

Working Groups at the BCDSS

Embodied Dependencies

The Working Group takes objects as its starting point and aims at registering human and non-human ‘bodies of dependency’. Since the ontological turn has made us aware of the historicity of nature, animals, technology, machines, resources and things (in short, of everything non-human), social history should redefine its position. We understand dependent bodies as “agents”, “mediators”, and “intermediaries” and analyze dependencies between human and non-human actors as “agencements” and forms of “interagency”. Relying on the “Material Turn” and on the new approaches offered by “Body Studies” as well as on recent debates on environmental history, biohistory, and sensory history, this working group discusses “embodied dependencies” from archaeological, art-historical and anthropological perspectives as well as from the viewpoint of a praxeologically and body-historically oriented history and social science. The dialogue between researchers working with objects and those working with texts and the interdisciplinary exchange between archaeology, ethnohistory, art history, museology, historical praxeology and body history in this working group aims at a methodological reflection on and an increased awareness of the relations between the material and the social spheres as a whole with regard to strong asymmetrical dependencies. In the end, we would like to write together a Concept Paper.

Coordination: [Prof. Dr. Stephan Conermann](#)

Contact: stephan.conermann@uni-bonn.de

