4 November 2026
15h30-16h30 (SAST Time)
16h30-17h30 (CET Time)

The International Society for History Didactics presents:

Re-Centering Indigenous Approaches: Resolving Contradictions in History Education

How can we transform history education within its current colonial framing? Drawing from a materialist-dialectical perspective, this presentation argues that systemic contradictions, namely the deep structural tensions within an educational system, are actually the primary drivers of innovation and change. In using South Africa as a case study, the discussion for this ISHD webinar explores the critical tension between two opposing worldviews:

- The Western Disciplinary Approach: Which privileges written sources and specific analytical historical thinking skills.
- The Indigenous Approach: Which emphasizes an interconnectedness paradigm where non-humans also shape how the past is interpreted and understood.

Rather than treating this clash as an impasse, this discussion will demonstrate how investigating these opposing forces can catalyse systemic transformation. By adopting the Cycle of Expansive Learning Model, I will offer a practical, generative framework to question existing practices, resolve these pedagogical contradictions, and design new educational spaces where both Western and Indigenous ways of dealing with the past can dynamically coexist.

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