

New European Identities and Mediated Cultures: Revisiting the Politics of Location

The notion of the politics of locations is one of the epistemological foundations of feminist theory and gender knowledge. It has developed over the last twenty years from a political slogan into a fully-fledged methodological framework, which encompasses several theoretical variations. One of the most relevant aspects of this notion is that it explores the parameters for the kinds of subject positions that have become available as a result of changing gender roles in society. The politics of location, however, also works at the macro-level as a tool by which global power relations can be assessed in the light of feminist politics and gender concerns. This has led, among others, to discussions about the transnational nature of feminist subjectivity and to intersectional methods of analysis, which account simultaneously for a variety of axes of marginalization: gender, class, race, ethnicity, age, and sexuality.

This two-week course will present a cartography of these new subject positions within a European perspective, with special emphasis on the power relations that construct them. Very inter-disciplinary in orientation, it presents approaches from the humanities (history, literature, the arts), the social sciences (sociology, political theory, anthropology) and philosophy. Great emphasis will be placed on the construction of locations at the micro as well as the macro-levels, and thus on memories, genealogies and the impact of cultural products in both institutionalising and propagating certain forms of remembrance. Equal weight will be given, however, to the material and social context within which identities and locations are negotiated. Empirical data on Equal Opportunities will be provided and discussed within the context of the European welfare states and their re-structuring. Throughout this debate, cross-references will be made to the new technologies, and their overwhelming impact upon issues related to gender identity and to the status of women and other minorities in contemporary societies

Aims

The NOISE Summer School aims at advanced final-year undergraduate students, as well as postgraduate and PhD students. Applicants should have a background in the field of Women's Studies. Special tutorials will be organised for MA students in Women's Studies, and for PhD students who want to discuss their research. Therefore, those groups of students are especially invited to apply.

This advanced training course offers a diversified, but coherent programme of study from an inter-disciplinary perspective. It is meant for M.A students and starting Ph.D students and it will provide special and separate tuition seminars to these two groups. The school consists of two clusters, which focus on the following themes.

Programme

CLUSTER ONE

Diasporic cultures: De/constructing Home: Migration and Border-Crossing in Europe

Co-ordinated by Prof. Rosi Braidotti and Prof. Svetlana Slapsak

This cluster consists of six full days, including a daylong excursion. The focus of

this cluster lies on the politics of location, the three Medeas, travelling concepts, migration, nomadism and border crossing.

CLUSTER TWO

The Black Venus in Europe: Legacies of Empire

Co-ordinated by Dr. Rosemarie Buikema and Dr. Sandra Ponzanesi

This cluster consists of four full days. The focus of this cluster lies on Black migrant film, Black literature, and representations of Roma women.

The summer school is concluded with a smashing 'Make Some NOISE!' party!

Formula

- Two lectures in the morning
- Working groups in the afternoon
- Social programme
- Excursions
- All participants are expected to participate in the entire programme during the two weeks.

Credits: 9 ECTS

After fulfilment of all requirements (preparation of assignments and reading, active participation and final essay of 10 - 15 pages), participants receive the NOISE Certificate from Utrecht University for 240 hours of work.

Tuition Fees

Tuition fee of E 500 for the course is including reading materials, but is exclusive of accommodation, subsistence costs (i.e. evening meals, drinks etc) and some excursions. A NOISE grant is available for only one student from every NOISE partner university, see the list under the 'partners' button. If you want to apply for the grant of your university, please check with your local contact-person for the application procedure.

NOISE organises inexpensive accommodation for all participants (not included in tuition fee). Participants have to make their own travel and visa arrangements. They also have to take care of proper medical, travel and damage insurance coverage.

Contact

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