YOUNG & RESILIENT RESEARCH CENTRE

Y&R 2025 SEMINAR SERIES

13 August: Professor Philippa Collin

Professorial Research Fellow at the Institute for Culture and Society and Co-Director of the Young and Resilient Research Centre, Western Sydney University

Youthful Politics, Public Pedagogy and Prospects for Democratic Renewal



There are global efforts to communicate and inspire action on climate change across communities, institutions and industries. As leaders and participants of global social movements and climate justice organisations, young people are spearheading knowledge-sharing and education for climate action. Yet, students are narrowly constructed as the subjects of both climate and civics education - even when it is recognised that both are severely lacking and/or ineffective. Coupled with the need for creative and innovative approaches that can address the multifaceted nature and challenges of the climate crisis, this raises the question of who should educate for action on climate change and how? Drawing on the concept of youthful 'politics-as-action' informed by Isin (2002) and Ranciere (2010), I consider how student climate activism is a disruptive, generative form of public pedagogy (Biesta, 2012). Comparing and contrasting case studies of student activism and advocacy in the Australian context I argue that learning from youthful politics offers ways to reimagine education as intergenerational and intersectional public pedagogy for climate justice and democratic renewal.

Biography

Philippa Collin is Professorial Research Fellow at the Institute for Culture and Society at Western Sydney University (WSU) where she co-directs the Young and Resilient Research Centre. Philippa is an interdisciplinary social scientist who works at the intersections of youth studies, digital cultures, m/health promotion and political sociology.

13 August, 12:00 to 1:00 PM

Register here

Parramatta South EZ.1.57 & Online

Lunch will be provided