



Northwestern Critical Theory WEINBERG COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

THE CRITICAL THEORY CLUSTER (CTC)

Over the past three decades, the term "critical theory" has come to designate, particularly in the United States, a type of study that cuts across disciplines to examine the premises, concepts, and categories that structure academic discourse in areas such as literary studies, art history, film studies, history, philosophy, and political theory, to name just a few. Critical theory is therefore not limited to a particular field or even to specific content; it is involved wherever methods, concepts, and social formations are not simply taken for granted but subjected to systematic and rigorous critical reflection.

Some 80-100 students in relevant fields at Northwestern University participate in Northwestern's Interdisciplinary Cluster in Critical Theory. The cluster provides a thorough introduction to critical theory through interdepartmental course offerings. Exposure to critical theory is highly recommended for students of literature, philosophy, politics, culture, the visual arts, gender and race studies, rhetoric, and society in our post-colonial, post-modern world.

The Cluster offers possibilities for graduate student accreditation in the form of the Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificates in Critical Theory. It offers a number of forums and venues for intellectual exchange between graduate students and faculty with related interests in different departments and programs. It promotes reading groups, workshops, several other opportunities for graduate students, and a coherent program of interdisciplinary coursework at Northwestern. Northwestern also offers the Paris Program in Critical Theory, which affords up to five advanced graduate students, from a wide variety of disciplines, a unique opportunity to spend one year in Paris familiarizing themselves with French and European theoretical research.

Among the activities regularly organized by the cluster are: welcome and end of year events for new graduates, faculty-graduate book dialogues, annual "Critical Theory in Critical Times" workshops, doctoral dissertation workshops, annual events organized by Northwestern's Cornell University School of Criticism and Theory fellowship awardee, visiting speakers including lectures and a workshop with our Max Kade visiting Professors, and an annual tri-university fall doctoral institute rotating between Northwestern University, the University of Frankfurt and the École Normale Supérieure, Paris.

Northwestern's Weinberg College also offers an undergraduate minor in Critical Theory along with undergraduate reading groups, often conducted in conjunction with graduate students. For more information about the undergraduate minor contact Mark Alznauer (m-alznauer@northwestern.edu). For information about the graduate cluster, contact the Director, Cristina Lafont and/or one of the Associate Directors, Penelope Deutscher or Peter Fenves.



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CRITICAL THEORY FACULTY COMMITTEE



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CRITICAL THEORY CLUSTER READING GROUPS

ON-GOING READING GROUPS:

WENDY BROWN Contact: charlebois@northwestern.edu

RADICAL DEMOCRATIC THEORY Contact: usdinmartinez2024@northwestern.edu

EOS READS FOR BLACK LIVES (in partnership with Classics Cluster) Contact: and rewhull 2019@u.northwestern.edu or patricia.marechal@northwestern.edu

CRITICAL PUBLIC HUMANITIES Contact: AngelaTate2022@u.northwestern.edu or RebekahBryer2022@u.northwestern.edu

CRITICAL THEORY STUDIES - TRAUMA Contact: a-parkinson@northwestern.edu

LATIN AMERICAN BIOPOLITICS Contact: Carloshalaburda2010@u.northwestern.edu

DISABILITY AND DISABLEMENT Contact: rpuleo@u.northwestern.edu



Create your own reading group by emailing your suggestion to criticaltheory@northwestern.edu.



ONE-TIME READING GROUPS:

AFTERLIVES OF EXTRACTIVISM: THE PROTEST OF THE PASS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE DOCUMENTARY GESTURE (April 29, 2021) Contact: criticaltheory@northwestern.edu

BLACK TRANS FEMINISM AND TRANS-LATINX CITIZENSHIP (April 2021) Contact and res. mendiet asm@gmail.com

DECOLONIZING THE UNIVERSAL, DECOLONIZING THE UNIVERSITY (June 2021) Contact: carmendeschryver2021@u.northwestern.edu

SANTIAGO CASTRO-GÓMEZ: Critique of Latin American Reason (2020-2021)

CHARLES MILLS: The White Leviathan: Nonwhite Bodies In The White Body Politic (2019-20)

FRANZ FANON READING GROUP (2018-19)

ERUPTIONS OF MEMORY (CRITICAL THEORY IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH MELLON GRANT PROJECT (2018-19)

Northwestern Critical Theory

THE INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN CRITICAL THEORY

ICCT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

To obtain the Critical Theory Certificate, declare your cluster affiliation by e-mailing critical theory@northwestern.edu. You then complete five courses from the approved course list. At least two of the courses must be foundational critical theory seminars, chosen from these generally defined fields

CRITICAL THEORY AND LITERARY STUDIES:

Post-structuralism, cultural studies, and post-colonial theory in literary analysis and theory. The influence of psychoanalysis, Marxism, structuralism, semiotics, and post-structuralist thought on contemporary textual analysis. Cultural critique and context-centered methodologies.

CRITICAL THEORY AND PHILOSOPHY:

Themes may include the origins of critical theory in Kant, Hegel, Marx, and Nietzsche; the contemporary re-emergence of critical theory in the work of the Frankfurt School; and/or the poststructuralist thinkers such as Derrida and Nancy.

CRITICAL THEORY AND THE STUDY OF POLITICS:

The concepts of progress and power in politics and in the

study of politics: the sources of modern political critique in the Frankfurt School and phenomenology; the critique of positivism in the social sciences; the critique of sovereignty, identity, and race; empire and post-colonial politics.

