



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS WITH
DETAILED PROGRAMME AND CONFIRMED LECTURERS

OHRID SUMMER UNIVERSITY 2013

**SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR SEXUALITIES,
CULTURES, AND POLITICS**

(August 15-21 2013, Ohrid, Macedonia)

organized by

**Euro-Balkan University
(Skopje, Macedonia)**

in cooperation with

**Faculty for Media and Communications at Singidunum
University
(Belgrade, Serbia)**



Euro-Balkan University

Address:

Blvd.

Partizanski
Odredi 63,
1000, Skopje,
Republic of
Macedonia

Tel/Fax. ++
389 2 30 75
570

E-mail:

contact@euba.edu.mk

www.euba.edu.mk

CONFIRMED LECTURERS

- ✓ Didier Eribon (School of Philosophy and Social Sciences of the University of Amiens, Paris, France)
- ✓ Antke Engel (Institute for Queer Theory, Hamburg/Berlin, Germany)
- ✓ Tomasz Sikora (Pedagogical University of Cracow, Poland)

COURSES OFFERED

- ✓ *Title TBC* (Lecturer: Didier Eribon)
- ✓ *Desire, Power and Fantasy* (Lecturer: Antke Engel)
- ✓ *The Violence of Inclusion and the Ethics of Betrayal* (Lecturer: Tomasz Sikora)

ELIGIBILITY

- Participants should be postgraduate students (preferably MA, PhD student or young researchers) interested in exploring the issues of Gender, Queer, Cultural Studies, Visual Arts and Humanities and related Studies.
- Participants from all countries are eligible to participate.
- All applicants should send the following documents:
 - Application form including paper abstract (appr. 200 words max.)

TUITION FEE: 300 EUR

- Note that we offer 20% discount if the participant apply in the first application deadline and pays the total fee to 15th of May and 10% discount if the participant pay the total fee to 15th of June.
- Applicants from the partner universities are offered 30% tuition fee discount



- The fee covers tuition and study material during the school,
- Use of library at the Campus with free internet,
- Coffee breaks and Refreshments
- Cocktail Party for the opening of the OSU and one party for summer school participants.
 - Tour of the numerous medieval churches, ancient and medieval monuments in the UNESCO protected city of Ohrid, located at the shore of the unforgettably beautiful Ohrid Lake.
 - Memorable social events on the campus and at the Ohrid Lake.
 - Other arrangements for accommodation, transportation and other expenses should be arranged by applicants on themselves.
 - In regard to the high standards established by the Euro-Balkan University and due to its membership in the Erasmus Charter, the Summer School will grant the participants appropriate certificate with 8 credits (ECTS), applicable in the master or PhD studies of participant's home universities.

Discounts: university partners, alumni and university groups

We currently offer tuition fee discounts to the following groups:

Strategic university partners: Students from these institutions will receive a discount on tuition fees

Bilateral Partners and ERASMUS network:

New Bulgarian University, Singidunum University, University of Maribor, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen.

CEEPUS network:

University of Mostar, University of Sarajevo, University of Pula, University of Zadar, University of Split, University of Zagreb, University Sts. Cyril and Methodius – Skopje, Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznan, Babes Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Belgrade University, Comenius University in Bratislava, Constantine The Philosopher University in Nitra, University of Ljubljana, University of Primorska, Koper, Slovenija.

ISCH COST Action IS1203 - In search of transcultural memory in Europe (ISTME):

Network of 25 European Universities (University of Vienna, Ghent University, Roskilde University, University of Tartu, University of Turku, University of

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Paris I, Lueneburg Universty, University of Athens, Central European University, University of Iceland, UCD Humanities Institute, University College Cork, University of Teramo, Vytautas Magnus University, University of Malta, Utrecht University, University of Amsterdam, University of Stavanger, Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Institute for the Recent History of Serbia, University of Ljubljana, CSIC, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Lund University, University of London - Birkbeck).

INTERNATIONAL THEATRE INSTITUTE, UNESCO, Paris, France (90 Centres and 22 Cooperating Institutional Members)

<http://www.iti-worldwide.org/macedonia.php>

Previous Summer School students: We currently offer a tuition fee discount to all previous Summer School students. Please select the appropriate option on the application.

ACCOMMODATION

Note that we can provide for the interested participants discount prices for accommodation in Hotel Pella where the Campus will be located.

