

A six-week summer intensive
with leading figures in
critical thought



The School

Since its inception in 1976, the School of Criticism and Theory has been devoted to intensive intellectual inquiry and the vigorous exchange of ideas, cultivating a space where courageous discussion and innovative academic exploration can thrive. To this end, SCT brings together a diverse group of scholars from around the world, addressing an ever-expanding arrangement of cultural, political, and social movements, theoretical axes and intersecting debates across the humanities and social sciences. From inter-disciplinary scholarship that enables new knowledge, to collaborative conversation that yields new questions, SCT strives to respond to the complex and urgent struggles of our times with intellectual rigor and resilience.

Summer Program

In an intensive six-week course of study, faculty members, graduate students, and independent scholars explore recent developments in critical theory. The multi-layered dialogue that results, among both faculty and participants, is one of the hallmarks of SCT's culture. Participants work with the SCT's core faculty of distinguished scholars and theorists in one of four six-week seminars. Each faculty member offers, in addition, a public lecture and a colloquium (based on an original paper) which are attended by the entire group. The program also includes mini-seminars taught by scholars who visit for shorter periods. Finally, throughout the six weeks, distinguished theorists visit as lecturers. In addition, Cornell offers participants the resources of one of the great research libraries in the United States.

Admission & Tuition

The online application deadline is February 1, 2023. Prospective participants must indicate on the online application which one of the six-week courses they wish to attend in order of preference. All participants are enrolled in each of the mini-seminars, as well as the public lectures.

Contact

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Hent de Vries



Martin Hägglund



Sandra Laugier



Alexandre Lefebvre



Dianne Stewart



Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi



Daniel Heller-Roazen



Eva Illouz



Angela Onwuachi-Willig



Amanda Anderson



Bruno G. Bosteels



Vivek Chibber



Carolyn Rouse

Director

Hent de Vries

Paulette Goddard Professor of the Humanities; Professor of Religious Studies, German, and Comparative Literature; Affiliated Professor of Philosophy, New York University

Major Seminars

Martin Hägglund — The Fundamental Ontology of Life and Freedom

Birgit Baldwin Professor of Humanities at Yale University

Sandra Laugier — Concepts of the Ordinary

Professor of Philosophy at Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, Senior Fellow of Institut Universitaire de France

Alexandre Lefebvre — The First and the Last Liberal: Michel de Montaigne and John Rawls

Professor of Politics and Philosophy, University of Sydney

Dianne M. Stewart — The Ties that Bind: Global Black Feminisms and Womanisms

Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Religion & African American Studies.

Mini Seminars

Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi — Twentieth Century Islamic Political Thought: From Modernizing Islam to Islamizing Modernity
Professor and Chair, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University

Daniel Heller-Roazen — Word and Omen

Arthur W. Marks '19 Professor of Comparative Literature, Princeton University

Eva Illouz — The Politics and Economics of Emotions

Directrice d'Études at the EHESS, Paris and Rose Isaac Chair of Sociology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Angela Onwuachi-Willig — The Trauma of the Routine Revisited: A Study of Group-Based Traumas in Response to Legal Outcomes in High Profile Cases

Dean and Ryan Roth Gallo & Ernest J. Gallo Professor of Law at Boston University

Public Lectures include:

Amanda Anderson — Political Psychology, Literary Studies, and the Question of Method

Andrew W. Mellon Professor of English and Humanities and Director, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, Brown University

Bruno G. Bosteels — The Jargon of Finitude

Professor in the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society and Professor and Chair of the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures, Columbia University

Vivek Chibber — Consent, Coercion and Resignation — The Sources of Stability in Capitalism

Professor of Sociology at New York University

Carolyn Rouse — Live Free and Die: How Ontologies of Freedom are Killing Americans

Ritter Professor and Chair of Anthropology, Princeton University



Apply by February 1, 2023