CRITICAL THEORY IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH:

Includes postcolonial, decolonial, trans-national and intersectional approaches to critical theory. Topics may include plural epistemologies, forms of power, histories, aesthetics, and forms of critique; issues of translatability and untranslatability of core concepts; the study of violence, social justice, trauma and memory informed by critical theory in its trans-national dimensions; projects aiming to diversify critical theory's canon; and/or the study of the significance of critical theory in the global south and vice versa.

The five courses are chosen from a list of approved courses provided each academic year. The course list can be found on the Critical Theory website.

When you have completed the requirements, please fill out the online TGS Certificate Application. This application will be routed to the Critical Theory Associate Director, who will review the application. For students also pursuing a PhD or Master's, the Director of Graduate Studies of the degree program will also review the application. The application will then be reviewed by TGS who provides the final approval and notification to the student.

More information about the Critical Theory Certificate requirements and application process can be found here: https://www.criticaltheory.northwestern.edu/graduate/certificate.html

2020-21 CRITICAL THEORY CLUSTER COURSES

COURSES COUNTING TOWARDS THE INTERDISCIPLINARY CERTIFICATE IN CRITICAL THEORY (ICCT)

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

 AF_AM_ST 460: Black Social and Political Thought (Marquez) FQ

AF_AM_ST 480-0-20: Decolonial Black Political Thought (Hesse) $\bar{\rm FQ}$

AF_AM_ST 420: Expressive Arts and Cultural Studies (Weheliye) WQ

AF_AM_ST 480-0-21: Topics: On Black Education: Towards a Liberatory Praxis (ross) WQ

AF_AM_ST 440: Black Historiography (Bryant) SQ

ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTHRO 390-0-23: Queer Criminality and Political Transgression (Noll) FQ

ART HISTORY

ART_HIST 460: Studies in 20th & 21st Century Art: Black Arts Archives in Chicago (Zorach) FQ

ART_HIST 450: Studies in 19th Century Art: William Blake and Karl Marx (Eisenman / Mitchell) SQ

RHETORIC AND PUBLIC CULTURE

COMM-ST 525: Feminism Encounters Cultural Studies: An Explosion and Its Afterlives (Radway) SQ

Comparative Literary Studies

COMP_LIT 410: Theories of Literature: Recounting the Plague: In and Around Literature (Weber) FQ

COMP_LIT 414: Hemispheric Literature and Politics (Feinsod) FQ

COMP_LIT 488: Biopolitics and Thanatopolitics (Deutscher) FQ

COMP_LIT 488: Unethical Media (Verma) FQ

COMP_LIT 488: Trauma, Politics, and the Uses of Memory (Parkinson) FQ

COMP_LIT 487: German Literature, Critical Thought, New Media since 1945 (Deuber-Mankowsky) SQ

ENGLISH

ENG 461: Hemispheric Literature & Politics (Feinsod) FQ

ENG 481: Queer Theory and Queer Cinema (Davis) SQ

Gender Studies

GNDR_ST 490: Music, Gender, and Sexuality in the Early Modern Era (Austern) FQ

GNDR_ST 405: Advanced Feminist Theory (Dietz) WQ

GNDR_ST 490: Queer Theory (Davis) SQ

GNDR_ST 490: Sexual Knowledge: Science, Archives, Traces (Liu) SQ

GERMAN

GER 401: German Literature and Critical Thought, 1750-1832 (Fenves) FQ

GER 402: German Literature and Critical Thought, 1832-1900: Recounting the Plague: In and Around Literature (Weber) FQ

GER 402: German Literature and Critical Thought, 1832-1900 (Weitzman) WQ

GER 402: German Literature and Critical Thought, 1832-1900 (Weitzman) SQ

GER 404: German Literature, Critical Thought, and New Media, 1945-present (Deuber-Mankowsky) SQ

2020-21 CRITICAL THEORY CLUSTER COURSES

HISTORY

HISTORY 405-0-20: Rethinking Black Freedom Struggles (Gadsden) FQ

HISTORY 405-0-22: Comparative Race (Glassman) FQ

HISTORY 405-0-24: Mapping the Discipline (Maza) FQ

HISTORY 405-0-26: The Body in Time (Elliott) FQ

HISTORY 405-0-20 : Sexual Knowledge: Science, Archives, Traces (Liu) SQ

Performance Studies

PERF_ST 301: Performance and Activism in Digital Culture (TBA) TBA

PERF_ST 330: Queer Theory After Catastrophe (TBA) TBA

PERF_ST 516: Critical/Performance Ethnography (TBA) TBA

PERF_ST 515: Performance, Race, Media (TBA) TBA

PERF_ST 516: Critical/Performance Ethnography (TBA) FQ

 ${\rm PERF_ST}$ 310: (Grad/Undergrad sections) Performance Woman of Color (TBA) WQ

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{PERF}}$ ST 515: Black Caribbean Waters: Performing Diasporas (TBA) WQ

PERF_ST 515: Performance, Race, Media (TBA) WQ

PERF_ST 317: Feminist Performance (TBA) SQ

PERF_ST 303: Transnational Flows of Performance (TBA) SQ

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 380: Philosophy of Art (Zuckert) FQ

PHIL 415: Studies in French Philosophy (Deutscher) FQ

- PHIL 313: Kant's Critique of Pure Reason (Mueller) WQ
- PHIL 315: Studies in French Philosophy (Deutscher) WQ

