

## ***The Delphi Academy of European Studies at the European Cultural Centre of Delphi***

**The Delphi Academy of European Studies supported by the Region of Central Greece** focuses on the diachronic and synchronic study of European history and culture and the ways in which Europe today responds to the multifaceted challenges of political, economic, and cultural globalization.

The curriculum and academic function of the Delphi Academy of European Studies is overseen by an international Committee consisting of the following Professors:

**Homi Bhabha** (Harvard; Director of the Mahindra Humanities Center)

**Georges Dertilis**, (École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris)

**Peter Frankopan** (Oxford; Director of the Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research)

**Michèle Lamont** (Harvard; Director of the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs)

**Spiros Pollalis** (Harvard School of Design)

**Panagiotis Roilos** (Harvard; founder of the Academy and chair of the committee)

**Dimitrios Yatromanolakis** (Johns Hopkins University).

The Academy offers two-week interdisciplinary, **tuition free** Seminars at the Centre's facilities in Delphi. The Seminars, which are taught in English by world renowned scholars, are open mainly to graduate students/PhD candidates but also to qualified undergraduates. The instructors adopt interdisciplinary approaches to their

subjects, with a view to addressing the research interests of students in the Humanities as well as the Social Sciences. The Seminars are accompanied by a workshop and/or invited lectures on current political and cultural developments in Europe.

This year the Academy's Seminar Programme will focus on environmental studies, ecocritics, and environmental politics in European and global contexts. The Seminars will be offered in **June 16-29, 2019**.

The 2019 Seminar Programme is as follows:

**1. John Barry, Queen's University, Belfast; Professor of Green Political Economy, School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics, Queen's University Belfast.**

***Responding to the Anthropocene, Unsustainability and Climate***

***Breakdown: Philosophy, Politics and Economics for the 21st Century***

The continuing problematic relationship between key dynamics of modern economic and social systems and the non-human world – such as human caused climate change and biodiversity loss - is one, if not the, most pressing issues of the 21st century and will continue to shape the political agenda both nationally and globally. This course will examine some of the key debates of the politics of un/sustainable development in this 'age of the Anthropocene'. Topics

include:

green ethical and political theory; the role of the environment and nature in political theorising; the economic and policy alternatives to unsustainable development; the normative underpinnings of a sustainable society; capitalism, orthodox economic growth

and alternative political economies; and low carbon energy and socio-technical transitions.

**2. Verena Conley, Harvard University, Long Term Visiting Professor of Comparative Literature and of Romance Languages and Literatures, and Faculty Associate of the Harvard University Center for the Environment.**

***Environmental Humanities and New Materialisms***

This seminar will explore the relation between new materialisms and environmental humanities. In all their diversity, new materialisms are comprised of texts that contest Descartes' taxonomic categories based

on primary and secondary qualities that throughout much of modernity have informed the politics of colonialism, served to advocate a separation of nature and culture and been marshalled to control women and other minorities. New materialisms investigate the

presence of inhuman forces within the realm of the human and compel us to rethink the nature of subjectivity, notably where they emphasize entanglements and the self-organizing powers of non-human processes. We will study how they explore dissonant relations

between those processes and cultural practices, how they reconsider ethics and commend the need to fold a cosmological dimension more regularly into local and global politics. We will sort through the tenets of these new materialisms by exploring critical

and fictional texts across national as well as disciplinary boundaries with a comparative focus. Critical readings include Elizabeth Grosz, Jane Bennett, Rosi Braidotti, Didier Debaise, Donna Haraway, Bruno Latour, Brian Massumi, Timothy Morton, Imre Szeman,

Isabelle Stengers, and Jussi Parikka. In fiction, poetry and cinema, we will examine works by Amitav Ghosh, Ursula Le Guin, Jamaica Kincaid, Indra Sinha, Anna Tsing, Ken-Saro Wiwa and others.

**3. James Engell, Harvard University; Gurney Professor of English and Professor of Comparative Literature, and Faculty Associate of the Harvard University Center for the Environment.**

***Writing Nature: Literature, Science, Ethics***

This seminar examines the intersections of literary writing, science, ethics, and creativity. We read the works of several writers—e.g., Rachel Carson, Aldo Leopold, John Muir, Henry David Thoreau, William Wordsworth, the Papal Encyclical of 2015—that embody and explore these intersections. We also examine a few texts from recent ecocriticism, as well as treatments of current environmental concerns, especially climate disruption. The course includes historical, ethical,

and spiritual perspectives. Short assignments include creative work (poetry or short fiction), a critical paper, and field notes.

Upon completion of the Seminar Programme, certificates indicating the titles of the Seminars and the names of the Instructors will be awarded to the students.

Students will be offered **free lodging and meals (lunch and dinner)** by the Academy at the European Cultural Centre of Delphi. The Seminar Programme is **tuition-free**.

Applicants to the Academy should submit the following documents:

- 1) CV (no more than 3 pages).
- 2) Research statement no longer than 200 words.
- 3) Two letters of recommendation (one from the applicant's PhD/academic advisor, in the case of graduate students). The letters should include information about the applicant's coursework and academic performance in areas related to the topics of the seminars.
- 4) Proof of English language competence.

**Applications should be submitted to the European Cultural Centre of Delphi (Mrs. Athena Gotsi, [conferences2@eccd.gr](mailto:conferences2@eccd.gr)) by March 15, 2019. Decisions will be communicated to the applicants by March 30.**

To see comments of the participants to the 2017 programme, click [here](#)

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<https://www.eccd.gr/media/34807/comments-on-the-seminar-programme-delphi-academy-2018.pdf>