NOIQSE 2006 Summer School!

Transforming Gender and Power: Mediating Science/Fiction & History/Memory

5 - 15 September, Utrecht, The Netherlands

- Have you always wanted to know what cutting-edge feminist thinking is about?
- Have you ever wondered what 'female' and 'male' can mean in different contexts?
 Are these categories useful in structuring your thoughts?
- Are you curious about what it means to do Women's Studies in Europe?
- Join the 2006 Summer School and discover how renowned Women's Studies scholars have addressed these issues.

This course aims to introduce different articulations of new feminist theories about the complex interaction of gender, culture, and power today. Very interdisciplinary in orientation, this two-week course presents approaches from the humanities and the social sciences.

The first cluster of the NOISE Summer School evolves around the theme Science Fact, Science Fiction: Feminist Stories of Popular Media, Visual Culture and the Scientific Imaginary. Under this headline we will explore the intersection of science, technology and popular culture in both a creative and a critical way. Doing so, we use feminist theory in order to navigate. Feminist theory is not used as a fixed position, but rather as a set of interpretative techniques or analytical tools. The assumption is that there are hardly any topics or phenomena to which feminist approaches or analytical tools are not relevant. The intertwined issues of race/ethnicity/nationality, sexuality and gender at individual, societal and cultural-symbolic level are considered intrinsic to feminist theory. Such relevant feminist approaches are to be discovered within the overlapping fields of science and technology studies and cultural studies (visual studies, popular culture studies and science fiction studies). We investigate scientific imagery and popular representations of science with a focus on embodiment, identity and politics of representation. You will be invited to bring along popular science magazines to analyse.

The second cluster, Mediating Memories and Histories: Gendered European Identities, focuses on history and memories as location for the search for women's changing and shifting identities. Lectures and assignments address the different ways in which women have been located in history. You will learn about the gendered politics of memory and history, you will read and reflect on the way imperialism in different forms has dominated European history, and on the effects of migration, war and welfare on gender relations. You are invited to write about a woman from your past, a "foremother" whose life is remembered in many different ways. You will think and write about her life, the ways in which she is remembered, her relation to the history of her country, the way she is or is not included in canonised history.

You will learn about the different ways in which memories are "mediated" via history books, family stories, museums, literature, and digital technologies. The cluster closes with a virtual and real exhibition celebrating your findings as your personal contribution to writing women's history.

AIMS

This advanced training course offers a diversified, but coherent programme of study from an interdisciplinary perspective. It is meant for MA students and PhD students and it will provide special and separate seminars to these two groups.

THEMES / CLUSTERS

The clusters of this year's Summer School are:

Week one: Science Fact, Science Fiction: Feminist Stories of Popular Media, Visual Culture and the Scientific Imaginary.

Week two: Mediating Memories and Histories: Gendered European Identities.

Both clusters investigate Women's Studies scholarship and use interdisciplinary approaches.

Please check http://www.let.uu.nl/womens_studies/summerschool for the programmes of the last two years to get an idea how the programme is structured. The basic formula is always the same; the themes and clusters vary.

Please check http://www.let.uu.nl/womens_studies/summerschool2006 for regular updates!

FORMULA

- Two lectures in the morning
- Separate MA- and PhD-specific seminars in the afternoon
- Social programme and excursions
- Students prepare during the summer by reading and collecting material for assignments (approximately 70 hours of work). After fulfilment of all requirements (preparation of assignments and reading, active participation and final essay of 10 - 15 pages), participants receive the NOISE Certificate for 240 hours of work, equalling 9 ECTS
- All participants are expected to participate in the entire programme during the two weeks

ACCOMODATION FOR STUDENTS

The accommodation will be arranged by the organising university in Utrecht and can be reserved and paid to the central co-ordination in Utrecht. Participants can also arrange their own accommodation; however, we advise you to 'stick together' at the same hostel! See also http://www.holland.com/global/ for more information about the city of Utrecht itself.

The participants will stay at a hostel in the city centre.

TEACHERS IN THE COURSE

The first week of the Summer School is coordinated by Dr. Cecilia Åsberg (Utrecht University); week two is co-ordinated by Prof. Berteke Waaldijk (Utrecht University) and Prof. Andrea Petö (Central European University, Hungary). Teaching at the Summer School will be several renowned professors and scholars from various disciplines.

Preliminary speakers: Prof. Rosi Braidotti (Utrecht University, The Netherlands); Dr. Ericka Johnson (Linköping University, Sweden), Dr. Charlotte Kroløkke (University of Southern Denmark, Odense), Prof. Nina Lykke (Linköping University, Sweden); and Prof. Anneke Smelik (Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands).

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REGISTRATION:

Please note that you can only register online (before May 1) at the address below!

http://www.let.uu.nl/womens_studies/summerschool2006

COME TO THE NOIQSE SUMMERSCHOOL

AND BE CHALLENGED!