PHIL 423: Studies in Contemporary Philosophy (Lafont) WQ

PHIL 412: Studies in Modern Philosophy (Zuckert) SQ

POLITICAL SCIENCE

 $\operatorname{POLI}{\operatorname{SCI}}$ 424: Public Opinion, the Media, and Democracy (Page) SQ

POLI_SCI 440: International Relations Theory (Alter) FQ

POLI_SCI 441: International Political Economy (Nelson) SQ

POLI_SCI 447: Critical Studies in World Politics (Loriaux) SQ

POLI_SCI 490: Politics after Biopolitics (Stevens) FQ

POLI_SCI 490: Feminist Theory (Dietz) WQ

RADIO, TELEVISION, AND FILM

RTVF 403: Media & Cultural Theory (Sconce) FQ

RTVF 584: Unethical Media (Verma) FQ

RTVF 5XX: Race, Performance and Media (Petty/Chambers-Letson) WQ

RTVF 584: Postcolonial Media Theory (Padmanabhan) WQ

RTVF 5XX (433) Feminism & Media Culture: (White) SQ

Religious Studies

REL 481: Theories of Religion (McClish) FQ

REL 471-20: Embodiment/Materiality/Affect (Molina) WQ

REL 471-21: Religion, Race and Politics (Hurt) WQ

SOCIOLOGY

SOCIOL 476: Theories of Race and Ethnicity (Stewart) FQ

SOCIOL 476: Gender, Power, Politics (Orloff) FQ

SOCIOL 476: Sociology of Families (Percheski) FQ

Northwestern Critical Theory

KAPLAN INSTITUTE RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

Critical Theory Research Workshop

The Critical Theory Research Workshop is an interdisciplinary forum beyond the classroom for students, graduate and undergraduate, to share and develop their interests in critical theory. Funding is made in part by the Kaplan Institute, and cosponsored by the French, German, and Comparative Literary Studies Departments. Graduate students are invited to lead bi-weekly sessions with discussion of individual theorists, often with a proposed reading. Annual events have also included workshops. Lisa Guenther, Vanderbilt University, author of *Solitary* Confinement: Social Death and its Afterlives and Lynne Huffer, Emory University, author of Mad for Foucault are among the recent visiting speakers. Previously discussed authors have included Butler, Deleuze, Fraser, Bataille, Derrida, Benjamin, Rorty, Arendt, Adorno, Horkheimer, Badiou, Rancière, and many more.

For more information, please contact: criticaltheory@northwestern.edu.



The Critical Theory Research Workshop and the After-Life of Phenomenology Workshop are sponsored or co-sponsored by the Kaplan Institute of the Humanities, and are completely student-run by members of the Critical Theory Cluster.

THE AFTER-LIFE OF PHENOMENOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP



In the work of Gilles Deleuze one finds an encounter orchestrated between the phenomenology of Edmund Husserl and Maurice Merleau- Ponty and the vitalism of Henri Bergson, opening a path toward a new form of materialism, which Deleuze calls "transcendental empiricism." This Deleuzian empiricism, in turn, has been taken up in the last decade by Michel Serres, Quentin Meillassoux, and others. Thus a line can be traced from Bergson to Deleuze to today's new empiricists and "speculative materialists," which passes directly through phenomenology. The After-Life of Phenomenology Research group was started by graduate students with interests in this trajectory.

2015-2016 speakers included Chris Yeomans (Purdue) on Hegel and Daniela Vallega-Neu (University of Oregon) on Nancy and Merleau-Ponty. 2016-2017 speakers included Rachel Zuckert (Northwestern), Dear Moyar (Johns Hopkins University), and Kevin Thompson (DePaul University). 2017-2018 speakers included Michael Forster (University of Bonn), Molly Flynn (Assumption College), and Guy Elgat (School of the Art Institute of Chicago).

For further information and participation, contact: Hao Liang at haoliang2014@u.northwestern.edu.

LANGUAGE STUDY FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

WHY DO WE URGE LANGUAGE TRAINING STRENUOUSLY?

French, German, and Spanish are three of the languages important to the critical theory tradition. The foreign language training made available by Northwestern University is a valuable part of the conditions offered to its graduate students. It is an opportunity hard to duplicate later in an academic career, with respect to available time for language acquisition, funding, and the quality of the programs. Where you have interests and research involving the work of theorists, authors, and media produced in another language, you should begin your graduate career with the relevant language study.

It also gives some graduate students access to additional lines of full-time research funding (for example, through the D.A.A.D.) both during your graduate career and throughout your academic life. International fellowship and grant opportunities are an increasingly important aspect of academic careers. We recommend that graduate students begin language training as early as possible. Many graduate students succeed in acquiring two languages while at Northwestern, particularly when they benefit from programs such as a study year abroad with Northwestern's Paris Program in Critical Theory or in Germany through D.A.A.D. funding—or other overseas study and training opportunities.

The Critical Theory Cluster particularly encourages language study as an often vital component of graduate student research and training. Language training is, of course, also a great pleasure, and a relaxing and stimulating complement to graduate coursework and dissertation writing. And, perhaps most importantly: it expands worlds, thought, networks and opportunities in unpredictable ways.

It need not be time consuming, and will often (ranging from quicker access to needed material in a foreign language to new fellowship opportunities) gain you time.

