

## Call for Applications

We invite post-graduate students enrolled in a **Master's Program** in the social sciences or humanities at the University of Leipzig as well as Halle and Jena to apply for a **Summer School** titled "**Seeing the self through the lens of the other.**"

The summer school will take place from 03 to 12 July 2017. Students who participate in the summer school and submit an essay of 6.000 words by 30.09.2017 will receive **10 ECTS**.

During the summer school students will train their ability to engage with post-colonial debates, deepen their appreciation for cultural diversity, train practical skills in communicating about cultural diversity in academic and professional settings and develop their MA projects.

**To apply**, please submit the application form, a letter of intent making explicit your interest in the summer school (max. 500 words), a summary of your MA project\* (max. 600 words), and an up-to-date transcript of records. **Deadline for applications is 15 May 2017**. Applications should be sent per Email with pdf attachments to Prof. Rose Marie Beck, [rmbeck@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:rmbeck@uni-leipzig.de)

We will accept a total number of 20 students. Letters of acceptance or rejection will be sent out on 25 May 2017.

\* The MA project may be in a very early or more advanced stage. You can use the Summer School to narrow down your topic or further develop it. Please indicate in your letter of intent how far you have progressed with your MA project and how the summer school will help you frame or advance your project.

## Concept

The summer school seeks to engage MA-students of the social sciences and humanities at the Universities of Leipzig, Halle and Jena in an international dialogue with peers, academic teachers and international guests. Students will read post-colonial theory, train their analytical ability to reflect their own taken for granted assumptions, and use their insights to further develop their MA projects.

Today we experience a rapid process of globalization as well as massive technological, social and cultural changes. In view of these developments we recognize the ability to understand and engage with multiple perspectives as an important future skill. Critical voices from the Global South argue that current global challenges require the recognition of alternative epistemic traditions beyond European hegemonic knowledge. The decolonization of knowledge and a radical change of perspective materialize in post/colonial debates, discussions on alterity and difference, the desire to provincialize Europe (Chakrabarty) and the need to develop theory from the South (Comaroff & Comaroff). During the summer school students will reflect the cultural coding of their own knowledge and train to take alternative points of view in order to understand well-known problems in novel ways. They will work with international guests, teachers and peers to make their points of view explicit and thus make their own position discursively and reflexively available to interrogation. Thereby participants will expand knowledge base of the social sciences, develop their projects and train professional skills.

Organizers of the summer school are the Institute of African Studies (Prof. Rose Marie Beck, Prof. Dmitri van den Bersselaar), the Institute of Kulturwissenschaften (Prof. Dirk Quadflieg), and the Institute of Anthropology (Prof. Ursula Rao)

## Program

### **Part (1): Self through the lens of the other**

Monday 03.07.2017

Convener of the day: Dirk Quadflieg

- 09:00-10:00 Welcome and Introduction
- 10:00-12:00 Seminar: „Questing the cultural self“ [Prof. Dirk Quadflieg, Reading: Kristeva, J. 1991: Strangers to ourselves. Columbia University Press (Chapter 7); Hall, S. 1992. The Question of Cultural Identity; in: McGrew, Ton/Hall, Stuart/Held, David (ed.): Modernity and its Futures. Cambridge: Polity: 274-316]
- 13:00-15:00 Exercise: „We are the strangers“ – Students work with their respective tandem partners and describe situations from their everyday life using an ethnographic approach.
- 15:30-16:30 Matching of students in tandems. We propose to pair students of German origin with students of non-German origin. Students get to know their tandem partners and introduce their projects to their respective partners.
- 16:30-17:30 Individual reading time and writing of a report in form of a journal entry.

