

International HHU Summer School (ONLINE EVENT)

Translation, Transnation: European Cultures of Translation 29 Sept - 1 Oct 2021, Centre for Translation Studies, HHU Düsseldorf (CTS_dus)

The interdisciplinary International Summer School “Translation, Transnation: European Cultures of Translation” focuses on the complex and conflictual interfaces between translation and transnation within Europe. It centres on the critical and historical analysis of Europe as a pluralized and heterogeneous culture of translation, i.e., a culture that is constituted in and through the translation of texts, media, languages and respective knowledge. While the centrality of translation may be evident in our current, globalized and racialized age, a historical perspective that considers the multidirectional translation strategies employed in the contexts of, e.g., colonialism, voyages of exploration and intellectual networks is equally important.

The Summer School is particularly interested in the transformative and innovative functions of translation, understood as a thoroughly political practice that opens up a transcultural contact zone. Translation is always concerned with the negotiation of otherness. Frequently, these negotiations take place in contexts that are marked by an imbalance of power between languages and cultures. These imbalances inevitably shape the ways in which linguistic and cultural otherness can be experienced. We consider how translations affect cultural innovation, social change and transcultural connection across Europe and how best to inquire into the interfaces between translation and activism.

One of the aims of the Summer School is to embed Europe within a polycentric network of translational exchange and frame the continent as a transnational space of knowledge and communication. An interdisciplinary approach to the intersections of ‘translation’ and ‘transnation’ will reveal the continuing significance of the nation-state, while also transcending its (multifarious) frontiers to challenge static notions of identity – of nations, but also of so-called ‘Fortress Europe’.

We invite doctoral and MA students to engage in our debates about a wide spectrum of literary and scientific texts that are circulated transnationally and considered nodal points of exchange.

Confirmed speakers:

Prof. Dr Marion Aptroot	Heinrich-Heine University, Duesseldorf
Prof. Dr Paul Bandia	Concordia University Montreal, Canada
Prof. Dr Rebecca R. Gould	University of Birmingham, UK
Dr Rainer Guldin	Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland
Prof. Dr Arvi Sepp	Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
Dr Kayvan Tahmasebian	University of Birmingham, UK

Who can apply?

We invite doctoral and MA students who are interested in an interdisciplinary exploration of cultures of translation within European contexts; the ambivalent role of translation in strengthening and overcoming processes of nation-building will be a central concern. A variety of lecture-seminars, debates and workshops on a range of topics pertaining to these topics will offer participants the opportunity to expand their knowledge in the field and to share their expertise. We ask students to read some key texts in advance. These texts will be circulated to attendees prior to the Summer School. The main conference language will be English, but other source or target languages may be used in individual events over the course of the summer school. **Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their current projects with HHU researchers working in the field of translation studies.**

Deadline:

To apply, please send a brief letter of motivation indicating your specific interest in the topic, your study programme and information on how far you have proceeded in your studies to CTS_dus@hhu.de by **1 August 2021**. Selected participants will be notified and sent preparatory materials by the end of August.

More information:

For more information about the speakers, events and for regular updates please consult: <https://www.ctsdus.hhu.de/international-summer-school>