Opportunities for Graduate Language Study at Northwestern

Graduate students can access courses in Northwestern's language departments, both during the academic year, and over the summer, only while they are on fellowship. For example: a fifth-year student who receives funding into the sixth year is not on fellowship in summer between these years, and so cannot enroll in language courses at that time without paying the relevant fees. Thus we strongly encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities as early as possible. Funding is also sometimes available for participation in summer language immersion institutes in the United States (such as at Middlebury College) and considerable funding is often available for overseas language training: Northwestern's language teaching faculty are often very well placed to help you plan and access these opportunities.

Options and choices: many graduate students are able to enroll in undergraduate classes through the year. Many languages can be studied intensively over the summer. Some graduate students prefer this option, as it allows language study at a time when they have no other coursework obligations. We recommend both (and all available) options. Occasionally, specialist courses designed to give reading-only competency are available. They are sometimes a good choice. A period of overseas study can be an important means of consolidating your language ability. There are many funding opportunities to support these, most involve your having first acquired an introductory or early intermediate level. Again, this gives reason to start relevant language training as early as possible in your graduate enrollment.

STUDY OVERSEAS

THE PARIS PROGRAM IN CRITICAL THEORY

The Northwestern University Paris Program in Critical Theory was inaugurated in fall of 2001, under the directorship of Samuel Weber, Avalon Professor of the Humanities at Northwestern University, who brought the program with him from UCLA. It affords up to five highly qualified advanced graduate students from a wide variety of disciplines a unique opportunity to spend one year in Paris familiarizing themselves with French and European theoretical research.

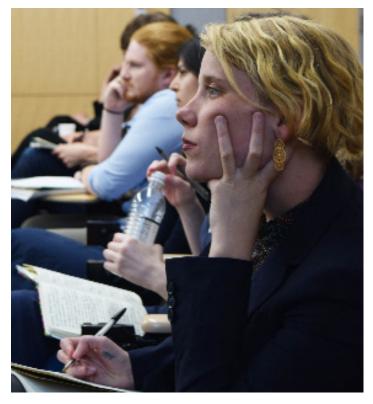
During the Fall quarter, the Program Director leads a weekly research seminar on a question of current concern in contemporary critical theory. The seminar can also serve as a forum for work in progress. The particular topic of the seminar will be determined in consultation with participating students. Some past Paris seminar topics have been: The Politics of Friendship; Animality-Humanity; Theological Economy; Theories of the Event; Singularity; Europe; The Death Penalty. The Program Director also makes the Program a focal point for international exchanges by inviting French and European scholars to participate in informal discussions, both in Paris and whenever possible, at Northwestern. Students and visiting scholars will continue to present their research in the seminar in Winter and Spring quarters.

For more information, please go to www.parisprogram. northwestern.edu. Applications should be submitted electronically to Dominque Licops at d-licops@ northwestern.edu.

GOETHE UNIVERSITY OF FRANKFURT AM MAIN EXCHANGE PROGRAM

In conjunction with the Exchange Program, we have introduced an optional variation on the already existing Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory: the Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory (Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main Exchange Program). Five courses are currently required for the existing NU Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory. To complete the Graduate Certificate in Critical Theory (Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main Exchange program), two of the five courses will be completed through work undertaken at the Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main. The student will (1) undertake the work required for one MA course at U Frankfurt (with graded paper), and (2) participate for one semester in the doctoral colloquium of the student's sponsoring professor at Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main or that of an appropriate colleague at Goethe University. The remaining three courses will be completed at NU.

For further information, particularly concerning the administrative process and requirements, please contact Mark Alznauer at m-alznauer@northwestern.edu.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FRANCE

Graduate students affiliated with the critical theory cluster may be eligible for the innovative dual PhD programs that Northwestern has established with the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po) and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales. For more information on these programs: global. northwestern.edu/programs/dual-phd-programinstitut-detudes-politiques-sciences-po

Proficiency in French is required, but can be acquired with support from the French Interdisciplinary Group. For further information, contact Professor Michael Loriaux at m-loriaux@northwestern.edu.

GERMANY

Extensive funding is available from the D.A.A.D. for graduate study in Germany. Students interested in German philosophy, critical theory in the German tradition, political theory, comparative literature, Germanistik, critical theatre studies (Theaterwissenschaft), aesthetics, and intersections of philosophy, political, and aesthetic theory may be specially interested in a period of study at the Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Main, which has a long and famous affiliation with the Frankfurt tradition in critical theory. A number of NU's CT graduate students have incorporated studies at the University of Frankfurt as part of their graduate program. D.A.A.D. funding is available for a number of programs of study in Germany, beginning with D.A.A.D. summer grants. These are often used for summer programs of intensive language study, and provide an excellent foundation to subsequent longer funding (such as one-year stays).

For more information, contact Peter Fenves, p-fenves@northwestern.edu, Anna Parkinson, a-parkinson@northwestern.edu, Sam Weber, s-weber@northwestern.edu, or Cristina Lafont, clafont@northwestern.edu.

Domestic Fellowship Opportunity

The Critical Theory cluster administers one sponsored fellowship annually for the School of Criticism and Theory at Cornell University. Funding is provided by Northwestern's Graduate School. The sponsored fellowship covers tuition, accommodation and domestic airfare. You do not need to be an affiliate of the cluster to apply. For more information, contact Anna Parkinson, a-parkinson@northwestern.edu.

