



Call for Applications

SIEF Summer School “Trusting Resistance. New Ethnographies of Social Movements and Alternative Economies”

Date: July 24-30, 2016

Venue: Hohentübingen Castle, University of Tübingen, Germany

Convened by: Prof. Dr. Monique Scheer (Ludwig-Uhland-Institut für Empirische Kulturwissenschaft)

Funded by the Institutional Strategy of the University of Tübingen (ZUK 63), the International Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SIEF), and the CRC 923 on “Threatened Orders”

Deadline for proposal submission: March 20, 2016

OVERVIEW

This international summer school combines two highly debated topics: **trust and resistance**. From protest to critical consumption, to the do-it-yourself movement, to radical gardening or alternative health care: when groups are formed in resistance to an ‘establishment’ or ‘mainstream’, they often express a lack of trust in the ‘powers that be’ – therefore, practices of mistrust seem to be constitutive for such movements. On the other hand, within the group it is important to establish trust in the alternative models being tried out. Thus, it would seem that trust and mistrust operate in these cases as a dynamic motor for change. Thinking about the conceptualization of trust and mistrust will necessarily be part of the discussion. Is trust an attitude, an ethic, a virtue, or a feeling, perhaps even an emotion? From the ethnographic perspective, it makes sense to look at trust and mistrust in connection with the practices that mobilize and cultivate them. Thus, the summer school will also encourage the participants to go beyond trust/mistrust to think about the role of other feelings and attitudes important to the groups they are studying as well. We would like to offer a

space for exploring this dynamic more deeply with PhD students and early postdocs working on research projects in the above-mentioned areas.

We invite anyone taking an ethnographic approach to the culture of resistance, studying social movements, political and consumer protest, activism in its many forms, to participate in this summer school. European ethnologists, folklorists, anthropologists, cultural studies scholars, sociologists, historians, and political scientists are all welcome to apply. The focus is on looking at trust/mistrust at the micro-level of everyday life and social interactions. This includes not only attention to the practical dimensions of doings and sayings, thinking and feelings, but also considering the importance of material artifacts, sensory impressions, sounds, images, performances, rituals, spaces, and places. Participants at any stage of their research – including beginning PhD students – will have an opportunity to present work in progress and to discuss central research issues. To ensure an open and collaborative learning environment, the number of participants will be limited to a maximum of 25.

PROGRAM

The summer school offers a diverse program with theoretical, empirical, and methodological sections. Senior scholars who have made important contributions in this field have been invited for keynote lectures on theoretical and historical issues: Martin Hartmann (U Luzern), Helena Flam (U Leipzig), Klaus Schönberger (U Klagenfurt), and Cristina Grasseni (U Utrecht). Their lectures will be complemented by sessions of theoretical discussion with each of them. Alongside them, smaller working groups led by advanced postdoctoral scholars will connect the theoretical issues with participants' research projects. A field trip to local sites of resistance and protest will facilitate discussions and camaraderie. Finally, an advanced methods workshop will focus on issues of trust and mistrust in the field, between interlocutors and researchers.

The working language is English. Participants can earn a maximum of 6 ECTS points. The summer school will be held at the University of Tübingen, Ludwig-Uhland-Institut für Empirische Kulturwissenschaft in the beautiful Hohentübingen Castle.

APPLICATION

Please apply by sending a short CV and an abstract describing your research project and how it relates to the issue of trust/mistrust (approx. 500 words) **by March 20, 2016**. Please send your applications to summerschool@siefhome.org

Successful applicants will be notified by email no later than April 15.

FEE, ACCOMODATION, TRAVEL

The registration fee for participants is 30 €. Participants are expected to take part in the full duration of the summer school. We are able to provide accommodation (double rooms, incl. breakfast) and lunch snack, but we cannot reimburse travel expenses. Please inquire at your university to apply for travel funding.

Please feel free to contact us for specific questions about the program or application.

CONTACT

Elisabeth Socha (U Tübingen): summerschool@siefhome.org

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