Hotel Pella is situated near the city of Ohrid (4 km) in quite inspiring pine forest in the tourist settlement of St. Stefan. Nearest beach is only 100 meters away.

Capacity: 41 rooms (30 triple bed and 11 double bed rooms) and 3 apartments, all together Hotel Pella has maximum capacity of 120 guests.

Facilities/Standards: Cable TV, Wireless Internet, Direct Telephone Line, Mini Bar, Air Condition, Security Cameras, Balcony, Seminar Hall, Parking Spots, Football/Basketball Courts, Open Restaurant.

	B/B Bed and breakfast	H/B Half Board	F/B Full Board
Single bed room	27€	32€	36€
Double bed room	16€	21€	26€
Triple bed room	13€	18€	23€
Apartment	60€		



- Tourist Tax and VAT are included in the prices
- Prices are in Euros and **per person** daily

More informations about Hotel Pela you can find at www.hotelpela.mk

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- ✓ Deadline 1 for early applications (20% discount): April 20th / selection results by April 30th / payment due May 15th
- ✓ Deadline 2 for early applications (10% discount): May 20th / selection results by May 30th / payment due June 15th

Please send all applications to SlavcoDimitrov and StanimirPanayotov:
slavco.euba@gmail.com, spanayotov@gmail.com

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DURATION

- ✓ 7 days

FORMAT

- Intensive lectures and master classes
- Afternoon seminars with the lecturers; all participants are required to prepare a paper and will have the opportunity to present and discuss it with all the other participants and receive direct input from the lecturers.



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SUMMER INSTITUTE DESCRIPTION

The Summer Institute for Sexualities, Cultures, and Politics is a new permanent project initiated by the Department for Gender Studies at the Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities “Euro-Balkan”, Skopje, Macedonia.

The general aim of the Institute is to gather young post-graduate students, scholars and teaching staff from both Eastern and Western Europe and promote a shared platform for research and trans-disciplinary theoretical reflection on the complex modes of interweaving sexuality, culture and politics, and consequently of exchanging and questioning geopolitically determined discourses in the research of sexualities, gender studies, and queer theory. Our idea is to provide students, scholars and teachers with the opportunity to question, decenter and democratize these areas by way of deferring the notion of theoretical and geopolitical privilege which is often implied by these research areas, and thus to introduce new models of rethinking context-specific phenomena related to sexualities and, vice versa, to enrich theoretical paradigms with context specific phenomena and research.

In this way, the Institute’s long-term goal is to

(1) strategically stimulate the particularization and application of key ideas and theories in sexuality research locally, and to

(2) universalize and popularize crucial and underprivileged positions and ideas on the European level, regardless of the East/West divide which is still central to the development of queer theory and sexuality research.



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Our endeavor is not to relativize the embeddedness and situatedness of knowledges about sexualities, but to recognize and disrupt the existing invisible borders that obstruct the free dissemination of ideas as they are being determined by various hegemonic forces – political, educational, economic - in both Eastern and Western contexts of doing academic and artistic work related with our desires, bodies, and sexualities.

COURSES DESCRIPTION

✓ **Course 1: (Lecturer: Didier Eribon)**

**To be announced*

✓ **Course 2: *Desire, Power and Fantasy* (Lecturer: Antke Engel)**

How does queer theory reflect upon the relationship between desire and power? Queer theory provides analysis of desire fueling and/or subverting social power relations, but also of gendered, sexualized, and racialized social powers constituting specific understandings and practices of desire. The aim of the course is to understand how desire can function simultaneously as a most conservative force that reproduces hierarchically gendered and normatively heterosexual social relationships, as well as a promising force that drives transformative imagination, social experimentation, and engagement in new technologies of the self. In order to understand this simultaneity one needs to consider the central role of fantasy in queer concepts of desire. Fantasies, intertwining social stereotypes with personal, idiosyncratic imagery and affect, influence subject constitution as well as macro-political processes such as the economy and the state. To what extent do we need to think about the double-edged interplay of power and desire in order to foster socio-political transformations?



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My particular interest concerning my own approach as well as the students' work lies in combining theoretical concepts and cultural material. For that matter I would like to suggest one or two theoretical texts as reading material for each day and engage those in order to discuss a film, video, or visual art work, which we watch together in class.