CONFERENCE FUNDING Opportunity

Limited conference funding (to a maximum of \$250) is available annually to five graduate students.

To apply, email criticaltheory@northwestern.edu with information about the conference, its dates, relevance to the critical theory cluster, and its importance to your research. Explain your connection to the critical theory cluster (such as courses taken, participation in graduate certificate, etc.) and confirmation of acceptance of your paper. Your application is considered by a mini-committee, on a rolling basis. Information about further funding available for graduate students reading papers at conferences is available at:

tgs.northwestern.edu/funding/fellowships-andgrants/internal-fgrants

CRITICAL THEORY IN CRITICAL TIMES ANNUAL WORKSHOP SERIES

The Critical Theory in Critical Times annual workshop series is a joint initiative of the Center for Global Culture and Communication (CGCC) and the Critical Theory Cluster. The aim of this workshop series is to create a forum for discussion of recently published work in the tradition of critical theory broadly construed. Authors are invited to an in-depth discussion of their scholarly work with specialists in the field and in a small workshop setting. This setting offers an excellent opportunity to faculty and students of the Northwestern community to directly engage in lively discussion with very distinguished critical theorists from around the world. In preparation for the workshop, a reading session is organized among interested NU faculty and students to discuss the work in question.

In response to COVID-19, the 2020 workshop has been reimagined as virtual workshop.

CRITIQUE OF LATIN AMERICAN REASON BY SANTIAGO CASTRO-GÓMEZ October 29-30, 2020, 4-6 pm (via Zoom)

Crítica de la razón latinoamericana (Critique of Latin American Reason), by Santiago Castro-Gómez, was published in 1996 and stands as one of the most important philosophical texts to have come out of Latin America in the last twenty-five years. As a critique of the foundational schools of thought in Latin American philosophical and critical history, the author analyzes Latin American modern and postmodern positions on the normative status of modernity, identity, colonial history and heritage, also showing how these have intersected with popular culture. While these themes span the South-American continent, they also implicate broader and protracted global processes — including the legacy of colonialism — that make the book widely relevant and timely. The work underscore the significance of the transition from schools of utopianism and philosophy of history, philosophies of emancipation and liberation, to critical ontologies of the present. As a contribution to contemporary Latin American critical theory, the work is also distinctive for the attention it gives to Mexican thinkers who contributed to the field in the first half of the 20th century.

WORKSHOP TO FEATURE GUEST DISCUSSANTS: Santiago Castro-Gómez, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Eduardo Mendieta, Pennsylvania State University Linda Martín Alcoff, Hunter College and CUNY Graduate Center Rocío Zambrana, Emory University María del Roasario Acosta López, Univsersity of California – Riverside Barnor Hesse, Northwestern University Jimmy Casas Klausen, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro



READING GROUP FOR CRITICAL THEORY IN CRITICAL TIMES WORKSHOP We invite faculty and graduate students to participate in a reading group in advance of the October 29 and 30 workshop. A copy of the book chapters and manuscript will be available to participants. If you would like to participate, please contact Siobhan LaGro at Siobhan.LaGro@northwestern.edu

https://www.criticaltheory.northwestern.edu/graduate/workshops/

CRITICAL THEORY IN CRITICAL TIMES ANNUAL WORKSHOP SERIES

PAST EVENTS

Feb 2015: Hauke Brunkhorst, *Critical Theory of Legal Revolutions* (Bloomsbury, 2014)
Nov 2015: Wendy Brown, *Undoing the Demos* (Zone Books, 2015)
Nov 2016: Axel Honneth, *Freedom's Right* (Columbia University Press, 2015)
Nov 2018: Seyla Benhabib, *Exile, Statelessness, Migration* (Princeton University Press, 2018)
Nov 2019: Charles Mills, *The White Leviathan: Nonwhite Bodies in the White Body Politic*



Images above taken at Critical Theory in Critical Times 2019 workshop, featuring Charles Mills.

Northwestern Program in Critical Theory WEINBERG COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

WORKSHOPS AND PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

MIDWEST RACE THEORY WORKSHOP

The Midwest Race Theory Workshop is a regional organization that connects faculty and graduate students who work in critical philosophy of race. MRTW was co-founded and is co-organized by Elizabeth Millán (De Paul), José Medina (Northwestern), Jaqueline Scott (Loyola), and Grant Silva (Marquette). MRTW meets quarterly for a full day of paper presentations and discussions of works in progress. This academic year we held meetings at Loyola (in November), De Paul (in February), and Northwestern (April). The April 6th meeting at Northwestern included presentations from faculty and graduate students at UNAM-Mexico, De Paul, Loyola, Marquette, and Northwestern. Marzouq Alnusf (Northwestern) presented one of the featured papers entitled "Behind the 'Seen': A Critique of Al-Saji's Account of Racializing Vision and Hesitation."

For more information: https://midwestracetheoryworkshop.com Contact: José Medina at jose.medina@northwestern.edu

THE CHICAGO AREA CONSORTIUM IN GERMAN PHILOSOPHY

The Chicago Area Consortium in German Philosophy is a group of faculty and graduate students from Chicago area institutions, including Northwestern, DePaul, Loyola, UIC, University of Chicago, and Notre Dame, who share interests in German philosophy from Leibniz to the present. It hosts a workshop every spring, at which area faculty present work in progress with comments from graduate students on a particular theme or thinker (such as phenomenology and Hegel's theoretical philosophy, or German Romanticism) and invites speakers throughout the year. Past speakers have included Steven Crowell, Lanier Anderson, Paul Redding, Jay Bernstein, and Lisa Shabe. 2016-17 visitors included Catalina Quintero, John Richardson, Rebecca Comay, Jessica Tizzard, Andrew Pitel, and Claire Kirwin.

