CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR SEXUALITIES, CULTURES, AND POLITICS

(17-22 August 2020, Belgrade, Serbia)

organized by

Research Center for Cultures, Politics and Identities (IPAK.Center) and Department for Critical Political Studies (Faculty for Media and Communications, Singidunum University, Belgrade)
CONFIRMED LECTURERS

➢ Confirmed lecturers:

✓ Jack Halberstam (Columbia University, USA);
✓ Gavin Butt (Northumbria University, UK);
✓ Susanna Paasonen (University of Turku, Finland);
✓ Jenny Sundén (Södertörn University, Sweden);
✓ Ljubomir Danailov Frckovski (FON University, North Macedonia).

➢ The school consists of the following elements:

✓ Lectures, Seminars, Cultural and Activist Programme, and Open Lectures Programme.

* The detailed programme and information related to the lectures’ content will be published by the end of February.

DURATION AND FORMAT

➢ 6 days

✓ Intensive lectures in the morning with subsequent discussions and seminars.
✓ Afternoon seminars with the lecturers; all participants who deliver a paper will have the opportunity to receive direct input from the lecturers and discuss their work with fellow participants.
✓ Open Programme with public lectures.
✓ Group Museums visit.
✓ Cultural and Activist Programme in partnership with the Festival of Feminist Culture and Action – BeFem
ELIGIBILITY

➢ Applicants should be postgraduate students (preferably MA or PhD students or younger researchers) interested in exploring the issues of gender, queer, cultural studies, media studies, philosophy, political studies, visual arts and humanities and related areas. However, outstanding BA students are also considered and have the chance to enroll.

➢ We especially welcome applications from independent scholars, cultural workers and artists.

➢ Applicants from all countries are eligible to apply.

APPLICATION

➢ All applicants should fill in the Application Form (available online at www.ipakcentar.org)

✓ Paper abstract is optional. If you wish to deliver a presentation, post your abstract in the Application form (appr. 250 words max.) for a presentation not exceeding 15 mins.

✓ Maximum number of students delivering presentation: 32 (maximum 8 presentations per afternoon session). Please indicate in the application form whether you wish to deliver a presentation or not by simply posting your abstract or ignore if not applicable.

ECTS

➢ Students who deliver presentations will receive 4 ECTS, applicable on MA or PhD level at participants’ home universities.

➢ Students who choose not to deliver a presentation will receive 2 ECTS, applicable on MA or PhD level at participants’ home universities.

➢ ECTS are given according to FULL attendance of the school’s programme (open lectures included).

TUITION FEES
➢ Applicants from Central and East-European (CEE) countries studying at universities within CEE: 220 Euro (no discount applicable).

➢ Applicants from Europe and worldwide: 310 Euro (discount applicable).

➢ Singidunum University students: 70 Euro (no discount applicable).

➢ Former SSSCP students are offered 15% tuition fee discount (origin notwithstanding).

✓ Note that we offer 15% discount if the participant applies in the first application deadline.

✓ The fee covers tuition, lunch, study materials during the school, and certificate.

✓ Free internet.

✓ Coffee breaks.

✓ Arrangements for accommodation, transportation, visa (if needed) and other expenses should be arranged by applicants on themselves. Recommendations for accommodation in Belgrade will be provided to admitted participants on a later stage. The organizers are ready to assist with visa arrangements in special circumstances.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

➢ Deadline 1 (early applications, 15% discount):

✓ March 25th / selection results by March 30th / payment due April 15th

➢ Deadline 2 (regular applications, 5% discount):

✓ April 25th / selection results by April 30th / payment due May 15th

➢ Deadline 3 (late applications, No discount):

✓ May 25th / selection results by June 1st / payment due June 15th

1 For the purpose of this call, the following countries fall under the term: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Albania, Romania, Greece, Turkey, Czech Republic, Poland.
CANCELLATION POLICY

If an applicant admitted as participant in the summer school wishes to disenroll, he or she is entitled to 80% of the tuition fee paid provided that the organizers are properly informed not any later than one (1) month before the program of the summer school commence.

If you fail to do so, we will be unable to reimburse your paid tuition fee.

LECTURERS: BIOS

➢ Jack Halberstam (Columbia University, USA)


➢ Gavin Butt (Northumbria University, UK)

Gavin Butt is a scholar of modern and contemporary art whose work contributes to the fields of art history & visual culture, performance and queer studies, and popular music studies. Trained as a fine artist and art historian, he is a writer, curator and filmmaker. He is currently completing a book 'Being in a Band: When the Leeds Art Experiment Went Pop' which focuses on a crisis of legitimacy for modern art education in the 1970s and 1980s and groups that came out of art school, including Scritti Politti, Gang of Four, Fad Gadget, Delta 5, Three Johns and Soft Cell. He is co-editor (with Mark Fisher and Kodwo Eshun) of Post-Punk Then and Now, Repeater, 2016. He is also working towards
completion of a second book, 'Anti-Gravitas' exploring the challenges to cultural seriousness presented within queer art and performance. He is co-author (with Irit Rogoff) of ‘Visual Cultures as Seriousness,’ Sternberg, 2013. In 2013 he made his first feature length documentary film, co-directed with journalist Ben Walters - *Not a Dream*.

