

NOI♀SE 2014 Summer School

Political Aesthetics and Feminist Theory: Media, Art and Affect

25 - 29 August 2014, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

Organized by the Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies

- Have you ever thought about the difference between affect, emotion, and feeling?
- Are you curious about the use of these concepts in feminist theory?
- Would you like to study how certain aesthetic strategies in the mass media are employed to influence and control spectators, users, consumers, and citizens?
- Do you want to know more about how affect is put to work in media, artistic and activist interventions?

Then join the 2014 Summer School!

This year's (the 22nd) edition of NOI♀SE will introduce you to cutting edge scholarship at the intersection of media and cultural studies, gender studies, and the arts. The relation between rhetoric strategies and their effects on global and local audiences will be explored. We will focus on how feeling, affect and emotion are mobilized to achieve both aesthetic and political ends. We will also attend to the affective strategies used in artistic and activist interventions through media such as documentary film, photography, installation art, video, and performance art.

Concepts & content

Affects, emotions and feelings have become tangible commodities in neoliberalism and late capitalism. The cultural politics of emotion (such as anger, hatred, love and compassion, among others), employed by political forces, frequently maintain homophobia, xenophobia, gender inequality, and engender fear of terrorism, but also act as a means of contesting these. Contemporary media are said to make affect "contagious," examples ranging from global marketing to revolutionary movements such as the Arab revolutions. The NOI♀SE summer school will focus on recent feminist scholarship pertaining to media and visual studies to emphasize that emotions, profoundly shaping the experience of community and collectivity, can also serve as strategies of resistance.

Additionally, we will explore the role of the visual in generating and sustaining affect, feeling and emotion, as well as in embedding these in the collective consciousness and public memory. We will engage with how artistic practices reveal a potential to engender affective encounters that propose critical engagement facilitating socially and politically transformative action. Drawing on these lines of scholarship, we will not limit our understanding to emotions and feelings, but we will also engage with the reign of affects that we are barely conscious of, i. e. movement and stillness, rhythm, color, and intensity.

Focusing on cultural, artistic and media practices, this Summer School addresses the following questions: In what ways can these practices participate in the distribution of affects and feelings as a strategy of resistance and subversion? How can emotions, once shared, facilitate political action, recognition, and dialogue, and bring about social change?

Aims

This advanced training course offers a diversified yet coherent programme of study from an interdisciplinary perspective. The Summer School is meant for PhD and MA students. Separate seminars for these two groups will be provided in the afternoons.

Formula

- Two lectures in the morning
- Separate PhD and MA-seminars in the afternoon
- Social programme
- Students prepare before NOI♀SE by reading and collecting material for assignments (approximately 40 hours of work). After the school has ended, participants who fulfilled all requirements (preparation of assignments and reading, active participation, and final essay of 10-15 pages) receive a NOI♀SE Certificate (5 ECTS).
- All students are expected to participate in the entire programme for the duration of five days.

Please check the website for more information, registration and regular updates:
<http://www.graduategenderstudies.nl/> → Education → NOI♀SE 2014

Venue

The NOI♀SE Summer School 2014 will be hosted by Utrecht University, the Netherlands.

Tuition Fees

The tuition fee is €425,-. This includes digital reading materials, but excludes accommodation and subsistence costs (i.e. food, meals, drinks, etc).

Teachers in the course

The NOI♀SE Summer School is organized by the Netherlands Research School of Gender Studies (NOG, Utrecht University). The 2014 edition is coordinated by dr. Marta Zarzycka and by dr. Domitilla Olivieri. Several renowned international scholars and artists from various disciplines will be teaching at the Summer School: prof. dr. Alexandra Juhasz (Pitzer College, USA), dr. Tarja Laine (University of Amsterdam, NL), prof. dr. Patricia MacCormack (Anglia Ruskin University, UK), Minou Norouzi (Goldsmiths University of London, UK), dr. Ingrid Ryberg (Stockholm University, SE), dr. Alanna Thain (McGill University, CA), dr. Tim Vermeulen (Radboud University Nijmegen, NL).

Registration and Deadline:

Last chance to apply is May 16, 2014. You can find the application form on the website:
<http://www.graduategenderstudies.nl/> → Education → NOI♀SE 2014

For more information

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COME TO THE NOI ♀ SE SUMMER SCHOOL AND BE CHALLENGED!