For more information: sites.northwestern.edu/germanphil/

If you have any questions about consortium events, please contact: Rachel Zuckert at r-zuckert@northwestern.edu.



WORKSHOPS AND PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

THE SUMMER INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOANALYSIS

The Summer Institute of Psychoanalysis addresses the impact of psychoanalytic thought on what it does not consider to be its primary target: culture, as expressed by other branches of knowledge as well as media in the broadest sense of the word from literature, cinema, and performance arts to social media. The Institute engages a conversation between psychoanalysis understood as theory, as clinical practice, and as ways of addressing the emotional spaces that other intellectual fields and creative media open up on a personal and collective level.

Each annual session unites an international cluster of universities through a cooperative effort between the Sorbonne-Nouvelle and Northwestern University. Gatherings take place in a different location each year in late June or early July at one of these participating academic institutions. The 2019 edition took place in Chicago at Northwestern University from June 24th through the 27th and was dedicated to the interrelation between psychoanalysis and philosophy. Both discourses have been understood as originating in wonder, resisting institutional practices, and running the risk of becoming impossible or untenable, especially in recent times. Both modes of reflection also have laid claim to providing strong foundations for critical thinking and political resistance. At the same time, both disciplines need to meet the challenge of defining new geographies and cultural contexts for their continuing relevance.

At the 2019 session, we approached psychoanalysis and philosophy in their reciprocal transference by attending as a collective to a crucial set of open questions. What is the relationship between the subject and the world? What do we mean when we speak of "subjects"? What is the place of sexuality? How shall I/we live? What is more important: freedom or happiness? How shall I/we live? What is more important: freedom or happiness? How shall I/we live? What is more important: freedom or happiness? How shall I/we live? What is more important: freedom or happiness?

While the 2020 Summer Institute was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic, the institute organizers hope to be able to hold a session in the Summer of 2021.

RHETORIC AND PUBLIC CULTURE SUMMER INSTITUTE

Every year, the Rhetoric and Public Culture Summer Institute, an initiative supported by the Center for Global Culture and Communication, brings together visinting faculty and participants to discuss various themes related to public culture.

The 2021 Summer Institute, to be held that July, will be an installment of the Institute's series on Media Aesthetics: What does it mean to study and to theorize media today? For the past several decades if not since at least the 1960s aesthetic production in its institutional manifestations has become more varied, less medium specific, and perhaps more fruitfully approached in a comparative manner. One key development here concerns the increasing and uneven ways in which the boundaries between more institutionally-sanctioned forms of aesthetic production and more ordinary vernaculars of experience have come to be understood as permeable and newly articulated and entangled. Taking aesthetics in its Greek sense of aisthesis (perception or feeling), we affirm the significance of methodologies taking qualitative approaches to experience such as affect theory, queer theory, phenomenology, black studies, and psychoanalysis. Taking note of many local interventions in theoretical approaches to media studies, however, the summer institute asks what affinities and commonalities these discourses share.

WORKSHOPS AND PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

THE TRI-UNIVERSITY DISSERTATION WORKSHOP

The dissertation workshop is a joint initiative by the Critical Theory Cluster at Northwestern, the Goethe University, Frankfurt, and the École Normale Supérieure, Paris to create a forum in which original research engaging with the tradition of Critical Theory is presented and discussed. The annual three-day event rotates between Evanston, Frankfurt, and Paris and offers graduate students and faculty the opportunity to come together and discuss their current research.

Developed from a long-standing collaboration among the three universities, the workshop provides an intense cooperative environment for graduate students to develop and publicize their dissertation projects in conjunction with faculty lectures that highlight new and emerging areas of interdisciplinary scholarship in critical theory.

The 2021 workshop will take place virtually from April 15-17, 2021. For more information, please contact Eskil Elling, eskilelling2023@u.northwestern.edu.

The speakers at the 2017 workshop were Penelope Deutscher (Philosophy, Northwestern) and Thomas Lemke (Goethe-University, Frankfurt). The 2017 workshop in Frankfurt was organized with financial support from a TGS Mellon Cluster Catalyst grant.

In 2016, graduate students from Northwestern's Critical Theory Cluster met with students from the École Normale Supérieure (E.N.S.) and from the Goethe University Frankfurt, to participate in the Tri-University Critical Theory Dissertation Workshop.

The NU graduate participants were Sandra Berjan (German), David Johnson (Philosophy), Maité Marciano (French), Claudia Garcia-Rojas (African American Studies), Ben Schacht (Comparative Literature), Carlos Pereira Di Salvo (Philosophy), and Cristina Lo Tempio (Political Science). Also participating were Northwestern cluster faculty: Mark Alznauer (Philosophy), Penelope Deutscher (Philosophy), Peter Fenves (German), Michael Loriaux (Political Science), Alessia Ricciardi (French and Italian), Sam Weber (German and CLS), Erica Weitzman (German), and Rachel Zuckert (Philosophy). Visiting professors joining the visiting graduate students from Paris and Frankfurt included Marc Crepon (E.N.S.) and Christoph Menke (Frankfurt).