✓ **Course 3: The Violence of Inclusion and the Ethics of Betrayal
(Lecturer: Tomasz Sikora)**

Is not it ironic that at a time when same-sex marriage or other so-called civil rights are being progressively extended onto “gay subjects” across the world’s liberal democracies, one observes a concomitant growing opposition to these developments among more “radical” queer thinkers, activists and artists? Doesn’t this, in fact, amount to a “radical drag” that effectively turns into conservatism and a betrayal of the ideals of equality and inclusion? Isn’t queer, decadently, turning against itself?

These are paradoxical times, indeed: a tolerance of (a straight concept) of “homosexuality” is becoming not only normative, but even essentialized as part of the modern liberal-humanist identity that continues to distinguish itself against its barbaric “others” (see, for example, the phenomenon of “pinkwashing”). No wonder that much of queer reflection today is shifting away from its more traditional critique of social, political and cultural exclusion toward a critique of dominant forms of *inclusion*. Thus, it is of vital importance that we recognize how difference in general, and queerness in particular, are getting subsumed under, folded into, and functionalized by the grand project of liberalism that comprises a) the political framework of representative democracy with its “politics of recognition,” b) the economic framework of a global “free market” and its fetishistic “free choice” philosophy, c) the imperialistic, neo-colonial notions of universal humanism, and d) a



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particular essentialist view of “human nature” that serves to justify and legitimize all of the above, implicitly or explicitly.

One of the key queer questions today can be formulated as not so much the question of belonging versus unbelonging or inclusion versus exclusion (these are not simple binary oppositions, anyway) as the question of queer (dis)loyalties. How, indeed, can we imagine “queer loyalty” today? To what kind of “common good,” what kind of “us,” what kind of future? Is queer loyalty being traded off in exchange for the liberal state’s formal concessions, such as legalizing same-sex marriage? Can a “negativist” betrayal or boycott of the existing forms of sociality and polity (see the case of Bradley Manning) be considered an instance of loyalty to a radically queer social impulse, to a “future unprogrammed by its past,” to use Wortham’s Derrida-inspired phrase? Could that be a post-capitalistic, and yet not apocalyptic, future? What if queer loyalty is attached less to whatever (received) entities, constituencies and organized wholes, and more to the very transversal movements of desire? I propose to consider a queer ethics of betrayal, where “ethics” is certainly not supposed to be read as any normative model, but rather as a rhetorical gesture whose aim is to disconnect betrayal from the opprobrium it often, too often, evokes.

THE LECTURERS: BIOS

Didier Eribon (School of Philosophy and Social Sciences of the University of Amiens, Paris, France)

Didier Eribon is professor at the School of Philosophy and Social Sciences of the University of Amiens (France). He has for years been running a seminar at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales in Paris. He has also been Visiting Professor at the University of California, Berkeley for several years, and at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. He has lectured in a great



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number of countries and, in the U.S., at The New School, University of Chicago, Harvard University, Yale University, New York University (NYU), the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, among others. He was one of the speakers at the Conference "Foucault in Berkeley. Twenty Years Later", held in Berkeley October 2004, with Leo Bersani, Judith Butler, Paul Rabinow, Hubert Dreyfus, Michael Lucey, and others. He is the author of several books already considered as "classics", including his *Réflexions sur la question gay* (trans. in English as *Insult and the Making of the Gay Self*) in 1999, *Une morale du minoritaire* in 2001, in 2005, *Echapper à la psychanalyse (Escaping Psychoanalysis)*, *D'une révolution conservatrice et de ses effets sur la gauche française* (2007), and *Retour à Reims* (2009).

Between 1984 until recently, Eribon wrote frequently for *Le Nouvel Observateur*, the famous French weekly magazine in which he reviewed books in the fields of philosophy and social sciences. He currently lives in Paris. He is the recipient of the 2008 Brudner Prize.^[1] But he returned the prize in May 2011 (see his letter : "I Return the Brudner Prize" on his personal homepage).