Tuesday 04.07.2017

Convener of the day: Ursula Rao

- 09:00-12:00 Lecture and seminar: „Ethnography as dialogue and cultural critique“ [Ursula Rao, Readings: Köpping, K.-P. 2002: *Shattering Frames*. Reimar: 185-218; Mauksch, S. & U. Rao 2014 *Fieldwork as dialogue*. *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*. 139: 22-38]
- 13:00-15:00 Exercise: „Techniques of Othering“ – Walk through two contrasting exhibitions at the GRASSI Museum für Völkerkunde zu Leipzig and discussion about the impact the arrangement of objects has on our perception.
- 15:30-16:30 Individual reading time

Wednesday 05.07.2017

Convener of the day: Rose Marie Beck

- 09:00-12:00 Lecture and seminar: „Alternative ways of knowing“ [Prof. Rose Marie Beck & Prof. Dmitri van den Bersseelaar, Reading: Comaroff, J. and J. Comaroff 2012. *Theory from the South, or How Euro- America is evolving towards Africa*. London, Paradigm (Chapters 1 to 3)]
- 13:00-14:30 Exercise: Students work with their tandem-partners to discuss the input of the first three days and compare the different techniques of othering.
- 15:00-16:00 Individual reading time
- 16:00-17:30 Presentation: „Spotlights“ – every tandem introduces their outcome in three slides and five minutes.

### **Part (2): Alternative ways of knowing**

Thursday 06.07.2017

Convener of the day: Dmitri van den Berseelaar

- 09:00-11:30 Lecture and seminar: „Looking at the ‘North’ through the eyes of the ‘South’“ [Sarah Nutall, Johannesburg (requested); Reading: J.-A. Mbembé, Sarah Nuttall 2004: *Writing the World from an African Metropolis*. *Public Culture* 16 (3) 347-372]

- 11:30-13:00 Consultations with individual MA students [Beck, Quadflieg, van den Bersselaar, Rao, Nutall, Law, Rocha, Vierke will speak to students individually about their projects. Each discussion will last 30 minutes. Students will use the remaining time to note down their ideas]
- 14:00-16:00 Lecture and seminar: "Representations and South-South Communication" [Leon Rocha, Liverpool (confirmed), Reading: Rocha, L.A. 2016. How deep is love? The engagement with India in Joseph Needham's historiography of China. BJHS Themes, 1 (1): 1- 29]
- 16:30-17:30 Consultations with individual MA students

### Friday 07.07.2017

*Convener of the day: Rose Marie Beck*

- 09:00-11:30 Lecture and seminar: "Entangled objects, and the boundaries of culture" [John Law, London (requested); Reading: Law, J. 2004: After Method. Mess in social science re- search. Routledge, (Chapter 1 & 3)]
- 11:30-13:00 Consultations with individual MA students
- 14:00-15:30 Group discussion [We will form three thematic groups, chaired by Quadflieg/Law, Beck/Nutall, van den Bersselaar/Rocha respectively. The lecturers will present keywords from previous inputs to encourage students to draw comparisons between their projects]
- 16:00-17:00 Individual reading time
- 17:00-18:00 Consultations with individual MA students
- 19:00 Summer School BBQ

### Monday 10.07.2017

*Convener of the day: Ursula Rao*

- 09:00-11:30 Lecture and seminar: "Entangled Histories, and the boundary of cultures" [Ulf Vierke, Iwalewa Haus, Bayreuth (confirmed); Reading: Adogame, Afe; Ehtler, Magnus & Vierke, Ulf (eds) 2008. Unpacking the New: Critical Perspectives on Cultural Syncretization in Africa and Beyond. Münster: LIT (Introduction, Chapter by Loimeier)]
- 11:30-13:00 Consultations with individual MA students
- 14:00-16:00 Students work with their respective tandem partners to prepare for the „Science Slam“ on the final day

### **Part (3): Practical Application (Transfer)**

*Convener of the day: Dirk Quadflieg, supported by Natascha Bing*

### Tuesday 11.07.2017

- 09:00-12:00 Discussion with Sonja Brogiato (Leipziger Flüchtlingsrat e.V.) und N.N. (Diversity Management, Stadt Leipzig).
- 13:00-15:30 Interviews with staff working in the administration, support or care for refugees, Students work with their tandem partners
- 16:00:17:00 Reflection on the learning outcomes of the day in small groups [Beck, Quadflieg, van den Bersselaar]

**Part (4): Academic Application**

Convener of the day: Dmitri van den Berselaar

Wednesday 12.07.2017

09:00-12:00 Exercise: Students re-write their project descriptions; and fill in a feedback form.

13:00-15:00 Presentation: "Science Slam" – Students present their projects in three minutes]

15:00-16:30 Informal gathering with snacks – Collection of informal feedback