Participants at the Tri-University Critical Theory Dissertation Workshop. 2016-17



Participants discuss the workshop lecture, "The Paradox of Ability and the Value of Beauty" by Christoph Menke, Goethe University. 2015-16

2020-21 EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Please visit PlanItPurple or criticaltheory.northwestern.edu/events/ for the most up-to-date information on events of special interest. Events are also frequently announced on the Critical Theory Program List-serv. Requests to join the listserv can be made by emailing **criticaltheory@northwestern.edu**.

Workshop on Democracy Without Shortcuts (2020) by Cristina Lafont

October 23, 2020 (Virtual) | Hosted by Center for Global Culture and Communication The event will begin with a brief presentation by Cristina Lafont of key arguments in her book followed by comments on themes of the book by the invited speakers: Simone Chambers (Political Science, University of California, Irvine), Jane Mansbridge (Political Science, Harvard University Kennedy School) and José Medina (Philosophy, Northwestern University). The workshop will conclude with a brief reply by Prof. Lafont to her commentators and Q&A with the audience, who can interact with the author and the commentators.

TRAUMA, POLITICS, AND THE USES OF MEMORY

October 28, 2020, 2-4 pm (Virtual) | Email a-parkinson@northwestern.edu for more information. In culmination of the Critical Theory in the Global South Mellon sub-project on "Trauma, Politics, and the Uses of Memory," and in the context of the graduate course of the same name this Fall 2020 quarter, Professor Anna Parkinson (Northwestern University) and Dr. Candice Jansen (former Mellon Pre-doctoral Fellow at Northwestern and current Manager of Research and Exhibitions at the Market Photo Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa) will lead a conversation on the role of visual media and capture in memorialization and protest in the context of the Global South (specifically in relation to Chile and South Africa). Those interested in participating in the online session who are not enrolled in the seminar should contact Anna Parkinson (a-parkinson@northwestern.edu) by the end of September. Participants will be asked to read a selection of readings that will be made available closer to the event's date.

Critical Theory in Critical Times: Critique of Latin American Reason by Santiago Castro-Gómez

October 29-30, 2020, 4-6 pm (Virtual) | Hosted by Critical Theory in the Global South Mellon Grant See page 12 for more details.

Book Workshop: "Death's Futurity: A Visual Culture of Death in Black Radical Politics" with Sampada Aranke

November 16, 2020, 1-3 pm (Virtual) | Organized by Critical Theory Cluster, Weinberg College Dean's Collective Funds for Critical Race Studies and Black Arts Initiative

This workshop with Sampada Aranke (Assistant Professor in the Art History, Theory, Criticism Department at School of the Art Institute Chicago) will be chaired by Huey Copeland (Associate Professor, Art History, Northwestern). The workshop will feature discussions from graduate students Jordan Mulkey (African American Studies), Harrison Graves (English), æryka hollis o'neil (African American Studies), and a response by Alex Weheliye (Professor of African American Studies, Northwestern).

2020-21 EVENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

"OF THE EXTRAORDINARY": A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION UPON THE RELEASE OF EDUARDO SABROVSKY'S MODERNITY AS EXCEPTION AND MIRACLE (SUNY UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2021)

February 12, 2021 | 1pm – 2:30pm CST | Organized by the Critical Theory Cluster and Critical Theory in the Global South Mellon Grant

A roundtable discussion upon the release of Eduardo Sabrovsky's Modernity as Exception and Miracle (SUNY University Press, 2021). Eduardo Sabrovsky is Professor of Philosophy at the Instituto de Filosofía at the Universidad Diego Portales in Santiago, Chile. Panelists include Peter Fenves (chair), Professor of German, Jewish Studies, and Comparative Literature Studies, Northwestern; he wrote the introduction to Modernity as Exception and Miracle. Avery Goldman, Associate Professor of Philosophy, De Paul University, author of Kant and the Subject of Critique (Indiana University Press, 2012). Javier Burdman, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow at the University of Strasbourg; he translated Modernity as Exception and Miracle.

NORTHWESTERN/FRANKFURT GRADUATE DISSERTATION WORKSHOP April 15-17, 2021 | Organizer: Eskil Elling (eskilelling2023@u.northwestern.edu)

AFTERLIVES OF EXTRACTIVISM: THE PROTEST OF THE PASS IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE DOCUMENTARY GESTURE WITH ASTRID DEUBER-MANKOWSKY April 29, 2021 | Hosted by Critical Theory Cluster

Pre-publication discussion with Astrid Deuber-Mankowsky (Media Studies, Rühr Universität Bochum) and Rosalind Morris (Anthropology, Columbia University) of chapters from Morris' project Unstable Ground. The Lives, Deaths and Afterlives of Gold in South Africa and the documentary Gesture, with screening of Morris' film, A Film is Being Made

NU - UNTREF WORKSHOP WITH MARQUIS BEY AND MARCIA OCHOA: "BLACK TRANS FEMINISM AND TRANS – LATINX CITIZENSHIP" / "TRANSFEMINISMO NEGRO Y CIUDADANÍA TRANS – LATINX" April 8, 2021 | Hosted by Critical Theory in the Global South Mellon Grant

"DECOLONIZING THE UNIVERSAL, DECOLONIZING THE UNIVERSITY" WITH YALA KISUKIDI, SOULEYMANE BACHIR DIAGNE AND PAULIN J. HOUNTONDJI June 17-18, 2021 | Hosted by Critical Theory in the Global South Mellon Grant

RHETORIC & PUBLIC CULTURE SUMMER INSTITUTE: MEDIA AESTHETICS III July 2021 | Hosted by Rhetoric & Public Culture and Center for Global Culture and Communication





INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM of CRITICAL THEORY PROGRAMS

In December 2016, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded a \$1,525,000 grant to the University of California, Berkeley and \$1,020,000 to Northwestern University to establish the International Consortium of Critical Theory Programs (ICCTP). The initiative is co-directed by Judith Butler (UC Berkeley) and Penelope Deutscher (Northwestern University).