Butt was the co-director of Performance Matters (2009-2013), a creative research project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. He was lead curator in the second themed year of the project, Trashing Performance. He is also author of *Between You and Me: Queer Disclosures in the New York Art World 1948-1963* (Duke 2005) and editor of *After Criticism: New Responses to Art and Performance* (Blackwell 2004).

➢ **Susanna Paasonen** (University of Turku, Finland)

Susanna Paasonen is professor of Media Studies. After finishing her PhD in Media Studies in Turku in 2002 she acted as lecturer in Media Culture at University of Tampere (2003), as an Academy of Finland postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Women's Studies in Turku (2004-5), as senior research associate in Digital Culture at University of Jyväskylä (2005-7), as Collegium researcher at the Collegium for Advanced Studies at University of Helsinki (2007-10) and as professor of Digital Culture at Jyväskylä (2010-11) before starting in her current post in August 2011. She was the first recipient of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters' Jutikkala Award in Humanities in 2011. Paasonen has broad teaching experience in media studies, cultural studies, digital culture and gender studies. She is currently in charge of postgraduate studies at the department of Media Studies, classes on media and networks, as well as theme courses connected to social media, sexuality, affect and pornography. With an interest in studies of popular culture, affect, sexuality, and media theory, Paasonen is e.g. the author of ‘Carnal Resonance: Affect and Online Pornography’ (MIT Press 2011) and ‘Many Splendored Things: Thinking Sex and Play’ (Goldsmiths Press 2018), co-author of ‘Not Safe for Work: Sex, Humor, and Risk in Social Media’ (with Kylie Jarrett and Ben Light for MIT Press, forthcoming), as well as co-editor of ‘Pornification: Sex and Sexuality in Media Culture’ (with Kaarina Nikunen and Laura Saarenmaa, Berg 2007), ‘Working with Affect in Feminist Readings: Disturbing Differences’ (with Marianne Liljeström, Routledge 2010) and ‘Networked Affect’ (with Ken Hillis and Michael Petit, MIT Press 2015). Her current book-length projects focus on boredom and distraction in social media, on feminist tactics and humour in social media (with Jenny Sundén), and on the notion of objectification (with Feona Attwood, Alan McKee, John Mercer and Clarissa Smith).
➢ **Jenny Sundén** (Södertörn University, Sweden)

Jenny Sundén is Professor of Gender Studies at Södertörn University in Stockholm. Her work is situated in the intersection of digital media studies and gender and sexuality studies, with a particular focus on bodies, desires, sexual politics, and technologies. She is currently working on questions of digital fragility and its consequences for queer theory and queer lives, as well as on feminist uses of humor in social media as forms of resistance. She is the author of *Who’s laughing now? Feminist tactics in social media* (MIT Press, forthcoming, with Susanna Paasonen), and *Gender and sexuality in online game cultures: Passionate play* (Routledge, 2012, with Malin Sveningsson).

➢ **Ljubomir Danailov Frckovski** (FON University, North Macedonia)

Ljubomir Danailov Frchkoski (1957) is a Dean at the Faculty of Legal and Political Studies (FON University, Skopje, Macedonia), and a full-time professor at the same Faculty in Public International Law, International Law for Human Rights, Political Theories I & II, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Law, and Negotiation in Identity conflicts. As a guest lecturer he was widely engaged in Europe and North America; and as a visiting professor was lastly engaged on the International Relations and Negotiations, International Human rights Law program at the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (May 2018), and before in Italy for more than 7 years on the second cycle study/master program of the International Institute for European Studies (IUIES) and also at Università degli studi Internazionali di Roma. Besides being dedicated to issues of human rights, the scientific focus of his late work is on political philosophy and psychoanalysis. He has been also politically involved in some periods during the Macedonian independence, and he is one of the writers of the Macedonian Constitution from 1991. He is the author many books, including ‘Human Rights and Psychoanalysis’ (2019), ‘Restless Nationalism’ (2016), and ‘Negotiation in Identity Conflicts’ (2012).

**SUMMER SCHOOL DESCRIPTION**

The Summer School for Sexualities, Cultures, and Politics is a permanent project, originally initiated by the Department for Gender Studies at the Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities “Euro-Balkan”, Skopje, Macedonia and the Faculty of Media and Communications - Singidunum, Belgrade, Serbia. In 2014, the School has moved to Belgrade, organized by IPAK Center.
The general aim of the School 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 School’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.

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.

**CONTACT PERSONS**

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