their professional development or can afford it because of their high salary level. By paying this price, you will contribute in supporting other people who lack economic resources or whose access is very limited, and who want to participate in the workshop, so that they can pay less.

\$3,500-\$2,000 Students and participants who can afford it because they have access to some type of financing or are collectives who want to participate through a single contribution.

\$2,000 - \$800 Students, grassroots activists and participants who have little access to money.

If for any reason you are unable to cover the fees, please ask for moneyless exchange options to cover prices.

All proceeds from this workshop will go to support El Cambalache's research, community and decolonial work.

HOW TO APPLY

Please fill out the form and send it (<https://share.mayfirst.org/apps/forms/q8SYfC2yCAiALzgw>). Your CV and a 1,000-word letter of motivation to the collective (taller@cambalache.casa) explaining why you would like to participate in the workshop and what types of economic projects you could develop with us.

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE WORKSHOP ORGANIZERS:

Belkis Rojas Trejo She is a Venezuelan Andean woman, with a degree in History and a Master's degree in Ethnology. Diploma in Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology. Retired Professor and Researcher at the University of Los Andes, Venezuela. Currently belongs to the group of women generators of the collective El Cambalache, San Cristobal de Las Casas, Mexico.

Erin Araujo PhD. Geographer with specialization in feminist, decolonial and anarchist economies. Originally from New York, USA. She has been in San Cristobal de las Casas for 13 years. Erin is one of the founders and generators of El Cambalache. She studies, practices and writes about moneyless economies in the majority world of the Americas.

Guadalupe Díaz Hernández Originally from the south-southeast of Chiapas, Mexico. She has lived in San Cristobal de Las Casas for 25 years. She has actively participated in collective work with children, youth and adults from the Catholic Church. Currently she participates in the organization of the Koltamba Coffee (mutual aid, in Tzeltal language), in the space of PROART (Handicraft Products) and she is a generator in the collective El Cambalache.

Josefa Vázquez Martínez is originally from Venustiano Carranza, Chiapas. She has lived in San Cristóbal de las Casas for 20 years. A Tzotzil indigenous woman, single mother and feminist, activist, founding member and generator of the collective El Cambalache, an economy of goods and services based moneyless exchange.

Maira Pino Ponce. Originally from Santiago, Chile. Member of the collective El Cambalache since February 2020. Designer and embroiderer. She participated in Coohebra, a women's cooperative dedicated to extending the useful life of garments by repairing them through various textile techniques.

María Elena Morua. Originally from Monclova Coahuila, Mexico, she has been living in San Cristobal de Las Casas, Mexico for 5 years. She has a degree in Psychology, , has participated in popular education collectives, and is currently a generator of the collective El Cambalache.