

ARC Network for Early European Research

Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminar on Cultural Memory

University of Melbourne, May 20 – 21

Applications are invited for participation in NEER's first Postgraduate Advanced Training Seminar, on the theme of Cultural Memory.

The seminar will be held in Melbourne, on Friday May 20 and Saturday May 21. It is designed to consolidate and enhance students' awareness of and familiarity with contemporary debates, methodologies and topics in the area of cultural memory. Topics in this area frequently range over several historical periods: particular attention will be paid to strategies for developing rich and challenging research projects that move beyond the traditional boundaries of historical period, and disciplinary tradition. Participants will also have a chance to visit the State Library of Victoria or the National Gallery of Victoria, to gain behind-the-scenes experience with these important collections of medieval manuscripts, early printed books and prints. This will also give us an opportunity to reflect on how cultural artefacts of medieval and early modern Europe are collected, preserved and curated in Australia.

Our two days will be organised primarily as a series of 'masterclasses'; that is, discussions and seminars led by senior academic staff working in the fields of cultural memory, cultural history, heritage culture, etc. especially in the medieval and early modern periods. There will be no formal presentations from postgraduates: this seminar is constituted as a series of advanced classes designed to give students the opportunity to learn from internationally-recognised experts in a forum designed especially for graduates. If space allows, early career researchers may also be able to attend. The seminar will conclude with a workshop in which students will be invited to talk about their own current research or future projects (possibly with an eye on the ARC's post-doctoral fellowship scheme).

Confirmed presenters are James Simpson (Harvard), Valerie Krips (Pittsburgh), Wallace Kirsop (Monash), Megan Cassidy-Welch, John Frow, Margaret Manion, Stephanie Trigg and Charles Zika (all Melbourne).

A suggested reading-list and selected papers for discussion will be circulated in advance, once the group of participants is confirmed.

Numbers will be restricted, so please register your interest early. Preference for inclusion will be given first to postgraduate students in Australia registered through the Network, then to early career researchers in Australia (ARC definition), taking into account the relevance of the seminar to applicants' research programs.

There may be opportunity for senior staff to attend some sessions, but they will be asked to remember that these seminars are designed primarily for the benefit of postgraduate students.

The final timetable is still being organised, but the seminar will include the following sessions:

Introduction to Cultural Memory and Early European Research?

Stephanie Trigg (Theme Leader: Cultural Memory) and **John Frow** (author of *Time and Commodity Culture: Essays on Cultural Theory and Postmodernity*, and *Cultural Studies and Cultural Value*)

‘Periodisation and Historiography: The “Medieval” and the “Modern”’

James Simpson (author of *The Oxford English Literary History, vol. 2, 1350-1547: Reform and Cultural Revolution*; and *Sciences and the Self in Medieval Poetry: Alan of Lille’s Anticlaudianus and John Gower’s Confessio amantis*)

‘Heritage Culture: History, Memory and Representation’

Valerie Krips (author of *The Presence of the Past: Memory, Heritage, and Childhood in Postwar Britain*)

‘Writing Cultural History’

Megan Cassidy-Welch (author of *Monastic spaces and their Meanings : Thirteenth-century English Cisterian Monasteries*)

‘Writing “Long Histories”’

Charles Zika (author of *Exorcising our Demons: Magic, Witchcraft, and Visual Culture in Early Modern Europe*) and **Stephanie Trigg** (author of *Congenial Souls: Reading Chaucer from Medieval to Postmodern*)

Workshops:

‘Rare Books and Manuscripts in the State Library of Victoria’

Wallace Kirsop (co-editor of *The Book in Australia: Essays towards a Cultural & Social History* and author of *Books for Colonial Readers: The Nineteenth-Century Australian Experience*)

‘Manuscripts and Prints in the National Gallery of Victoria’

Margaret Manion (co-author of *Medieval and Renaissance Illuminated manuscripts in Australian collections*, and *Medieval texts and Images: Studies of Manuscripts from the Middle Ages*)

‘Cultural Memory: Developing and Researching your Topic’

Stephanie Trigg

There will be also be a reception on Friday evening, at which James Simpson will launch the third issue of the online postgraduate journal *antiTHESIS forum*, which features papers from the *Once and Future Medievalism* conference held in Melbourne last September.

How to apply

If you are interested in taking part in this seminar, please write to Anne Scott (NEER Co-ordinator) by Wednesday, March 30, with a statement (300 words) outlining the reasons why you think the seminar might be relevant to your current or future research. Postgraduates should include proof of their enrolment at an Australian tertiary institution.

The seminar will be held during semester, so college accommodation is unavailable. Follow the links below to some hostel-style accommodation or a local search engine that will allow you to book on-line.

Postgraduates attending this seminar may contact Stephanie Trigg if they are interested in the possibility of homestay accommodation in Melbourne with a local postgraduate. All homestay arrangements will be conducted directly between host and guest postgraduates, and neither NEER nor the organiser of the seminar accepts responsibility for them.

There will be no charge to attend this seminar, or for lunches and morning and afternoon tea, or the reception on Friday evening. There will also be a dinner on the Friday night; we will arrange details later, and let you know the (modest) cost for this.

Financial assistance

Postgraduates and ECRs accepted for the seminar may apply to NEER for financial assistance towards the cost of essential travel and accommodation (e.g. single room in budget hotel or hostel). If you are applying to NEER for financial assistance with travel and accommodation, please also include an estimate/quote of expenses, with a note of what financial support is/might be available from your own institution or other sources.

NEER's policy is to award financial assistance on the basis of

- a. The demonstrated necessity of the funding.
- b. The applicant's distance from the proposed activity.

Consideration is also given in awarding assistance for attendance at ARC NEER conferences, symposia and advanced training seminars to institutions which are cash-partners of NEER.

Accommodation

Toad Hall (441 Elizabeth Street, City) \$20-44 per night.
<http://www.toadhall-hotel.com.au/>

Queensbury Hill Hostel (78 Howard Street, North Melbourne) \$18-65 per night.
<http://www.yha.com.au/hostels/details.cfm?hostelid=98->

Chapman Gardens YHA Hostel (76 Chapman Street, North Melbourne) \$15-33 per night. <http://www.yha.com.au/hostels/details.cfm?hostelid=99->

Or for a greater range of choices, try the Visit Victoria website:
<http://www2.visitvictoria.com/> look for locations in the City or in Carlton.

Contact details

To apply for registration at this seminar, and for all inquiries about NEER entitlements and support, please contact

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For more information about the seminar and the homestay scheme, please contact

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