PhD course

Reimagining the Humanities

3 + 7 credits

Course description:

The humanities have had a long history in the constitution of Western knowledge, from the Renaissance to the shift in the organization of knowledge in the late nineteenth century through its division into the natural and human sciences. The very modifier “sciences” was the beginning of the humanities’ demise that we witness today, including the recent efforts to reanimate them through posthumanism and as posthumanities and through interdisciplinary misalliance with technologies and hard sciences.

The central question of this course can then be boiled down to what does it mean to be human today? While claiming the necessity of keeping the humanities element in education and research, the course problematizes the way humanities have been previously understood and implemented, and reflects on possible ways of their rethinking to better answer the challenges of contemporary world such as climate change, mass migration, the post-peace condition we all share, the continuous erasing of memories and cosmologies, etc. No matter how critical we are of the humanities we have to agree that there are certain human issues or even issues of the human as such that require complex relational and critical epistemic attention and cannot be given up to hard sciences and technologies that are easily subsumed by the normalized economic growth and political status quo paradigm. Such are matters of immigration in today’s Europe or Earth exploitation (e.g. extractivism) globally, that are impossible to solve technologically if we stay within the same axiology that created these problems and that does not care about the well-being of human and other lives and the Earth.

With this course we invite LiU doctoral candidates as well as PhD students from other Swedish, European and international universities to enroll in the intensive four-day mutual reflection on the present and future of the humanities across various departments and disciplines.

The detailed course schedule with lecture specific literature will be announced in due time.

Time:
February 25 – 28, 2020

Location:
Linköping University, Norrköping Campus, Norrköping, Sweden

Deadline for applications:
January 15, 2020
Applications should be sent to:
Administrator Olga Zabalueva (olga.zabalueva@liu.se) and/or course coordinator
Madina Tlostanova (madina.tlostanova@liu.se)

Maximum number of participants:
25 participants

Organized by:
LiU Humanities, Linköping University, Sweden

Course coordinator:
Madina Tlostanova (madina.tlostanova@liu.se)

Teachers:
Professor Luigi Cazzato (University of Bari, Italy)
Professor Walter Mignolo (Duke University, USA)
Associate Professor Bodil Axelsson (Linköping University, Sweden)
Professor Stefan Jonsson (Linköping University, Sweden)
Professor Jesper Olsson (Linköping University, Sweden)
Professor Ericka Johnson (Linköping University, Sweden)
Professor Madina Tlostanova (Linköping University, Sweden)
Professor Kristin Zeiler (Linköping University, Sweden)
Professor Eva Hemmungs Wirtén (Linköping University, Sweden)
Professor Carin Franzén (Stockholm University, Sweden)
Associate Professor Temi Odumosu (Malmö University, Sweden)
Doctor Adriana Muñoz (Museum of World Cultures, Gothenburg, Sweden)
Doctor Mirko Nikolić (Linköping University, Sweden)
Doctor Jacek Smolicki (Linköping University, Sweden)