Antke Engel (Institute for Queer Theory, Hamburg/Berlin, Germany)

Antke Engel is director of the Institute for Queer Theory situated in Hamburg and Berlin. She received her Ph.D. in Philosophy at Potsdam University (Germany) in 2001 and held a visiting professorship for Queer Theory at Hamburg University between 2003 and 2005. The focus of her work is on feminist and poststructuralist theory, on conceptualizations of sexuality and desire, and on the critique of representation. In her dissertation *Wider die Eindeutigkeit. Sexualität und Geschlecht im Fokus queerer Politik der Repräsentation* [*Against Uniqueness. Sexuality and Gender in the Focus of Queer Politics and*



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Representation] (2002) Engel proposes a strategy of equivocation as a means of queer cultural politics. Apart from extensive teaching experience and public lecturing, Antke Engel has also been engaged as an activist, a cultural worker, and a magazine publisher – believing in the mutual inspiration of theory and politics. Recently she published *Bilder von Sexualität und Ökonomie. Queere kulturelle Politiken im Neoliberalismus*, [*Images of Sexuality and Economy. Queer Cultural Politics in Neoliberalism*] (2009).

Tomasz Sikora (Pedagogical University of Cracow, Poland)

Tomasz Sikora is Assistant Professor at the English Department of the Pedagogical University of Cracow (Poland). In the years 2000-2006 he co-organized, together with Tomasz Basiuk and Dominika Ferens, a series of conferences that introduced queer theory into the Polish academic landscape. Three volumes of essays collected some of the work inspired by the conferences: *Odmiany odmienca/A Queer Mixture* (2002), *Parametry pozadania [Parameters of Desire]* (2006), and *Out Here: Local and International Perspectives in Queer Studies* (2006). The collaboration between Sikora, Basiuk and Ferens found continuation in the creation and management of the online journal of queer studies *Inter Alia* (published in English and Polish), which has run six issues so far. Sikora also published *Virtually Wild: Wilderness, Technology and the Ecology of Mediation* (2003) and co-edited a number of volumes on American and Canadian studies, including *Embracing Otherness: Canadian Minority Discourses in Transcultural Perspectives* (2010) and *Towards Critical Multiculturalism: Dialogues Between/Among Canadian Diasporas* (2011). His main areas of research and publication include critical and queer theory, interdisciplinary American and Canadian studies, political philosophy, ecocriticism, and gothicism. He is also a part-time blogger, journalist and amateur photographer.

THE PROGRAMME CONSISTS OF SEVERAL FEATURES

- ✓ In regard to the high standards established by the Euro-Balkan Institute and due to its membership in the Erasmus Charter, the Summer School will grant the participants appropriate certificate with 6 credits (ECTS), applicable in the master studies of participant's home universities.
- ✓ Memorable social events on the campus and at the Ohrid Lake.
- ✓ Tours of the numerous ancient and medieval monuments in the UNESCO protected city of Ohrid, located at the shore of the unforgettably beautiful Ohrid Lake (covered by the participation fee).

OHRID SUMMER UNIVERSITY: FURTHER INFO

The Summer Institute is integral part of Ohrid Summer University (OSU) which is an academic program for young faculty, PhD candidates, postgraduates, researchers and professionals, which offers intensive, problem oriented and research based courses from the domain of social sciences and humanities. OSU was founded in 1998 and has functioned continuously since then, as one of the core programs of the "Euro-Balkan" Institute, involving a significant number of both junior and senior members of academic communities from various countries. To date, "Euro-Balkan" Institute, through OSU program, has organized over 30 summer schools from various areas with over 500 participants, involving more than 100 professors. During the 14 years-long period of its existence, OSU has engaged itself in: adequate and effective training of the academic staff, demonstration of successful linkage of state-of-the-art scholarship and effective and innovative teaching, promotion of academic excellence and ability to facilitate creation and sustenance of active networks of academics, as well as collaborative advancement of learning in certain disciplines within the international context.



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Located in the city of Ohrid, the centuries-long cultural metropolis of the Balkan region, OSU encompasses a variety of social and cultural events, provides appropriate locations for outdoor classes and includes educative excursions to the famous archaeological sites and cultural monuments, situated on the shores of the Ohrid Lake.

CONTACT PERSONS

Slavco Dimitrov and Stanimir Panayotov

Coordinators of the Summer Institute

Emails: slavco.euba@gmail.com, spanayotov@gmail.com

Jelisaveta Blagojevic,

Director of the Summer Institute

Email: jelisavetablagojevic@gmail.com

Dragana Karovska-Cemerska

Academic Coordinator of Ohrid Summer University

Email: poslediplomski.euba@gmail.com

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