At UC Berkeley, the Consortium maintains a website, www.criticaltheoryconsortium.org, with information on nearly 300 critical theory programs, centers, and projects in Africa, South and Southeast Asia, Latin America, the United States, Europe and its peripheries, the Balkans as well as the Middle East, Russia, and East Asia. It also convenes conferences and publishes a book series, *Critical South*, with Polity Press and the journal Critical Times: Interventions in Global Critical Theory. It supports the UC Irvine Libraries Critical Theory Archive. Under the direction of Northwestern University, the Critical Theory in the Global South project is developing new teaching curricula reflective of critical theory's global reach, supporting new international faculty and graduate student exchanges, workshops, translations, and links between critical theory scholars at institutions in Latin America, North America, and South Africa.

The Northwestern project was developed by professors from African Studies, Anthropology, Comparative Literary Studies, English, Gender and Sexuality Studies, German, Latin American Studies, Philosophy, and Spanish and Portuguese, with further cooperations anticipated in the project's final year. Events in AY 2019-20 included the workshop *Errant Syllabi: Latin American and Latinx Feminist, Cuir/ Queer, and Gender Theory* (October 18-20); Mario Bellatin, Daniel Link, and Mariano Seoane as visiting speakers (January); and a culminating conference in Santiago, Chile (June).

Critical Theory in the Global South projects at Northwestern currently include: "Indian Ocean Epistemologies" (Evan Mwangi, NU, with Tina

Steiner, Stellenbosch University, South Africa); "Trauma, Politics, and the Uses of Memory" (Anna Parkinson, NU with Sarah Nuttall, University Witwatersrand, South Africa); "Aesthetics and the Critique of Political Theology" (Peter Fenves, NU, with Eduardo Sabrovsky, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile); "Circulating Anarchisms and Marxisms in the Andes" (Jorge Coronado, NU, with Víctor Vich, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú); "After Foucault: Pluralizing Modernity, Sex, Biopolitics, and Neoliberalism" (Penelope Deutscher, Marcela Fuentes, Alejandra Uslenghi, and Mary Weismantel (NU) with Daniel Link and Mariano Seoane (Universidad Tres de Febrero and UBA, Argentina); "Appropriation and Its Discontents" (Huey Copeland, NU, with Athi Mongezeleli Joja, University of the Witswatersrand); "Critical Epistemology, Knowing through Gender and the Decolonial" (José Medina, NU, and Cintia Martinez Velasco, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico); and a collective project: The Decolonization of Critical Theory.

Rutgers, Fordham, and Yale are also collaborators on the project. Linking with colleagues at UNAM, Universidad Metropolitana de Ciencias de la Educación and the Latin American Philosophy of Education Society (LAPES), Andrew Parker (Rutgers) and two Northwestern alum, Samir Haddad (Fordham) and Paul North (Yale), will convene the projects "The University and Its Publics: North, South, and in Between," "Technologies of Critique: New Sources for Critical Theory", and "Hacer Escuela/ Inventing School: Rethinking the Pedagogy of Critical Theory" (Critical Theory in the Global South).

For more information on the International Consortium of Critical Theory Programs (ICCTP) and its mailing list, email info.ictconsortium@ berkeley.edu.

For more information on the Critical Theory in the Global South curriculum project convened at Northwestern, contact criticaltheory@northwestern. edu or visit: criticaltheory.northwestern.edu/mellonproject

Northwestern

Program in

2020-21 VISITING PROFESSORS OF SPECIAL INTEREST



Professor Holt's research and teaching interests include the dialogue between the early modern and the (post-)modern, cultural theory, and transnational literature with a specialization on literary relations between Germany and Latin America. She received her PhD in German Literature from Freie Universität Berlin in 2019. Her dissertation Figurationen des Bösen im barocken Trauerspiel deepens the understanding of 17th century literary and cultural production by reassessing the dramatic writing from authors such as Andreas Gryphius and Daniel Casper von Lohenstein as an aesthetics of evil avant la lettre. After studying Modern German Literature and Latin American Studies at Freie Universität Berlin and the University of Texas at Austin, she was a research associate at the Collabroative Research Center "Episteme in Motion" and at the Department for German and Dutch Philology at Freie Universität Berlin.

Her next project 'Barocke' Bewegungen: Literarische Praxis und Kulturtheorie in Deutschland und Lateinamerika seit 1970 explores the postmodern afterlives of the pre- and early modern in a comparative framework. She was recently awarded a DAAD Postdoctoral Fellowship and a Hilde Domin Fellowship for German-Latin American Literary Relations.

2020 DAAD Visiting Professor Isabel Von Holt



AFFILIATE WITH THE CRITICAL THEORY CLUSTER:

CRITICALTHEORY.NORTHWESTERN.EDU

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